

# Minutes – Business Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Presiding Officer's office, 4th floor – Tŷ

Hywel

Meeting date: 30 April 2019

Meeting time: 08.30 – 09.43

**Private**

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## Attendance

Category	Names
Committee Members:	Elin Jones AM, Llywydd (Chair) Rebecca Evans AM Darren Millar AM Rhun ap Iorwerth AM Neil Hamilton AM
Committee Staff:	Aled Elwyn Jones (Clerk)
Others in attendance	Ann Jones AM, Deputy Presiding Officer Manon Antoniazzi, Chief Executive & Clerk of the Assembly Siwan Davies, Director of Assembly Business Siân Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Service Gwion Evans, Head of the Llywydd's Private Office Elin Roberts, Policy Adviser to the Llywydd Helen Carey, Welsh Government



## **1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions**

## **2 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes for the meeting were agreed by the Committee for publication.

## **3 Organisation of Business**

### **3.1 This Week's Business**

#### **Tuesday**

- Following a motion passed in Plenary on 3 April which suspended Gareth Bennett from Assembly proceedings for a period of seven calendar days, starting yesterday, the Llywydd informed Business Managers that she will not be calling another UKIP Member for Leaders Questions in his place today.
- Voting Time will take place after the last item of business.

#### **Wednesday**

- All voting will take place before the short debate.

### **3.2 Three Week Timetable of Government Business**

Business Committee noted the 3 Week Timetable of Government Business.

### **3.3 Three Week Timetable of Assembly Business**

Business Committee determined the organisation of Assembly business and agreed to schedule the following items of business:

#### **Wednesday 22 May 2019 –**

- Statement by the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee: Scrutiny of Accounts 2017–18 (30 mins)
- Debate on Petition P-05-784 Prescription drug dependence and withdrawal – recognition and support (60 mins)
- Time allocated to the Welsh Conservatives (60 mins)

*Request to schedule a debate on NNDM7031*

Business Managers returned to their discussion of 2 April regarding scheduling a debate on NNDM703, which called on the Permanent Secretary, acting in accordance with Section 37(1)(b) of the Government of Wales Act 2006, to produce for the purposes of the Assembly, with appropriate redactions to ensure anonymity of witnesses, the report of the investigation into whether there was any evidence of prior unauthorised sharing of information relating to the November 2017 Ministerial reshuffle.

Business Managers noted that on 4 April the First Minister issued a statement, in response to a High Court judgement, noting his intention to publish the 'leak inquiry' report after the coroner's inquest. In light of that statement, Business Managers decided against scheduling the NNDM debate, believing that the issues raised in the motion had been addressed by the statement.

## **4 Legislation**

### **4.1 Revised LCM for the Rivers Authorities and Land Drainage Bill**

Business Managers noted the revised LCM ahead of the Plenary debate this afternoon and that both the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee and the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committees have been informed of the revised LCM.

## **5 Committees**

### **5.1 Request from the Finance Committee to undertake formal off-site visit**

Business Managers agreed the request.

## **6 Assembly Business**

### **6.1 The effect of recent changes to group membership on committees and Plenary business**

Business Managers discussed the paper and asked that officials draft a note of options for consideration at their respective group meetings later this morning.

Business Managers agreed to change the proportion of Plenary time allocated to the Conservatives, Plaid Cymru and UKIP to 12:10:3 respectively.

Business Managers discussed the Llywydd's proposals on UKIP's future participation in Leaders and Spokespeople Questions. The Llywydd said she would consider the views expressed before making a decision.

## **6.2 The admissibility of motions**

Business Managers noted the paper.

### **Any Other Business**

#### ***Standards Committee – Gareth Bennett***

Before Easter, the Assembly endorsed the Standards Committee's recommendation that Gareth Bennett be removed from being a member of that Committee for the remainder of this Assembly. The Committee is next expected to meet on 14 May, and so any change would need to be made this week or next for it to have effect in time.

Business Managers decided that UKIP should be given the opportunity to nominate a replacement member and asked that the group come forward with a name by next week's meeting.