

Plenary

Meeting date:
Wednesday, 25 January 2012

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Votes and Proceedings

(41)

1. Questions to the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development

The first 11 questions were asked. Question 9 was withdrawn.

2. Questions to the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage

Item started at 14.16

The first 7 questions were asked.

3. Debate by Individual Members under Standing Order 11.21(iv)

Item started at 15.04

NDM4864

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales)

Mark Drakeford (Cardiff West)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales)

Aled Roberts (North Wales)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes:

a) the proliferation of pay day loan companies operating in Wales;

b) the extremely high rates of interest many such companies charge their customers;

c) the increasing ease of access to such loans through smartphones and the internet; and

d) the potential for such lending to create severe debt amongst our poorest communities and to suck money out of them.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government, local authorities and the third sector to work together as much as possible to offer viable alternatives to such companies and to alert citizens to the real cost of the loans offered.

Supported by:

Keith Davies (Llanelli)

Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd)

Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire)

Peter Black (South Wales West)

Mike Hedges (Swansea East)

Antoinette Sandbach (North Wales)

David Rees (Aberavon)

Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

Suzy Davies (South Wales West)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth)

Julie James (Swansea West)

William Powell (Mid and West Wales)

Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central)

Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West)

Llyr Huws Gruffydd (North Wales)

Vaughan Gething (Cardiff South and Penarth)

Lindsay Whittle (South Wales East)

Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr)

Alun Ffred Jones (Arfon)

Leanne Wood (South Wales Central)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales)

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

4. Welsh Conservatives Debate

Item 4 started at 15.56

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

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

NDM4899 William Graham (South Wales East):

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises that to improve educational standards and attainment across Wales, there must be a focus on supporting and stretching pupils of all abilities;
2. Regrets that the capabilities of many able and talented pupils are not challenged enough in Welsh schools; and
- 3: Calls on the Welsh Government to address, as a matter of urgency, the decline in the number of pupils achieving top grades in Wales.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
13	0	39	52

The motion without amendment was not agreed.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1– Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Insert at end of point 1:

'starting in our most deprived communities'.

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
34	0	18	52

Amendment 1 was agreed.

Amendment 2 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Delete point 2.

A vote was taken on Amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
34	0	18	52

Amendment 2 was agreed.

Amendment 3 – Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

Delete point 3 and replace with:

Welcomes the increase in the number of pupils achieving top grades in GCSEs in Wales since 1999.

A vote was taken on Amendment 3:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
34	0	18	52

Amendment 3 was agreed.

Amendment 4 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the additional £20 million investment for the Pupil Deprivation Fund agreed in December's final budget and calls on the Welsh Government to identify how it will monitor the fund to ensure that it is used to improve educational standards.

A vote was taken on Amendment 4:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
31	8	13	52

Amendment 4 was agreed.

Amendment 5 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the government to ensure that data on 'Local Authority Budgeted Expenditure on Schools: Wales/England Comparison' continue to be made available in order to ensure that spending can be monitored to improve educational standards.

A vote was taken on Amendment 5:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
52	0	0	52

Amendment 5 was agreed.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

NDM4899 William Graham (South Wales East):

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises that to improve educational standards and attainment across Wales, there must be a focus on supporting and stretching pupils of all abilities starting in our most deprived communities.

2. Welcomes the increase in the number of pupils achieving top grades in GCSEs in Wales since 1999.

3. Welcomes the additional £20 million investment for the Pupil Deprivation Fund agreed in December's final budget and calls on the Welsh Government to identify how it will monitor the fund to ensure that it is used to improve educational standards.

4. Calls on the government to ensure that data on 'Local Authority Budgeted Expenditure on Schools: Wales/England Comparison' continue to be made available in order to ensure that spending can be monitored to improve educational standards.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
39	0	13	52

The motion as amended was agreed.

5. Plaid Cymru Debate

Item 4 started at 16.48

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

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

NDM4900 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

To propose that the National Assembly:

1. Welcomes the constructive decisions of the United Framework Convention on Climate Change in Durban, South Africa, 28 November – 9 December 2011;

2. Welcomes the contribution of the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development to the outcome of the conference and congratulates the Welsh Government on the selection of the Mbale–Wales Tree Planting Project Partnership as one of 9 flagship projects of the Momentum for Change Initiative; and

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to support the accreditation of the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development to contribute to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, June 20–22 2012.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
34	0	18	52

The motion without amendment was agreed.

Voting Time

Voting Time started at 17.36

6. Short Debate – POSTPONED

NDM4898 Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales):

Can Wales Pay Its Own Way?

The meeting concluded at 17.39

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13:30 on Tuesday, 31 January 2012