

Business Committee BC(2)17-05 (Final minutes)

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: 7th June 2005

Time: 9 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room E

Present: Jenny Randerson (Chair)
Jane Hutt, Business Minister

Jocelyn Davies, Plaid Cymru Business
Manager

Kirsty Williams, Welsh Liberal
Democrats Business Manager

David Melding, Welsh Conservatives
Business Manager

John Marek, Deputy Presiding Officer

Paul Silk, Clerk to the Assembly

Andrew George, Clerk to the Business
Committee

Marion Stapleton, Assembly Business
Unit

Karin Phillips, Members' Research and
Committee Services Peter Jones,

Counsel to the Assembly Parliamentary
Service

Alun Jenkins, DLS (Agenda Item 4)

Marc Wyn Jones, Business Committee
Secretariat

Catherine Morris, PS to the Deputy
Presiding Officer

Apologies & announcements

2. Minutes of the previous meetings

(i) BC(2)15-05 (Final minutes) - Tuesday 10th May 2005

2.1 The minutes were presented to the Committee in their final format. An amendment was suggested which would be incorporated before the minutes were translated in readiness for publication.

Action: Chamber Secretariat

(ii) BC(2)16-05 (draft minutes) - Tuesday 24th May 2005

2.2 The minutes were presented to the Committee in draft. As there were no comments, they would be translated in readiness for publication.

Action: Chamber Secretariat

3. Matters Arising

3.1 **17th May: Paragraph 9.1** Marion Stapleton said that a code of guidance associated with Standing Order 19 had been drafted and that it would be submitted to the Committee for consideration in its next meeting following further consultation between officials.

4. Subordinate Legislation

Orders for consideration

The Highways (Schools) (Special Extinguishment and Special Diversion Orders) (Wales) Regulations 2005 - **BC(2)17-05 (p1)**

The Individual Learning Accounts Wales (Amendment) Regulations 2005 - **BC(2)17-05 (p2)**

The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Wales) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2005 - **BC(2)17-05 (p3)**

The Higher Education Act 2004 (Commencement No.2 and Transitional Provision) (Wales) Order 2005 - **BC(2)17-05 (p4)**

The National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005 - **BC(2)17-05 (p5)**

The Scallop Fishing (Wales) Order 2005 - **BC(2)17-05 (p6)**

& Report from the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee - BC(2)17-05(p14)

The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) (Amendment)

The Business Committee recommended the Accelerated procedure for BC(2)17-05 (p2) and recommended the Standard procedure for BC(2)17-05(p6) and BC(2)17-05 (p7). The Deputy Presiding Officer subsequently determined that none of these Orders need be referred to Subject Committee. BC(2)17-05(p7) was subsequently withdrawn.

4.1 Members of the Committee suggested a number of amendments to clarify the papers accompanying these items of legislation. It was agreed that the papers would be amended accordingly.

4.2 Members of the Committee noted that Welsh versions of BC(2)17-05(p1), BC(2)17-05 (p3) and BC(2)17-05(p5) were not yet available. Alun Jenkins said that this had been caused by issues relating to capacity in the Translation Unit. It was agreed that consideration of these draft Orders would be deferred until June 14, when Welsh versions would be available.

4.3 BC(2)17-05 (p4) was withdrawn and was not discussed.

BC(2)17-05(p6)

4.3 The Chair referred to the Committee report accompanying this draft Order, which said that the Committee had recommended two amendments to the Order. Marion Stapleton confirmed that both of the amendments had been incorporated. The Chair referred to paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Memorandum, which said that "*this Order has some distinct Welsh provision, in that it reflects the nature of the Welsh fleet*". Members of the Committee asked for further clarification of this statement.

Action: Marion Stapleton

(b) Standing Order 29 Subordinate Legislation

BC(2)17-05(p8)

4.4 The Committee noted the e-mail of notification about the Minister for Health and Social Services' intention to approve Directions to NHS bodies on Counter Fraud Measures 2005. It was noted that the Health and Social Services Committee had considered the Directions at their meeting on 13 April 2005, but that no comments had been made._

(c) Orders made under the Executive Procedure; Papers to note.

