

Plenary

Meeting date:
Tuesday, 5 July 2011

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Votes and Proceedings

(11)

1. Questions to the First Minister

All 15 questions were asked.

14.35

2. Business Statement and Announcement

14.44

3. Statement by the Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and European Programmes: CAP Reform

15.18

4. Statement by the Minister for Local Government and Communities: Future support in the most deprived areas of Wales

15.58

5. Motion to approve the Right of a Child to Make a Disability Discrimination Claim (Schools) (Wales) Order 2011

NDM4773 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales; in accordance with Standing Order 27.5:

Approves that the draft The Right of a Child to Make a Disability Discrimination Claim (Schools) (Wales) Order 2011 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 14 June 2011.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

15.58

6. Debate on Improving School Standards

NDM4775 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes:

- a) The establishment of the School Standards Unit;
- b) The creation of a school banding (categorisation) system;
- c) The progress made on the 20 action points for school improvement identified by the Minister for Education and Skills in his statement on 2 February 2011.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Amendment 1 - Nick Ramsay (Monmouth)

Delete all and replace with:

1. Calls upon the Welsh Government to ensure that the Schools Standards Unit is accountable, fair, transparent and monitored on a regular basis.
2. Notes the creation of a school banding (categorisation) system.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to increase and maintain momentum in progressing the 20 point plan contained in the statement made by the Minister for Education and Skills on 2 February 2011, to ensure that Wales doesn't fall further behind on a national and international level.

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
25	0	29	54

Amendment 1 was not agreed.

Amendment 2 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In point b) after 'system' insert:

'but urges the Government to avoid the mistakes of previous school league tables'.

A vote was taken on Amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
54	0	0	54

Amendment 2 was agreed.

Amendment 3 - Peter Black (South Wales West)

Insert at end of sub point b):

‘, and calls on the Government to publish the indicators, methodology and grade structure that will be used as part of this system’.

A vote was taken on Amendment 3:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
54	0	0	54

Amendment 3 was agreed.

Amendment 4 - Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Government to publish the format and style of the new literacy and numeracy tests and outline how much time it expects teachers will spend administering and marking these tests.

A vote was taken on Amendment 4:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
25	0	29	54

Amendment 4 was not agreed.

Amendment 5 - Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Believes that Welsh schools will improve school standards most effectively by increasing funding for schools, through a pupil premium.

A vote was taken on Amendment 5:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
14	0	39	53

Amendment 5 was not agreed.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

NDM4775 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes:

a) The establishment of the School Standards Unit;

b) The creation of a school banding (categorisation) system but urges the Government to avoid the mistakes of previous school league tables and calls on the Government to publish the indicators, methodology and grade structure that will be used as part of this system’

c) The progress made on the 20 action points for school improvement identified by the Minister for Education and Skills in his statement on 2 February 2011.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
42	0	12	54

The motion as amended was agreed.

16.38

7. Debate on Fairer Funding for Wales

NDM4776 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the consensus across Welsh civic society that the devolved funding settlement for Wales is no longer fit for purpose, and in support of that consensus:

a) Endorses the Welsh Government's goal of securing a single and coherent package of reforms to the financial settlement for Wales and agrees that such a settlement must include:

i) a fairer funding regime, incorporating the Holtham floor, and the wider reform of the Barnett formula; and

ii) devolution of borrowing powers to fund capital investment and the right to raise capital funds;

b) Welcomes the UK Government's commitment to take forward financial reform for Wales;

c) Urges an early start to substantive discussions between the Welsh Government and the UK Government and supports the Welsh Government's commitment to take a constructive approach to all aspects of those discussions, including consideration of the case for strengthened financial accountability, in line with the recommendations of Part 2 of the Holtham Commission report with regard to appropriate fiscal responsibilities.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

17.15

Voting Time

17.17

Short Debate

NDM4774 Paul Davies (Preseli Pembokeshire): Watching Over Withybush: Why services must stay put

The meeting concluded at 17.43

The Assembly will sit again at Plenary at 13:30 on Wednesday, 6 July 2011