

Business Committee BC(2)28-06 (Final minutes)

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Tuesday 24th October 2006

Time: 9.00 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room C

Present: Jenny Randerson (Chair)
Jane Hutt, Business Minister
Lisa Francis, Welsh Conservatives
Business Manager

Jocelyn Davies, Plaid Cymru Business
Manager

Paul Silk, Clerk to the Assembly

Andrew George, Clerk to the Business
Committee

Marion Stapleton, Assembly Business
Unit

Adrian Crompton, Members' Research
and Committee Service

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

1. Apologies & announcements

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Kirsty Williams and the Deputy Presiding Officer. The Chair said that Catherine Morris was attending her last Business Committee meeting as she would be moving to a new post. The Committee wished her well.

2. Minutes of the previous meetings

(i) BC(2)26-06 (Final minutes) - Tuesday 10th October 2006

2.1 The minutes were presented to the Committee in their final format. As there were no comments, they would be translated in readiness for publication.

Action: Chamber Secretariat

(ii) BC(2)27-06 (draft minutes) - Tuesday 17th October 2006

2.2 The minutes were presented to the Committee in their draft format. As there were no comments, they would be translated before being submitted to the Committee in final draft.

Action: Chamber Secretariat

3. Matters Arising

Final Minutes BC(2)26-06

3.1 Paragraph 3.1 The Business Minister reported back on the Easter recess dates for 2007. She said that Party Leaders had discussed the issue and agreed that the status quo should remain. It was noted that the periodic timetable statement, which had been agreed by the Assembly, said that the recess dates were from 26th March to 15th April. These dates would need to be amended so that it was clear that the Assembly would not return before the elections on 3rd May.

4. Subordinate Legislation

Orders for consideration

The Common Agricultural Policy Single Payment Scheme (Set-aside) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p1)**

The Contaminated Land (Wales) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p2)**

National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p3)**

The Radioactive Contaminated Land (Modification of Enactments) (Wales) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p4)**

The Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) (Wales) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p5)**

The Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces) (Wales) Order 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p6)**

The Children (Secure Accommodation) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p7)**

The Independent Review of Determinations (Adoption) (Wales) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p8)**

The Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Wales) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p9)**

The Plant Protection Products (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2006 – **BC(2)28-06(p10)**

The Business Committee recommended the Standard procedure for BC(2)28-06(p1) BC(2)28-06(p3) BC(2)28-06(p5) BC(2)28-06(p6), BC(2)28-06(p7), BC(2)28-06(p8) and recommended the Accelerated procedure for BC(2)28-06(p2), BC(2)28-06(p4), BC(2)28-06(p9) and BC(2)28-06(p10).

BC(2)28-06(p5) + BC(2)28-06(p6)

4.2 The Chair referred to the Explanatory Memorandum accompanying this draft Order, which said that *"There are no additional financial implications for the Assembly, or any others arising from the making of the Regulations."* However, paragraph 15 said that *"The attached table provides details of the cost of the application and testing process, for the seven new fuels, incurred by the manufacturers. Charges do not include any costs of the applicant incurred in testing carried out outside of the application process."* Jocelyn Davies said that her group wanted to debate this draft Order, as the financial implications had not been clearly identified.

(b) Standing Order 26 Subordinate Legislation

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(c) Standing Order 29 Subordinate Legislation

The General Ophthalmic Services (Payments for Continuing Education and Training) (Wales) Directions 2006 - **BC(2)28-06(p11)**

4.3 The Committee noted the Directions.

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

BC(2)28-06(p15)

4.4 The Committee noted the e-mail about the use of the Executive procedure for The Curd

Cheese (Restriction on Placing on the Market) (Wales) Regulations 2006.

4.5 The Chair noted that this e-mail related to the letter about The Specified Dairy Products (Restriction on the Placing on the Market) (Wales) Regulations 2006.

BC(2)28-06(p16), (p17) & (p18)

4.6 The Committee noted the letters about the use of the Executive procedure for:

The Avian Influenza (Vaccination) (Wales) (No2) Regulations 2006.

The Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals (Wales) (No2) Order 2006.

The Specified Dairy Products (Restriction on the Placing on the Market) (Wales) Regulations 2006.

(e) Papers for Information

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5. Committees

6. Forthcoming Business

Responses to Requests

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BC(2)28-06(p12)

6.1 The Committee noted the Business Minister's responses to requests for items of business:

A statement on services for patients with Epilepsy.

A statement on delayed transfer of care.

A statement on the superbug Clostridium Difficile.

A statement on the collapse of the "Farepak Savings Club" and the repercussions for the families who have lost their savings.

There was currently no intention to make a statement on Digital Switchover Timings, as it was not a devolved matter.

A statement on the delay of the Llanrwst, Conwy and Trefriw Flood defence schemes and the delay of any other similar schemes.

There was no intention to hold a debate on Class Sizes, as the Assembly Government's policy has remained unchanged.

6.2 Jocelyn Davies asked when the motion to approve the Local Government Settlement would be scheduled. Business Managers said that it was preferable to hold the debate before Christmas. The Business Minister said she would report back on the intention.

This Week's Business

BC(2)27-06(p13)

6.3 The Business Minister said that the Minister for Enterprise, Innovations and Networks would make an oral statement in Plenary on Tuesday on future investment in Corus.

6.4 The Business Minister said that the Minister for Health and Social Services would make an oral statement in Plenary on Wednesday on the Clostridium Difficile superbug.

Business Managers' Requests

6.5 The Chair asked if the following item of business could be scheduled on behalf of Kirsty Williams:

A statement on *Tir Mynydd*.

A statement on the general financial implications of the Neath and Port Talbot Local Health Board agreement to refund nursing home fees (following a recent court ruling).

6.6 Jocelyn Davies supported the above requests.

6.7 Lisa Francis supported the above requests and asked if the following items of business could be scheduled:

A statement on the general financial implications of the Neath and Port Talbot Local Health Board agreement to refund nursing home fees (following a recent court ruling).

A statement on Local Health Boards ability to commission health services over the next 12 month/incorrect payments.

A statement on the cost of sending a delegation to the Ryder Cup in Ireland.

A statement on the shortage of youth custodial places in Wales.

Draft Business Statement - BC(2)27-06(p14)

6.8 The Business Committee noted the Business Minister's proposed statement about the organisation of the Assembly business for the weeks commencing 7 November, 14 November and 21 November.

6.9 The Business Minister said that a motion would be scheduled to elect Trish Law to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee.

7. Advice to Assembly on procedures

BC(2)28-06(p19)

7.1 The Committee noted the paper on the progress of proposals for legislation under Standing Order 31. The Chair said that the paper recommended that no further ballots should be undertaken, as there would not be sufficient time for a proposal to run its course. The Committee agreed the recommendation.

8. Matters referred from plenary

9. Revisions to Standing Orders

10. Presiding Officer rulings

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11. Any other business.

11.1 Jocelyn Davies and Lisa Francis referred to reports in the media about arrangements for the handling of the debate on the draft Budget, which was scheduled to take place later that day. They said that such issues should be dealt with internally and that the reports were damaging to the public image of the Assembly.

CHAMBER SECRETARIAT