

Minutes – Business Committee

Meeting Venue:

Conference Room 4B – Tŷ Hywel

Meeting date: 10 March 2020

Meeting time: 08.30 – 09.10

Private

Attendance

Category	Names
Committee Members:	Elin Jones AM, Llywydd (Chair) Julie James AM Russell George AM Siân Gwenllian Caroline Jones AM
Committee Staff:	Aled Elwyn Jones (Clerk)
Others in attendance	Ann Jones AM, Deputy Presiding Officer Siwan Davies, Director of Assembly Business Elin Roberts, Policy Adviser to the Llywydd Helen Carey, Welsh Government

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

The Trefnydd sent her apologies, the Minister for Housing and Local Government attended in her place.

Darren Miller sent his apologies, Russell George attended in his place.



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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

The Minister for Housing and Local Government proposed that Plenary should begin at 1pm on Tuesday, in light of the volume of business and in particular the likely length of the Stage 3 debate. Business Managers agreed to this proposal.

The Llywydd told Business Managers that she does not think that Plenary should sit much beyond 10pm.. The Minister for Housing and Local Government explained that the government's intention in the event that Stage 3 was not completed on Tuesday is to move a procedural motion to adjourn the remainder of the item to after OAQs on Wednesday.

The Llywydd also informed Business Managers that there will be a 10 minute break before Stage 3 starts and then another break for a longer period of time sometime after 7.30, depending on progress.

Business Managers expressed regret that the statement by the Deputy Minister and Chief Whip on International Women's Day would be issued as a written statement and asked if the statement could be rescheduled for another day. They also noted that such late finishes were not sustainable for those with caring responsibilities

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

- Voting Time 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 April 2020 –

- Debate on the Economy, Infrastructure and Skills report – Procurement in the Foundational Economy (60 mins)
- Time allocated to the Welsh Conservatives (60 mins)
- Time allocated to Plaid Cymru (60 mins)

4 Assembly Business

4.1 Senedd Clwyd

Business Managers agreed the proposed outline timetable for the week commencing 8 June, which is consistent with the usual committee and Assembly timetables agreed by the Business Committee. They also agreed to maintain the usual ratio of government and non-government business for the two Plenary meetings of 9 and 10 June.

Business Managers discussed options for the types of non-government business to be scheduled during the Plenary meetings to be held in north Wales on 9 and 10 June and agreed to:

- schedule the CWLC debate but ask the Committee if they would be content with a 30 minute slot;
- schedule a Member Debate and invite Members to table motions for selection;
- hold a dedicated Short Debate ballot for that week, rather than it be included in the termly ballot;
- schedule 60 or 90 minutes of opposition time, with the opposition groups to discuss outside Business Committee how that time might be allocated and used.

5 Any Other Business

Questions

The Llywydd asked Business Managers to tell Members not to quote from correspondence during questions, as this makes contributions too long. Members should be asking questions, rather than making speeches.

Coronavirus

The Llywydd advised Business Managers that the Commission will be considering a paper on Coronavirus next week.