

Plenary

Meeting date:
Wednesday, 18 March 2015

Meeting time:
13.30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru
National
Assembly for
Wales



Votes and Proceedings

(255)

1 Questions to the Minister for Education and Skills

The item started at 13.30

The first 6 questions were asked. Questions 3, 5 and 6 were answered by the Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology. The Presiding Officer invited spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister after Question 2.

2 Questions to the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

The item started at 14.16

The first 10 questions were asked. Question 2 and 7 were grouped together for answer. Question 10 was answered by the Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism. The Presiding Officer invited spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister and Deputy after Question 2.

Point of Order

Kirsty Williams raised a Point of Order under Standing Order 12.16 (viii) seeking clarification of information given by the First Minister in an answer during First Minister's Questions on 17 March. PO ruled this was not a point of Order but invited the First Minister to respond.

3 Debate by Individual Members under Standing Order 11.21(iv)

The item started at 15.01

Voting on the motion under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

NDM5712

Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd)

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises that online technology together with intense advertising has fuelled the growth of gambling in Wales and notes that:

- a) gambling is available to the entire population of Wales 24/7;
- b) gambling can become a socially damaging addiction, contributing to poverty, health and social problems;
- c) early identification and support is essential if addiction is to be avoided;
- d) the growth in online gambling and fixed-odds betting machines has turned gambling in the UK into a multi-billion pound industry; and
- e) the regulatory environment in which gambling takes place is relatively light-touch.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

- a) develop and implement a strategy to tackle the social and health consequences of gambling;
- b) engage with the UK Government to discuss the devolution of greater powers over the licensing of gaming machines; and
- c) engage with the gambling industry and the Responsible Gambling Trust to ensure that an appropriate proportion of funding is spent in Wales to tackle issues around gambling addiction.

The result was as follows:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
36	14	0	50

The motion was agreed.

4 Welsh Conservatives Debate

The item started at 15.58

Voting on the motion and amendment under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

NDM5728

Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

Llyr Gruffydd (North Wales)

Aled Roberts (North Wales)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the recent decision by the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to suspend consultant-led maternity and other women's clinical services at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd; and

2. Calls upon the health board to ensure the continuity of consultant-led maternity and other women's clinical services at each of the three district general hospitals in North Wales.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
25	25	0	50

The motion without amendment was agreed.

5 Welsh Liberal Democrats Debate

The item started at 17.02

Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

NDM5727 Aled Roberts (North Wales)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes that one in three Welsh children live below the poverty line.

2. Notes that Wales has the lowest education attainment levels in the UK, which has a particularly negative impact on deprived communities.

3. Notes that childhood obesity, female youth smoking rates and youth alcohol consumption rates are worse in Wales than in England.

4. Notes that Young people aged between 11 and 16 in Wales drink more alcohol each week than in any other part of the UK.

5. Welcomes the recent budget deal between the Welsh Liberal Democrats and Welsh Government which will increase the Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDG) to £1,150 per pupil, extend the PDG to under 5s, and introduce a Young Travellers' Youth Concessionary Fare.

6. Believes people should be empowered to lead the life they want to lead and there is no room for complacency in the battle to ensure equality for all.

7. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) provide access to the Flying Start initiative to all children across Wales on the basis of need rather than geographical location;

b) improve the system of continuous professional development for teachers and establish a Welsh Academy of Education Leadership;

c) amend the Estyn Framework to ensure that greater focus is given to education on healthy eating and exercise in schools;

d) focus more resources on the cessation of youth smoking and tackling illegal tobacco; and

e) ensure that all apprentices receive the highest quality of training that provides them with portable qualifications.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
4	0	46	50

The motion without amendment was not agreed.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

Insert as new point 5 and renumber accordingly:

Notes the projected rise in the number of children living in poverty to 3.4 million across the UK by 2020 and further notes the impact of UK Government welfare reforms on rising child poverty levels.

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
34	0	16	50

Amendment 1 was agreed.

Amendment 2 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Delete point 5.

A vote was taken on Amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
21	0	29	50

Amendment 2 was not agreed.

Amendment 3 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

In sub-point 7b), delete 'establish a Welsh Academy of Education Leadership' and replace with 'ensure it progresses effectively from new Initial Teacher Education provision'.

A vote was taken on Amendment 3:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
43	0	4	47

Amendment 3 was agreed.

Amendment 4 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as a new sub-point at the end of motion:

ensure that schools show evidence that they are using the PDG to help pupils from low-income households.

A vote was taken on Amendment 4

For	Abstain	Against	Total
49	1	0	50

Amendment 4 was agreed.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

NDM5727 Aled Roberts (North Wales)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes that one in three Welsh children live below the poverty line.
2. Notes that Wales has the lowest education attainment levels in the UK, which has a particularly negative impact on deprived communities.
3. Notes that childhood obesity, female youth smoking rates and youth alcohol consumption rates are worse in Wales than in England.
4. Notes that Young people aged between 11 and 16 in Wales drink more alcohol each week than in any other part of the UK.
5. Notes the projected rise in the number of children living in poverty to 3.4 million across the UK by 2020 and further notes the impact of UK Government welfare reforms on rising child poverty levels.
6. Welcomes the recent budget deal between the Welsh Liberal Democrats and Welsh Government which will increase the Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDG) to £1,150 per pupil, extend the PDG to under 5s, and introduce a Young Travellers' Youth Concessionary Fare.
7. Believes people should be empowered to lead the life they want to lead and there is no room for complacency in the battle to ensure equality for all.
8. Calls on the Welsh Government to:
 - a) provide access to the Flying Start initiative to all children across Wales on the basis of need rather than geographical location;
 - b) improve the system of continuous professional development for teachers and ensure it progresses effectively from new Initial Teacher Education provision;
 - c) amend the Estyn Framework to ensure that greater focus is given to education on healthy eating and exercise in schools;
 - d) focus more resources on the cessation of youth smoking and tackling illegal tobacco; and
 - e) ensure that all apprentices receive the highest quality of training that provides them with portable qualifications.

f) ensure that schools show evidence that they are using the PDG to help pupils from low-income households.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
0	8	42	50

The motion as amended was not agreed.

6 Voting Time

The item started at 17.57

7 Short Debate – Postponed

The meeting concluded at 18.00

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 24 March 2015