

**BUSINESS PAPERS**

**PART 2 – SECTION H**

**RECORD OF VOTES & PROCEEDINGS FOR TUESDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 1999**

**The session commenced at 2pm**

**Questions to the First Secretary**

The first 7 questions were reached (question 6 had been withdrawn)

**2.28pm**

**Point of Order**

Jocelyn Davies raised a point of order on the availability of papers to Members.

Further to the same point of order, David Davies raised the issue of late answers to written questions.

The First Secretary said that he wanted to ensure that all questions were fully and accurately answered.

The Presiding Officer noted that these issues were under consideration by the Business Committee.

**2.34pm**

**No Confidence Motion in the First Secretary** (tabled by Nick Bourne, Alun Cairns, David Davies, Jonathan Morgan, William Graham, David Melding, Peter S Rogers and Glyn Davies)  
Motion: That this Assembly has no confidence in Alun Michael as First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales

The motion was moved to a vote:

For 8

Against 26

Abstentions 23

The motion fell.

**3.04pm**

### **Statement by the Agriculture and Rural Development Secretary**

The Agriculture Secretary made a statement on the Tir Gofal Scheme and the Organic Aid Scheme

**3.16pm**

### **Business Statement: the Business Secretary**

The business statement was agreed.

**3.18pm**

### **Housing Strategy**

**Motion:** That the Assembly

- considers and notes the 'Framework for a National Housing Strategy for Wales' (sent to all Assembly Members on 23 August 1999 and laid in the Table Office);
- welcomes the valuable contribution of the National Assembly's partners on the National Consultative Forum on Housing in Wales to the preparation of the Framework; and
- notes the establishment of four wide-ranging multi-agency task groups to develop proposals for consideration by the National Assembly in setting its strategic approach to housing in Wales.

The following amendments were selected:

**Amendment 1**

**Peter Black (South Wales West)**

"To add at the end of the motion:"

- Notes the importance of providing good quality, energy efficient housing within the context of community development and investment in promoting social inclusion and sustainable development in Wales.

- Notes the importance of co-ordinating the review of Planning Policy Guidance with the work of the four multi-agency task groups so as to promote sustainable and affordable housing in local communities.

## **Amendment 2**

**Peter Black (South Wales West)**

" To add at the end of the motion:"

Calls on the U.K. Government to equalise the rates of VAT on Housing repairs with that on new buildings.

Amendment 1 was agreed

Amendment 2 was agreed

The motion, as amended, was carried.

**4.29pm**

## **"Sure Start" Programme**

**Motion:** That the Assembly, under section 88B of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, and in accordance with Standing Order 19.10, approves the Special Grant Report (No.2) (Wales) 1999, which was laid in the Table Office on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1999.

**The following amendment was selected:**

## **Amendment 1**

**Jenny Randerson (Cardiff Central)**

Add at end:

"but regrets that the time-scale for implementing the Sure Start scheme has left local authorities with little time to spend the money allocated for the current financial year."

The amendment was moved to a vote

**5.00pm**

## **Point of Order**

Andrew Davies raised a point of order about the number of members in the Chamber at the time of the vote being called.

The Presiding Officer confirmed that as the vote had been challenged, under standing orders, a confirmatory vote had to take place.

For 29

Against 26

Abstain 1

The amendment was carried

The motion as amended was carried.

5.11pm

**Short Debate**

Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East & Dinefwr); Relief of World Debt

The session concluded at 5.31 pm

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The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

2.00 pm on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1999

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

**Document Laid on 22 October 1999**

Legislation Committee - report to the Assembly on the Home Repair Assistance (Extension) (Wales) Regulations 1999

**Recess Bulletin 3 - Petition of 978 signatures received on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1999**

**THE WELSH LANGUAGE SOCIETY CALLS ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF WALES**

The full text of the petition reads:

We call on the National Assembly to work towards a new Wales where:-

1. the Welsh Language unites rather than separates us - with everyone speaking Welsh, as the language belongs to us all, and each and everyone should have the same opportunities.
2. the Education System equips the young people of Wales with the knowledge, skills and experiences necessary to protect our local communities.
3. financial assistance is provided to promote Welsh Language Youth Culture - so that our peers can be proud of their heritage.
4. there is a Welsh Language Radio Service managed by young people to act as a voice for our culture and as a forum for the discussion of new ideas.
5. there is a housing policy for young people in Wales so that it is feasible for us to choose to live in our communities.
6. there is an employment policy for our young people in Wales so that it is feasible for us to choose to work in our communities.
7. the ability exists to use the Welsh Language in all aspects of life in Wales.
8. there are Youth Councils, both nationally and at county level to scrutinise the work of the Assembly and the County Councils.
9. there is a statutory obligation for County Councils to consult the Youth Council before finalising Local Plans on the future of communities.
10. the Assembly sets a good example by operating totally bilingually and considers the effects of each policy on the young people of Wales.

(Published by the Welsh Language Society, Penroc, Marine Terrace, Aberystwyth.)

**Document's Laid on 28 October 1999**

Protecting and Conserving the Built Heritage in Wales - report by the Auditor General for Wales Presented to the National Assembly

Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No 2) (Wales) 1999

A Framework for a National Housing Strategy for Wales

J W Lloyd

Clerk to the Assembly