

Minutes – Business Committee

Meeting Venue:

Video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: 22 September 2020

Meeting time: 08.59 – 09.49

Private

Attendance

Category	Names
Committee Members:	Elin Jones MS, Llywydd (Chair) Rebecca Evans MS Darren Millar MS Siân Gwenllian MS
Committee Staff:	Aled Elwyn Jones (Clerk)
Others in attendance	Ann Jones MS, Deputy Presiding Officer Siwan Davies, Director of Senedd Business Manon Antoniazzi, Chief Executive & Clerk of the Senedd 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 Bethan Garwood Aled Ap Neill



1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

2 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed for publication.

3 Organisation of Business

3.1 This Week's Business

The Trefnydd drew Business Managers' attention to the three changes to Tuesday's business: the addition of a statement by the Minister for Health and Social Services; the postponement of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 8) (Caerphilly) Regulations 2020; and the withdrawal of The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Functions of Local Authorities) (Wales) Regulations 2020.

Breaks/changeovers

Business Managers agreed to have one break on Tuesday and to two breaks on Wednesday.

The Llywydd informed Business Managers that the bell will be rung at the end of breaks, to give notice that Members may enter the Chamber and that the resumption of business is imminent.

90 Second Statement Deadline

The Llywydd informed Business Managers that the deadline for submitting 90 second statements will now be 10am – the same as topical questions. If not all slots for the day are filled, the Llywydd may use her discretion to accept a late request.

Amendments to motions

In the current situation and considering the length of business days, the Llywydd informed Business Managers that she will use her power to deselect amendments where she deems appropriate for the proper conduct of Senedd business.

3.2 Three Week Timetable of Government Business

The Trefnydd drew Business Managers' attention to the revised timetable, circulated this morning, which added The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 11) (Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Newport etc.) Regulations 2020 to 29 September.

3.3 Three Week Timetable of Senedd Business

The Llywydd asked the Secretariat for a paper on how time available for business on Wednesdays could be used more efficiently. Business Committee agreed that business for 7 October be reviewed to reduce the overall length of the meeting.

Business Committee agreed to schedule the following items of business:

Wednesday 14 October 2020 –

- Member Debate under Standing Order 11.21(iv) (60 mins)
- Time allocated to the Welsh Conservatives (60 mins)
- Time allocated to the Brexit Party (60 mins)

3.4 Member Debates: Selection of Motion for Debate

Business Committee discussed the motions tabled and agreed to schedule the following motion for debate on 30 September:

NNDM7384 Jack Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes:

- a) the damage poverty does to life chances and that work is no longer a guaranteed route out of poverty;
- b) that the pandemic has forced more people into poverty with increasing numbers of residents having to turn to charitable support like food banks;
- c) that, even before the pandemic, UK growth was poor and we faced the growing challenge of automation, placing increasing numbers of jobs at risk;
- d) that a Universal Basic Income (UBI) gives people more control over their lives, would alleviate poverty and have an accompanying positive affect on mental health;
- e) that a UBI would create jobs and encourage people to access training opportunities;
- f) that a UBI allows people the space to become more involved in their community and support their neighbours.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government:

- a) to establish a UBI trial in Wales;
- b) to lobby the UK Government for funding to establish a Wales-wide UBI.

Supporters:

Adam Price (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr)

Alun Davies (Blaenau Gwent)

Bethan Sayed (South Wales West)

Dai Lloyd (South Wales West)

Dawn Bowden (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhumney)

Helen Mary Jones (Mid and West Wales)

Huw Irranca-Davies (Ogmore)

Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central)

John Griffiths (Newport East)

Leanne Wood (Rhondda)

Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd)

Mike Hedges (Swansea East)

Rhianon Passmore (Islwyn)

Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Business Committee also agreed to schedule the following motion for debate on 14 October:

NNDM7304

Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central)

Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire)

Suzy Davies (South Wales West)

Vikki Howells (Cynon Valley)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises the devastating impact of endometriosis which affects one in 10 women in Wales.
2. Notes that it takes on average eight years and 26 GP appointments to get a referral to an endometriosis specialist.
3. Calls for more research into the causes and possible cures for endometriosis.
4. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that schools make all pupils aware of what is a normal menstrual period and when to seek medical advice.
5. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that more endometriosis specialists are trained so that all women can have access to specialist treatment in Wales.

Supporters:

Jack Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside)

4 Legislation

4.1 The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 10) (Rhondda Cynon Taf) Regulations 2020

The Business Committee agreed to set a reporting deadline of Monday 28 September for the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee to report on the regulations.

4.2 The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Functions of Local Authorities etc.) (Wales) Regulations 2020

The Business Committee agreed to set a reporting deadline of Monday 28 September for the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee to report on the regulations.

The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 11) (Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Newport etc.)

The Business Committee agreed to set a reporting deadline of Monday 28 September for the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee to report on the regulations.

4.3 Update on current Legislative Consent Memorandums

The Business Committee noted the latest position on LCMs and the proposed plenary date for the LCM on the Fire and Safety Bill.

The Committee agreed not to refer the SLCM on the Fisheries Bill for scrutiny.

5 Committees

6.1 Letter from the Chair of the Petitions Committee

Business Committee agreed to schedule both debates in the autumn term and to be led by the Petitions Committee on the timing of the debates. Business Managers suggested that the Petitions Committee may wish to consider reviewing the number of signatures required for a debate.

6.2 Letter from the Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee

Business Committee agreed to schedule a committee-led debate on the National Development Framework in November.

6.3 Committee Timetable Requests

Business Committee agreed to the following requests from committees for meeting slots in the final week of the half term:

- A meeting on the morning of Wednesday 21 October for CYPE committee, for a final Ministerial session with the Minister for Education in relation to the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill.
- To hold a slot for the Finance Committee in the event that it is needed to accommodate a meeting it is attempting to arrange with the Secretary of State for Wales and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury.
- To hold the ELGC Committee meeting scheduled in week 10 on Friday the 27 November as opposed to Monday 23 November, as the committee is undertaking Stage Two proceedings on the Renting Homes (Amendment) (Wales) Bill.

Business Committee also agreed to revise the Monday afternoon slot timing to 13:30 – 17:00.

Business Committee agreed to the proposed approach of the secretariat gathering committee requests for timetable changes and protected week meetings and presenting these in a single paper.

7 Papers to Note

7.1 Letter from the Trefnydd and Counsel General

The Business Committee noted the letter.

7.2 Letter from the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Rural Affairs

The Business Committee noted the letter.

Any Other Business

Committee Membership

The Business Committee agreed to table a motion to elect Caroline Jones as a member of the ELGC Committee on Wednesday, and to table a motion to elect members to the Llywydd committee.