

## Forward Look

Relevant supporting documents can be found under "Assembly Business", "Documents Laid" which are usually posted 5 working days ahead of the relevant session.

[Notified by the Business Minister in a statement to the Assembly on Tuesday, 1st February 2005.]

Tuesday 8 February 2005 & Wednesday 9 February 2005

*HALF TERM RECESS 14 –21 FEBRUARY 2005*

Tuesday 22 February 2005 & Wednesday 23 February 2005

Tuesday 1 March 2005 & Wednesday 2 March 2005

### Tuesday 8 February 2005

- **First Minister's Question Time (45 mins)**
- **Business Statement (10 mins)**
- **Statement by the Minister for Health and Social Services: The Welsh Assembly Government's response to the Paul Khan Homicide Review (30 mins)**
- **Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25 (1 min)**
- **The National Health Service (Performers Lists) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2005**

The primary purpose of the Regulations is to ensure that any person who is already listed on a performers list (or medical performers list in the case of a GP) in the United Kingdom who applies to be listed on a performers lists held by a Local Health Board (LHBs) will be entitled to make an expedited application and to provide less information than if he or she were applying to be on a performers list for the first time. Once the application is received the applicant will be entitled to practice for a period of two months or until such time as his or her application is determined by the LHB (whichever is the shorter).

- **The Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005**

The proposed legislation will transpose and implement Commission Directives

2003/95/EC and 2004/45/EC. The new Regulations will amend the Miscellaneous Food Additives Regulations 1995 (as amended) in Wales to implement the fifth and sixth amendments to Commission Directive 96/77/EC, which lays down specific purity criteria for food other than colours and sweeteners throughout the EU. The legislation forms part of a continuing programme to update EU specifications for food additives, which are used to ensure the purity of food additives.

- **Motion to approve The Horse Passports (Wales) Regulations 2005 (30 mins)**

These Regulations provide enforcement authorities with powers to enforce a European Commission Decision in relation to the identification of horses treated with medicines that must not be administered to food producing animals. They revoke and replace the Horse Passports Order 1997 and the Horse Passports (Amendment) Order 1998 in so far as they extend to Wales.

- **Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.27 (iv) The Non Domestic Rating (Demand Notices) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 (15 mins)**

The content of Non-Domestic Rating (NDR) demand notices and the explanatory information that accompanies the bills is prescribed in The Non-Domestic Rating (Demand Notices) (Wales) Regulations 1993 and these regulations will amend the 1993 regulations. NDR bills are accompanied by explanatory notes, which explain the various reliefs available to a ratepayer and procedures for appeals. Councils include these notes with the bills and the Assembly prescribes the form of words to be used.

The Local Government Act 2003 contains provisions for Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that are registered for the purposes of Schedule 18 of the Finance Act 2002, to receive mandatory rate relief at 80 per cent of their bills. This relief may be increased to 100 per cent at the discretion of local authorities. The provisions came into force on 1 April 2004, and sports clubs must be registered as a CASC with the Inland Revenue in order to receive mandatory relief. An amendment to the regulations will need to be made to include this information in the notes to the bills. Also, the Business Rates Revaluation takes effect in 2005/06, and information on this will need to be included, as well as an update on the appeals procedure.

- **Motion to approve The Local Health Board Medical Services Directions 2005 under Standing Order 29 (10 mins)**

These Directions are necessary to fully implement the General Medical Services contract, which came into force on 1 April 2004. The relevant clauses necessary to implement the contract were introduced into the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards Bill) 2003. The clauses provide for the existing provisions in

Part 2 of the National Health Service Act 1997 to be repealed and replaced with a set of new provisions. The Bill received Royal Assent in November 2003. A number of Regulations needed to be in place by 1 April 2004 to secure the legislative basis for the contract and these need to be supported by a number of Directions, like the Local Health Board Medical Service Directions 2005, to ensure the contract is fully operational.

