

BUSINESS PAPERS

PART 2 – SECTION H

VOTES & PROCEEDINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, 24th NOVEMBER 1999

The session commenced at 2.03pm. The Presiding Officer welcomed Tom McCabe, Minister for Parliament, the Scottish Parliament.

Election to appoint a new Chair to the Standards Committee

To propose that the Assembly, resolves to replace with immediate effect Nicholas Bourne (Conservative) with David Melding (Conservative) on the Committee on Standards of Conduct and to elect David Melding to be the Chair of that Committee.

A vote was taken:

For 41
Against 0
Abstain 0
Total 41

David Melding was duly elected to the Chair of the Standards Committee

2.06pm

Questions to Rhodri Morgan, Secretary for Economic Development

The first 3 questions were reached.

2.26pm

Questions to Edwina Hart, Secretary for Finance Secretary

The first 6 questions were reached. Question 4 being withdrawn

2.38pm Point of Order

Nick Bourne raised a point of order relating to Standing Orders 6.26 - 6.31, but specifically 6.29 about the practice of oral questions being transferred for answer between Assembly Secretaries. In particular, he listed a number of questions tabled for answer by the Finance Secretary today that had been transferred. The Finance Secretary replied advising that she

had raised this issue with the Business Manager who was considering clearer guidance

2.44pm Point of Order

David Davies raised a point of order relating to Standing Order 6.34 about the delay in receiving answers to Written Questions.

On both of these issues, the Presiding Officer advised that these matters had been raised earlier and he had an exchange of letters which he was considering publishing to the Intranet to clarify the situation. He also advised that the Business Committee was looking at both matters and at producing clearer guidance. He reassured Members that the issues were being progressed.

2.50pm

The Presiding Officer made a statement about the technical problems being experienced with the Intranet sites and advised members that there would be a delay in publishing documents.

2.51pm

Debate on Sport

To propose that the Assembly, recognises the economic, social and cultural significance of sport, the contribution that sport makes to the wider health and well-being of the people of Wales and accordingly supports the approach outlined in the Sports Council's document "A Strategy for Welsh Sport".

(A copy of the strategy was sent to all Assembly Members by the Sports Council for Wales at the end of May. The Strategy is also on the Sports Council's Internet web site in a text format. The address is: www.sports-council-wales.co.uk)

The following amendments were selected:

Amendment 1 - Gareth Jones (Conwy);

After the word Assembly in the first line, insert:

" resolves to preserve and develop sport in schools as part of the National Curriculum to encourage life long participation, and"

Amendment 2 - Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central) ;

After the words " A Strategy for Welsh Sport. " add:

" To that end, this Assembly calls for a Olympic-size swimming pool to be built in the South Wales Central area to replace the demolished Empire Pool."

Amendment 3 - Christine Humphreys (North Wales);

At the end of the motion insert ;

In addition, this Assembly shares the concerns of the Welsh Sports Council about the safety of children who participate in sports, and proposes that the Welsh Sports Council and other sports bodies should be consulted about the compilation of a register of recognised sports trainers.

Amendment 4 - Christine Humphreys (North Wales);

At the end of the motion insert ;

- welcomes the emphasis placed in the Strategy on introducing children to the widest possible range of sports, and suggests that this should include equal emphasis on individual sports as well as team sports
- shares the Welsh Sports Council's concern that those who participate in rural sports or water sports frequently have to use their cars to travel to such activities, and proposes that this issue should be considered as part of any discussions on the development of integrated transport in Wales
- welcomes the commitment in the Strategy to reduce the number of people who turn their backs on sport by increasing the percentage of young people who participate in sport, but also proposes that consideration should be given to ways of attracting more older people to participate in sport once more.

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 47
Against 0
Abstain 0
Total 47

The amendment was carried.

Amendment 2

For 9
Against 35
Abstain 3
Total 47

The amendment fell.

Amendment 3

For 35
Against 0
Abstain 12
Total 47

The amendment was carried.

Amendment 4

For 47
Against 0
Abstain 0
Total 47

The amendment was carried.

The Motion, as amended

For 47
Against 0
Abstain 0
Total 47

The motion, as amended, was carried.

4.58pm

Appointment of an Advisor on Standards of Conduct

The Assembly resolves that the appointment of an independent Assembly adviser on Standards of Conduct be set in hand under arrangements to be made by the Presiding Officer, such arrangements to be made in accordance with the principles of the Assembly Code of Practice on Public Appointments.

A vote as taken:

For 35
Against 0
Abstain 0
Total 35

The motion was carried

5.03pm

Delegation of Functions under the Adoption (InterCountry Aspects) Act 1999

To propose that the Assembly, acting under section 62(1)(b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, delegates its functions under the Adoption (InterCountry Aspects) Act 1999, subject to any other resolution of the Assembly, to the Assembly First Secretary

A vote as taken:

For 32

Against 0

Abstain 0

Total 32

The motion was carried

The session concluded at 5.13 pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

1.40pm on Tuesday, 30th November 1999

Papers Laid in the Table Office since the Assembly last met in Plenary Session

Documents Laid on 19 November 1999

The Arts Council of Wales Annual Report 1998/99

Documents Laid on 22 November 1999

Legislation Committee Report to the Assembly on the Central Rating List (Wales) Regulations 1999

Legislation Committee Report to the Assembly on the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) Amendment (Wales) Regulations 1999

Legislation Committee Report to the Assembly on the General Teaching Council for Wales (Constitution) (Amendment) Regulations 1999

Legislation Committee Report to the Assembly on the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment (Wales) Regulations 1999

Documents Laid on 22 November 1999

Business Statement Forward Look 29/11/99 - 24/3/00

The Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust Establishment Order 1999 (Revised Draft)

The National Health Service Trusts (Wales) (Dissolution No.2) Order 1999 (Revised Draft)

J W Lloyd

Clerk to the Assembly