(d) Papers for Information

BC(2)17-05(p9)

4.5 The Committee noted the e-mail about the Minister for Finance, Local Government and

Public Services' intention to confirm the Caerphilly County Borough Council (Land Adjacent to Fochriw Primary School) Compulsory Purchase Order 2004. The Deputy Presiding Officer noted that a Welsh version of the Order had not been provided and asked if, in future, organisations could be encouraged to provide Welsh versions._

5. Committees

BC(2)17-05(p10)

5.1 The Committee noted the paper from the Health and Social Services Committee which gave details of forthcoming legislation identified by the committee for future scrutiny.

BC(2)17-05(P15)

5.2 Karin Phillips introduced the draft Committee timetable for the Autumn term 2005. She said that the new timetable had been drafted to cause the least possible disruption, but that some Subject Committee meetings in the Autumn term would have to be held on a Thursday morning. Business Managers said they were content with the proposals for subject committees to meet on Thursdays. The Business Minister said she would consult her group. The Committee agreed to return to the issue in its meeting on 14th June. The Deputy Presiding Officer said that the House Committee would endeavour to avoid a clash when scheduling its additional meetings.

6. Forthcoming Business

BC(2)16-05(p8)

6.1 The Business Minister responded to various requests from Business Managers and said that:

There was currently no intention to make a statement on NHS Dentistry in Wales, but the Minister for Health and Social Services had reaffirmed his commitment to having a debate on this issue in October, at which point the Personal Dental Schemes would have started operating and initial results received. The Minister had also said that he would issue a written statement before the Summer recess to inform Members of the level of interest in Personal Dental Schemes in preparation for the debate in October.

There was currently no intention of scheduling a statement on the Health Capital Programme as written statements had been issued on 16th and 17th March outlining details of NHS budgets including capital. However, a debate would be scheduled on "Designed for Life" - the 10 year Strategy for Health and Social Care, of which the NHS Capital Programme was a feature.

The Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport was content to make a statement on "Welsh in the World" but, due to competing pressures on

business it was unlikely that time would be found to accommodate the statement before the summer recess.

This Week's Business

BC(2)17-05(p12)

6.2 The Committee considered this paper, which detailed the Assembly's agreed business for the week.

Business Managers' Requests

6.3 Kirsty Williams asked if statements could be made on the sale of Wentwood Forest; and on the consequences for Wales of securing structural funding because of the delay caused by the recent European referendums. She also reiterated her request for a debate to be scheduled on the NHS Capital programme and asked if a debate could be scheduled on Cancer services in Wales. David Melding and Jocelyn Davies said they supported these requests.

6.4 Jocelyn Davies asked if statements could be made on Cardiff out-of-hours services and on the First Great Western franchise. David Melding supported these requests.

6.5 David Melding asked if a statement could be made on the Government's intentions regarding arrangements for Assembly elections.

Draft Business Statement

6.6 The Committee noted the Business Minister's proposed statement about the organisation of the Assembly's business for the weeks commencing 14 June, 21 June and 28 June.

6.7 The Chair noted that the Secretary of State would be attending and participating in the Assembly's consideration of the UK Government's legislative programme on 21 June and asked if the White Paper on the reconstitution of the Assembly would be published in advance of that date. The Business Minister confirmed that that was the intention.

7. Advice to Assembly on procedures

BC(2)17-05(p11)

7.1 The Business Committee noted the letter from the Presiding Officer about audio-visual proceedings and an associated report. Business Managers said that they were content for audio-visual content to continue to play a part in Committee proceedings. However, they would wish to consider the proposals with regard to Plenary in the light of experience in the

new Chamber. It was agreed that the Chair would write to the Presiding Officer to relay the Committee's views.

8. Matters referred from plenary

9. Revisions to Standing Orders

BC(2)17-05 (p12)

9.1 The Business Committee considered a draft Report of the Business Committee on proposed amendments to Standing Orders to remove an anomaly between Standing Orders and the Government of Wales Act. Business Managers agreed the proposals. The Business Minister said she was content with the proposals, subject to confirmation that there would be no financial implications arising from the proposed changes.

10. Presiding Officer rulings

11. Any other business.

CHAMBER SECRETARIAT