- **Motion to delegate the functions of The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 to the First Minister (15 mins)**
- **Welsh Conservative Party nominated debate (45 mins)**
- ***Proposal to debate the following 2 items together but with separate votes (15 mins)***
- **Local Government Finance Report (No 2) 2005-06 for Welsh police authorities**
- **Amending Report 2003-04 for Welsh councils and police authorities**

Standing Order 21.12 requires the Minister for Local Government to lay before the National Assembly the Local Government Finance Report (No.2) for Welsh police authorities for the financial year 2005-06; and the amending report for councils and police authorities for the financial year 2003-04. Both reports are for approval by resolution of the Assembly.

### **Wednesday 9 February 2005**

- **Local Government Questions to Sue Essex, Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services (30 mins)**
- **Questions to Jane Davidson, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (30 mins)**
- **Debate on the Welsh Assembly Government's response to the Report of the Child Poverty Task Force (60 mins)**

The Report of the external Child Poverty Task Group was consulted on over the summer. The Child Poverty Strategy "A Fair Future for our Children" responds to the Task Group report, and sets out the long-term direction for the Welsh Assembly Government and its partners for combating child poverty.

- **Debate on the Transport Strategy (60 mins)**

The debate is to consider the outcome of the Minister's review of transport programmes, which was announced on 7 December 2004.

- **Short debate (30 mins)**

## Tuesday 22 February 2005

- **First Minister's Question Time (45 mins)**
- **Business Statement (10 mins)**
- **Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25 (1 min)**
- **The Contaminants in Food (Wales) Regulations 2005**

The proposed legislation will implement amendments to Commission Regulation EC No 466/2001, and Commission Directives 2003/78/EC, 2003/121/EC, 2004/16/EC and 2004/44/EC. The Regulations will revoke and replace The Contaminants in Food (Wales) Regulations 2003 and revoke in Wales, The Tin in Food Regulations 1992. (SI 1992 No 496).

- **The Town and Country Planning (Blight Provisions) (Wales) Order 2005**

The new Order will increase the Rateable Value (RV) limit from £24,600 to £29,200 for the purpose of allowing qualifying owners of commercial premises to be eligible to serve blight notices under section 149 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The same limit is also adopted in respect of properties entitled to make claims for compensation under Part I of the Land Compensation Act 1973 and the application of rules relating to the extinguishment of a business affected by public development (under section 46) of the same Act. therefore it is necessary to revoke the Town and Country Planning (Blight Provisions) (Wales) Order 2000 (S.I. 2000/1169) (W.94).

- **The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs etc) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations amend Schedule 2 of the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs etc.) (Wales) Regulations 2004 to reflect guidance from the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) specifying the circumstances and categories of patients for whom the treatment of flu should be available on the NHS.

- **The Food Safety Hygiene (General Food Hygiene) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations implement Directive 2004/4/EC which is a consumer protection and single market measure that amends EC Directive 96/3/EC of 26 January 1996, which sets out the EC list of acceptable substances that can be carried immediately prior to transporting edible fats and oils by sea. The new Directive amends the existing list (of approximately 90 substances) the removal of 4 substances and the addition of 9 on the basis of an assessment by the EC Scientific Committee on Food.

- **The Care Standards Act 2000 (Commencement No 21) Order 2005**

This Order will have the effect of introducing protection of the title social worker by creating an offence, punishable by a fine of up to level 5 on the standard scale, for a person who is not registered as a social worker to use that title or hold himself out as a social worker with an intention to deceive. The Order does not confer any functions on the Assembly.

