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, 12th October 2004.]

Tuesday 19 October & Wednesday 20 October 2004

AUTUMN HALF TERM RECESS 25 – 31 OCTOBER 2004

Tuesday 2 November 2004 & Wednesday 3 November 2004

Tuesday 9 November & Wednesday 10 November 2004

Tuesday 19 October 2004

- First Minister's Question Time (45 mins)
- Business Statement (10 mins)
- Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25 (1 min)
- The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2004

These regulations provide for a 10% across-the-board increase in planning application fee levels in Wales.

 The Food Safety (Act of Accession concerning the Czech Republic and other States) (Consequential Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2004

These Regulations are required as a consequence of ten new Member States allowing terms specified in six existing Statutory Instruments to be added in the nine new Community languages. The Statutory Instrument enacts adjustments to the Treaties on which the European Union is founded set out in the 2004 Act of Accession. The changes required by the Act of Accession cover all areas of community law, and inevitably mean that some UK legislation that implements European legislation needs to be amended

• The Feeding Stuffs (Sampling and Analysis)(Amendment)(Wales) regulations 2004

The proposed legislation will make changes to guidelines for the microscopic identification of ingredients of animal origin in animal feeds and reflects technical advances which now permit the identification of very small quantities (less than 0.1%) of animal material. The new measure also specifies the procedures to be followed in conducting the analysis and calculating the results, which replace the optional methods used previously.

• The Compulsory Purchase of Land (Written Representations Procedure) (National Assembly for Wales) Regulations 2004

These Regulations will set out a procedure for the consideration of objections to the making or confirmation of compulsory purchase orders (CPOs) in Wales by means of written representations. They will prescribe a procedure which may be used as an alternative to the holding of a public local inquiry if the confirming authority considers it appropriate and all objectors agree. They apply to compulsory purchase orders made in draft by the National Assembly for Wales and all CPOs made in Wales for which the National Assembly is the confirming authority.

 The Compulsory Purchase of Land (Prescribed Forms) (National Assembly for Wales) Regulations 2004

These proposed Regulations prescribe new forms and notices to be used in the making and confirmation of compulsory purchase orders (CPOs). These will replace those contained in the Compulsory Purchase of Land Regulations 1994 (S.I. 1994/2145), which will be revoked. They apply to compulsory purchase orders made in draft by the National Assembly for Wales and all CPOs made in Wales for which the National Assembly is the confirming authority

 Motion to approve The Education (Health Standards)(Wales) Regulations 2004 (20 mins)

These regulations restate with minor modifications the requirements in the Education (Teachers' Qualifications and Health Standards) (Wales) Regulations 1999 on employers of teachers and other staff at maintained schools and further education establishments to satisfy themselves as to the health and physical capacities of such staff.

Motion to approve The Disqualification from Caring for Children(Wales)

Regulations 2004 (10 mins)

These new regulations replace, with modifications, the Disqualification from Caring for Children (Wales) Regulations 2002, setting out categories of persons disqualified from registration as private foster carers, childminders or day care providers.

• Motion to approve The TSE (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (10 mins)

These regulations provide powers for the enforcement of EU legislation introducing controls on farms that have had a confirmed case of scrapie. It sets out procedures to be followed, regulates movement of animals and provides for potential derogations. It provides an appeals procedure and specifies compensation rates.

 Motion to delegate the functions of The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England & Wales) Regulations 2003 to the First Minister (10 mins)

In December 2004 the National Assembly for Wales, together with the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, made The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England And Wales) Regulations 2003 The Regulations contain a number of functions available to, and place duties on, the National Assembly for Wales, mainly in its role of "appropriate authority". This motion will seek the Assembly's agreement to the delegation of all of the Assembly's functions within the Regulations to the First Minister.

