

# Minutes – Business Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Presiding Officer's office, 4th floor – Tŷ

Hywel

Meeting date: 24 September 2019

Meeting time: 08.30 – 09.06

**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 Caroline Jones AM
Committee Staff:	Aled Elwyn Jones (Clerk)
Others in attendance	Siwan Davies, Director of Assembly Business Gwion Evans, Head of the Llywydd's Private Office Elin Roberts, Policy Adviser to the Llywydd Helen Carey, Welsh Government Matthew Richards, Head of the Legal Service Jessica England, Chamber Secretariat



## 1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

The Deputy Presiding Officer sent her apologies, due to attending a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association meeting in Uganda.

## 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

- Voting Time will take place as the last item of business.

#### Wednesday

- All voting will take place before the Short Debate.

### 3.2 Three Week Timetable of Government Business

The Trefnydd notified Business Managers of the following change to Government Business for the next 3 weeks:

#### Tuesday 8 October 2019

- ~~Statement by the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services: Update on the Baby Bundle Pilot (30 mins) – *withdrawn*~~

Rhun ap Iorwerth asked when a statement on eating disorders would be scheduled. The Trefnydd would confirm whether it would be a written or oral statement, and noted the request for an oral statement.

### 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 2 October 2019 –

- Standards of Conduct Committee report (15 mins)
- Standards of Conduct Committee report (15 mins)

#### Wednesday 16 October 2019 –

- Debate on a Member's Legislative Proposal (30 mins)
- Debate on the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee report: the Blue Badge Scheme in Wales: Eligibility and Implementation (60 mins)
- Time allocated to Plaid Cymru (60 mins)

### 3.4 Member Debates: Selection of Motion for Debate

Business Managers selected the following motion for debate on 2 October:

**David Rees**

**NNDM7143**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the rich and diverse network of historic industrial infrastructure across Wales.
2. Notes the economic, regeneration and integrated transport potential of re-opening disused railway lines and tunnels across Wales.
3. Recognises the practical and financial challenges of bringing such infrastructure back into use.
4. Calls upon the Welsh Government to seek ownership of such infrastructure which would aid funding opportunities to be sought.

5. Calls on the UK and Welsh Governments to play its part in exploring the practical opportunities for re-opening such infrastructure across Wales.

**Supported by:**

**Vikki Howells**

**Leanne Wood**

Business Managers also agreed to schedule the following motion for 23 October:

**Sian Gwenllian**

**NNDM7144**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Calls on the Welsh Government to provide a progress report on its work to tackle LGBT hate crime in Wales.
2. Calls for the devolution of justice to ensure an integrated approach to tackling LGBT hate crime and protect LGBT people in Wales.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to outline its proposals on how the creation of a devolved Welsh justice system could promote the safety and wellbeing of LGBT people.

**Supported by:**

**Mick Antoniw**

**Leanne Wood**

### **3.5 Letter from the Deputy Presiding Officer**

Business Managers agreed to schedule a short meeting of the Committee of the Whole Assembly on 1 October 2019, directly after the final item of plenary business on that day, in order to agree a motion to vary the order of consideration for Stage 2 proceedings of the Senedd and Elections (Wales) Bill for the following week.

## **4 Plenary**

### **4.1 Request to schedule a debate on NNDM7127**

Business Managers considered the request. Darren Millar and Caroline Jones were in favour, but Rhun ap Iorwerth and Rebecca Evans were against , and so the majority decision was not to schedule the debate. Rhun ap Iorwerth said the matter would be best pursued by the Public Accounts Committee, who had considered the issue before the summer, but Darren Millar said that the Chair of PAC had indicated that, following the statement by the First Minister, the committee would not be returning to the issue.

There was a frank exchange of views regarding the possible motives of different groups in supporting or opposing the scheduling of the motion.

## **5 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2020–21**

### **5.1 Letter from the Chair of Finance Committee**

Business Managers considered the letter and agreed to publish a revised budget timetable, with a reporting deadline for committees of Tuesday 14 January 2020.

## **6 Legislation**

### **6.1 Timetable for the National Health Service (Indemnities) (Wales) Bill**

Business Managers agreed in principle to refer the Bill to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee to consider its general principles, and to write to the committee to consult on the proposed timetable.

## **7 Committees**

### **7.1 Committee on Assembly Electoral Reform**

Business Managers agreed to table a motion to allocate the chair of the new committee to Labour group today. They also agreed that the membership of the committee should be one member from each group in addition to the chair. Darren Millar explained that the Conservative group would not be nominating a member to take up that place.

Business Managers also agreed that nominations for the chair and the secret ballot (if necessary) would take place tomorrow. The Llywydd said she would consider asking nominees to make a short address tomorrow.