

Business Committee BC(2)34-06 (Final minutes)

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Tuesday 12th December 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

Kirsty Williams, Welsh Liberal
Democrats Manager

John Marek, Deputy Presiding Officer
(attending in accordance with Standing
Order 13.2)

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

Leanne Hatcher, Business Committee
Secretariat

Eve Pennant-Jones, PS to the Deputy
Presiding Officer

1. Apologies & announcements

1.1 The Chair thanked Paul Silk, the departing Clerk to the Assembly, for his advice and invaluable contribution to the Business Committee. The Committee wished him well for the future.

2. Minutes of the previous meetings

(i) BC(2)32-06 (Final minutes) - Tuesday 28th November 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)33-06 (draft minutes) - Tuesday 5th December 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

BC(2)33-06 (draft minutes)

3.1 **Paragraph 7.2** Lisa Francis referred to the second debate on her proposal for legislation under Standing Order 31, which had been scheduled for 23rd January. She said that a feasibility report on the proposal would need to be considered by the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee at its meeting on 13th December. The Business Minister said she would report back to Lisa Francis on progress.

4. Subordinate Legislation

Orders for consideration

The Food for Particular Nutritional Uses (Addition of Substances for Specific Nutritional Purposes) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 - **BC(2)34-06(p1)** *Recommended Procedure: Accelerated*

The Statutory Nuisances (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Wales) Order 2007 - **BC(2)34-06(p2)** *Recommended Procedure: Accelerated*

The Statutory Nuisances (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Wales) Regulations 2007 - **BC(2)34-06(p3)** *Recommended Procedure: Accelerated*

National Health Service (Free Prescriptions and Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Wales) Regulations 2007 - **BC(2)34-06(p4)** *Recommended Procedure: Standard*

*& Report of the Health and Social Services Committee - **BC(2)34-06(p6)***

The Business Committee recommended the Standard procedure for BC(2)34-06(p4) and the Accelerated procedure for BC(2)34-06(p1), BC(2)34-06(p2) and BC(2)34-06(p3).

(b) Standing Order 26 Subordinate Legislation

(c) Standing Order 29 Subordinate Legislation

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

(e) Papers for Information

BC(2)34-06(p7)

4.1 The Committee noted the e-mail about the First Minister's intention to make The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Higher Education Corporation (Dissolution) Order 2006.

BC(2)34-06(p8)

4.2 The Committee noted the e-mail about the Minister for Health and Social Services' intention to approve the Feed Law Enforcement Code of Practice (Great Britain) 2006.

5. Committees

BC(2)34-06(p5)

5.1 The Committee agreed the request from the Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee to hold a joint Committee meeting with the Health and Social Services, Social Justice and Regeneration and Equality of Opportunity Committees on 8th March 2007, to consider the Children's Commissioner's Annual Report.

BC(2)34-06(p14)

5.2 The Committee agreed the request from the Equality of Opportunity Committee to hold an additional meeting on 12th December 2006.

BC(2)34-06(p15)

5.3 The Committee agreed the request from the Health and Social Services Committee to hold an additional meeting on 17th January 2007.

6. Forthcoming Business

Responses to Requests

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BC(2)34-06(p9)

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

A written statement had been issued on the impact for Wales of the announcement from Westminster regarding the roll out of the International Baccalaureate Scheme.

An oral statement on the change of education policy for under 7 year olds and its financial implications had been made on 6th December.

A written statement had been issued on HIV in Wales and the number of sufferers and the action being taken.

There was currently no intention to make a statement on GP contracts, as this issue was subject to negotiation between the British Medical Association and NHS Employers. However, a statement would be made in Plenary in due course.

A debate had been scheduled for 24th January on the Health Minister's response to the Auditor General for Wales' review of ambulance services.

This Week's Business

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BC(2)34-06(p10)

6.2 The Business Minister said that there were no changes to the week's business.

Business Managers' Requests

6.3 Jocelyn Davies asked if the following items of business could be scheduled:

A statement on the safety at the LNG terminal at Milford Haven.

A statement on the future of Post Offices.

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

An oral statement on the charging for bus transport at Welsh-medium schools.

6.5 Kirsty Williams supported the above requests and asked if the following item of business could be scheduled:

A statement on Airbus.

Draft Business Statement - **BC(2)34-06(p11)**

6.6 The Business Committee noted the Business Minister's proposed statement about the organisation of Assembly business for the weeks commencing 16th January, 23rd January and 30th January.

7. Advice to Assembly on procedures

BC(2)34-06(p12)

7.1 The Committee agreed the paper on tabling days for Plenary meetings following the Christmas Recess.

BC(2)34-06(p13)

7.2 The Committee noted the paper on events relating to business leading up to and

following the Assembly elections in 2007.

7.3 The Chair asked if there had been any progress on setting a date for the first Plenary meeting following the 2007 elections. The Business Minister said that the First Minister had written to Party Leaders asking them to consider the issue and she would report back in due course.

7.4 Paul Silk said that a temporary Standing Order would be required to govern the early proceedings of the next Assembly. He said that the temporary Standing Order would form part of the package of Standing Orders for the Third Assembly to be made by the Secretary of State.

7.5 The Chair sought the views of Business Managers about whether or not it would be desirable for Members to be able to take the oath on the Bank Holiday Monday, 7th May. Business Managers said it would be desirable.

8. Matters referred from plenary

9. Revisions to Standing Orders

10. Presiding Officer rulings

11. Any other business.

CHAMBER SECRETARIAT