



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
The National Assembly for Wales**

**Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth Rhif 5
Legislation Committee No. 5**

**Dydd Mercher, 3 Chwefror 2010
Wednesday, 3 February 2010**

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Cofnodir y trafodion hyn yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynndi yn y pwyllgor. Yn ogystal,
cynhwysir cyfieithiad Saesneg o gyfraniadau yn y Gymraeg.

These proceedings are reported in the language in which they were spoken in the committee.
In addition, an English translation of Welsh speeches is included.

Aelodau'r pwyllgor yn bresennol
Committee members in attendance

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Mick Bates | Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru Welsh Liberal Democrats |
| Alun Davies | Llafur Labour |
| Mark Isherwood | Ceidwadwyr Cymreig (Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor) Welsh Conservatives (Committee Chair) |
| Sandy Mewies | Llafur Labour |
| Darren Millar | Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives |
| Leanne Wood | Plaid Cymru The Party of Wales |

Swyddogion Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn bresennol
National Assembly for Wales officials in attendance

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Bethan Davies | Clerc Clerk |
| Leanne Hatcher | Deputy Clerc Dirprwy Glerc |
| Bethan Roberts | Cynghorydd Cyfreithiol Legal Adviser |
| Sarah Hatherley | Gwasanaeth Ymchil yr Aelodau Members Research Service |

Dechreuodd y cyfarfod am 10.15 a.m.
The meeting began at 10.15 a.m

Cyflwyniad, Ymddiheuriadau a Dirprwyon
Introduction, Apologies and Substitutions

[1] **Mark Isherwood:** Good morning and welcome to this meeting of Legislation Committee No. 5. We are here to consider the Proposed Carers Strategies (Wales) Measure. First, I will make the necessary housekeeping announcements. In the event of a fire alarm, Members should leave the room through the fire exits and follow instructions from the ushers and staff. There is no fire drill scheduled for today. I request that all mobile phones, pagers and BlackBerrys are turned off as they interfere with the broadcasting equipment. The National Assembly for Wales operates through the media of Welsh and English and therefore simultaneous translation is provided through the headphones. The headphones may also be used to amplify the sound. Interpretation is available on channel 1 and the verbatim on channel 0.

10.16 a.m.

**Y Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch Strategaethau ar gyfer Gofalwyr (Cymru)—
Cyfnod 1
Proposed Carers Strategies (Wales) Measure—Stage 1**

[2] **Mark Isherwood:** The purpose of this meeting is to formally agree the Committee's approach to the scrutiny of the Proposed Carers Strategies (Wales) Measure. This proposed Measure was laid before the Assembly on 25 January 2010 by the Deputy Minister for Social Services, Gwenda Thomas. Our role as a Committee is to consider and report on the general principles of the proposed Measure. We must conclude our work and lay a report before the Assembly by 7 May 2010, which is the deadline that has been set by the Business Committee.

[3] We have had informal discussions with regard to our approach to scrutiny of the proposed Measure and, on that basis, I suggest that the framework for our work is to consider the need for a proposed Measure to deliver the stated objectives. The objectives are to ensure that carers have the correct information at the right time to support them in their caring role; to ensure that statutory agencies properly engage with carers, as partners in the provision of care, involving them at all levels; and the assessment, delivery and evaluation of care arrangements. We will also need to look at whether the proposed Measure achieves its stated objectives, the key provisions that are set out in the proposed Measure and whether they are appropriate to deliver its objectives, and the potential barriers to implementing the key provisions and whether the proposed Measure takes them into account. The views of stakeholders who will have to work with the new arrangements will also need to be taken into account. Are Members content with the approach outlined? I see that they are.

[4] Are Members also content to issue a general written call for evidence and invite written submissions from organisations and individuals and, subject to the submission received, to start inviting key stakeholders to give oral evidence during the coming weeks, giving priority to the Deputy Minister and the main stakeholder bodies?

[5] **Alun Davies:** I am content with that. However, I think that we should note that this process did not begin when the Deputy Minister laid the proposed Measure on 25 January. The process began when we were discussing the legislative competence Order, which enabled the Government to bring forward this proposed Measure. I therefore believe that we should consider the evidence that was submitted to the legislation committee and the evidence that was provided by different consultees at that time. The key issue for us in this process is to look at the additional issues which arise as a consequence of the proposed Measure rather than to repeat the work that has already been completed by the previous committee. We need to revisit evidence that has already been taken, and when we call for evidence, we should emphasise the need for new evidence and evidence that raises new issues. We need to look again at the report issued by the legislation committee and the evidence submitted at that time, rather than ask people to resubmit evidence, which might already have been debated and discussed by the previous committee. Do Members agree with that approach? I see that they do.

[6] **Mark Isherwood:** That concludes this short meeting. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 10 February when the committee will conduct its first oral evidence session. We will hold a short informal session at the beginning of that meeting to consider the best way to move forward with the oral evidence.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 10.20 a.m.
The meeting ended at 10.20 a.m.*