- **The Town and Country Planning (Costs of Inquiries etc) (Standard Daily Amount) (Wales) Regulations 2005**

The intended effect of these Regulations is to prescribe the increase in the daily fee charged by the Planning Inspectorate to local planning authorities for the services provided by Planning Inspectors in conducting public inquiries into Unitary Development Plans (UDPs), local plans or simplified planning zones. These Regulations prescribe a standard daily amount which may be charged for each day an Inspector is conducting an inquiry or is otherwise engaged on work connected with it. The daily rate will be increased by £61, from £618 to £679, in relation to an inquiry or other hearing which opens on or after 1 April 2005. The proposed increase is intended to achieve full cost recovery of the daily rate including direct costs, full support costs and overheads. Travel and subsistence is recovered on an actuals basis and does not form part of this daily fee.

- **Motion to approve under The CAP Single Payment and Support Schemes (Wales) Regulations 2005 under Standing Order 24.27(iv) (15 mins)**

These Regulations will deliver the European Union's reforms to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in Wales and provide the domestic legislation needed to underpin the new Single Payment Scheme (SPS) that is being introduced from 1 January 2005. Parallel legislation is being introduced in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland which reflects the different Single Payment Scheme models being implemented across the UK; all with a coming into force date of 1 March 2005.

- **Motion to approve The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (15 mins)**

The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations make amendments to, and consolidate where appropriate the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 (SI 1996 No.590), and the changes made to the Regulations subsequent to it first being issued (the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 No. 3760 (W.309)) (1996 Regulations). These amendments will revoke the 1996 Regulations as they apply to local authorities in Wales. The intention is to incorporate a number of new provisions, which will bring up to date the rules on the keeping of local authority accounts, reduce unnecessary bureaucracy, and improve local authority corporate governance and accountability.

- **Motion to appoint the new Auditors of the accounts of the Auditor General for Wales (10 mins)**
- **Welsh Liberal Democrat nominated debate (45 mins)**
- **Debate on the National Assembly`s 5<sup>th</sup> Equality Annual report under Standing Order 6.5 (60 mins)**

This report is for the financial year 2003-04 and is consists of 4 elements – the Equality of Opportunity Committee`s annual report ; the Assembly Parliamentary Service`s annual report ; the Welsh Assembly Government`s annual report

together with a covering assessment by the Equality of Opportunity Committee

following consideration of the three other elements.

## **Wednesday 23 February 2005**

- **Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (30 mins)**
- **Questions to Andrew Davies, Minister for Economic Development and Transport (30 mins)**
- **Questions to Jane Hutt, in accordance with Standing Order 6.28 and as specified in the list of Ministerial responsibilities (30 mins)**
- **Motion to approve changes to Standing Orders (15 mins)**
- **Statement by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning : The Welsh**

## **Assembly Government`s Response to The Children`s Commissioner`s 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report (30 mins)**

- **Debate on the Chief Medical Officer`s Report (45 mins)**

The Chief Medical Officer produces regular reports on the health of the people of Wales. This report is the first in a new series of shorter reports designed to help readers focus more quickly and easily on key issues and information. The reports aim to bring attention to important health issues for Wales and to describe the ways in which they are being tackled. This report sets the scene for all to respond to Health Challenge Wales with a statistical overview of the health of people in Wales and a focus on three key health issues -respiratory disease, sexual health and physical activity. The next two reports in the series will include Accidents and Injuries and Tobacco

- **Short debate (30 mins)**

## **Tuesday 1 March 2005**

- **First Minister`s Question Time (45 mins)**
- **Business Statement (10 mins)**
- **Slot reserved for subordinate legislation (90 mins)**
- **Motion to approve the Senior Salaries Review Board Recommendations (15 mins)**
- **Plaid Cymru nominated debate (45 mins)**

## **Wednesday 2 March 2005**

- **Finance Questions to Sue Essex,Minister for Finance, Local Govrnment and Public Services (30 mins)**
- **Questions to Carwyn Jones, Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (30 mins)**
- **Motion to delegate functions under The Children`s Act 2004 to the First Minister (15 mins)**
- **Debate on the Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee`s report on the contribution of Arts and Sports to Community Regeneration (60 mins)**
- **Debate on the Annual Report of the Standards Committee (40 mins)**
- **Short debate (30 mins)**