

# Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

## Minutes (ELL2-12-05mins)

**Meeting date: Wednesday 9 November 2005**

**Meeting time: 9.00am -11.57am**

**Meeting venue: Committee Rooms 3 & 4, National Assembly, Cardiff Bay**

### Assembly Members in Attendance

<b>Assembly Member</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
Peter Black (Chair)	South Wales West
Christine Chapman (Deputy Minister)	Cynon Valley
Jeff Cuthbert	Caerphilly
Jane Davidson (Minister)	Pontypridd
William Graham	South Wales East
Mark Isherwood	North Wales
Irene James	Islwyn
Denise Idris Jones	Conwy
Janet Ryder	North Wales
Owen John Thomas	South Wales Central

### Officials in Attendance

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job title</b>
Richard Davies	Group Director, Department for Training and Education (DfTE)
Alan Lansdown	Head, Pupil Support Division

Rob Pickford	Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales (CSIW)
Vaughan Johnson	Student Support Unit, DfTE
Neil Surman	Policy and Legislation Project, DfTE
Huw G Davies	Directorate of Legal Services
Judith Phillips	Business Systems Division

### Others in Attendance

Name	Representing	Agenda item
Ethni Jones (SEN Officer)	RHAG (Rhieni Dros Addysg Gymraeg – Parents for Welsh Medium Education)	2
Michael Jones (General Secretary)	RHAG	2
Dr Nia Griffiths	RHAG	2
Hywel Jones (Chief Executive)	MYM (Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin – Welsh Medium Nursery Schools Movement)	2
Rita Jones (Deputy Chief Executive)	MYM	2
Mr Peter Hosking (Senior Policy and Service Evaluation Officer)	Office of the Children’s Commissioner for Wales	2

### Committee Service

Name	Job title
Steve George	Committee Clerk
Holly Pembridge	Deputy Committee Clerk
Joanest Jackson	Legal Adviser

### Item 1: Introduction, Apologies, Substitutions, Quorum and Declarations of Interest (9.00am-9.05am)

1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and Members of the public. The Deputy Clerk was leaving the post following promotion. Other Committee Members joined the Chair in thanking her for her work for the Committee since 2001.

1.2 No apologies were received.

1.3 There were no declarations of interest made in accordance with Standing Order 4.6.

1.4 A verbatim record of the meeting is available.

**Item 2: Policy Review of Special Educational Needs  
(Evidence Gathering) (9.05am - 10.35am)**

**Papers: None - oral item**

2.1 The Chair welcomed representatives from RHAG, Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and the Office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales to the table. After receiving presentations, the Chair invited Members to raise questions.

2.2 A verbatim record of this item is available.

**Item 3: Minister's Report (11.00am - 11.45am)**

**Paper: ELL2 12-02(p.1)**

3.1 The Minister responded to Members' questions concerning her report.

3.2 A verbatim record of this item is available.

Action: The Minister to provide Members with information on when her Press Release on the implementation of the Foundation Phase had issued.

Action: The Minister to provide Members with data relating to falling pupil roll numbers and patterns of population for each local authority

Action: The Minister to provide Members with data relating to absenteeism and exclusions for each local authority

**Item 4: Scrutiny of Secondary Legislation 11.45am - 11.55am**

4.1 The Committee discussed the Assembly Learning Grants and Loans (Higher Education) (Wales) Regulations 2006.

4.2 A verbatim record of this item is available.

Action: The Clerk to prepare a report of the Committee's consideration of the regulations and lay before the Assembly

**Item 5: Secondary Legislation Forward Look (11.55am-11.57am)**

**Paper: ELL2 12-05(p.3)**

5.1 The Chair asked for Members to notify the Clerk of any secondary legislation they wished to be scrutinised.

**The Committee noted the following papers:**

Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales – Annual Report 2004-05

Paper: ELL2 12-05(p.4)

ELL Committee's Letter on budget priorities to the Minister for Finance

Paper: ELL2 12-05(p.5)

Minutes of Previous Meetings – 29 September (ELL2 10-05) and 13 October (ELL2 11-05)

Papers: ELL2 10-05(mins) and ELL2 11-05(mins)