Debate on the Energy Efficiency Action Plan (60 mins)

The Energy Efficiency Plan for Action forms part of the Welsh Assembly

Government's energy strategy. The plan makes the link between the decisions

made regarding energy use and the effects of climate change. The plan also

highlights the work of agencies actively involved in energy efficiency and

announces the proposed set up of a portal to provide helpful links to websites

giving more detailed information on energy efficiency and other related matters.

Wednesday 20 October 2004

- Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (20 mins)
- Questions to Andrew Davies, Minister for Economic Development & Transport (20 mins)
- Debate on the draft Budget (120 mins)

This debate will provide an opportunity for Assembly Members to debate the Finance Minister's draft budget for 2005-06 and Indicative Allocations for 2006-07, which is to be published on 11 October 2004.

Short debate (30 mins)

Tuesday 2 November 2004

- First Minister's Question Time (45 mins)
- Business Statement (10 mins)
- Motion to delegate the functions of the Health Protection Agency Act 2004 to the First Minister (10 mins)

This is a motion to delegate to the First Minister (as provided for by section 62 (1)(b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998), health and radiation protection functions relating to the Health Protection Agency (Yr Asiantaeth Diogelu lechyd) which are devolved to the Assembly by the Health Protection Agency Act 2004.

 Motion to delegate the functions of the Higher Education Act 2004 to the First Minister (60 mins)

This is a motion to delegate to the First Minister, (as provided for by section 62 (1)(b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998), functions relating to student support and university tuition fees which are devolved to the Assembly by the Higher Education Act 2004.

Plaid Cymru nominated debate (45 mins)

Wednesday 3 November 2004

- Finance Questions to Sue Essex, Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services (20 mins)
- Questions to Carwyn Jones, Minister for Environment, Planning & Countryside (20 mins)
- Debate on matters relating to the European Union in accordance with Standing Order 6.6 (60 mins)

The Assembly Standing Order 6.6 requires the National Assembly to have an annual debate on matters related to the European Union..

Debate on the Annual Report of the Local Government Partnership Scheme (60 mins)

Section 113 of the Government of Wales Act 1998 requires the Assembly to make a scheme setting out how it proposes, in the exercise of its functions, to sustain and promote local government in Wales. Part II of Schedule 11 of the Act requires the

National Assembly to publish an annual report of how its proposals in the Scheme have been implemented. The annual report for 2003-2004 has been considered by the Partnership Council and the Local Government and Public Services Committee and is now proposed for debate by the Assembly in plenary in accordance with standing order 6.6(x).

Short debate (30 mins)

Tuesday 9 November 2004

- First Minister's Question Time (45 mins)
- Business Statement (10 mins)
- Statement by the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport : Wales Millennium Centre (30 mins)

The Wales Millennium Centre opens its doors to the public for the first time on Friday 26th November 2004. This statement will provide an update on the construction of the centre, Welsh Assembly Government funding and progress towards the opening weekend.

- Conservative nominated debate (45 mins)
- Debate on the Equality Of Opportunity Committee's Report on Mainstreaming

Equality in the work of the National Assembly (60 mins)

The review was a response to the Committee's function of auditing the Assembly's statutory responsibility for promoting equality.

Wednesday 10 November 2004

- Questions to Jane Hutt, Minister for Health & Social Services (20 mins)
- Questions to Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (20 mins)
- Questions to the House Committee (5 mins)
- Statement by the Minister for Health and Social Services: Consultation on Play Policy (30 mins)

In October 2002 the Welsh Assembly Government published its Play Policy and was the first administration within the United Kingdom to develop such a policy. The Policy was founded on Article 31 of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child that states that the child has the right to rest and engage in leisure, play and recreational activities. A Play Policy Implementation Group was established to set up a more detailed strategy and presented a report with 24 recommendations to Jane Hutt, Minister for Health and Social Services in March 2004.

Debate on the Annual Report of the Welsh Administration Ombudsman (60 mins)

Standing Order 6.6. requires that time shall be made available in each twelve month period for the National Assembly to debate the annual report of the Welsh Administration Ombudsman

Short debate (30 mins)