

Votes and Proceedings for Tuesday, 11th June 2002

The Session commenced at 2.00pm

The Deputy Presiding Officer was in the Chair

The Deputy Presiding Officer made a statement about the absence of the Presiding Officer and also reminded Members that plenary would commence at 1.15pm on Thursday, 13th June.

2.01pm

The **Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business** proposed a procedural motion under Standing Order 6.10 to postpone questions to the First Minister until the last item of today's business

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 21; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 21

The procedural motion was carried

2.03pm

Business Statement: The Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business

The business statement was agreed

2.04pm

Composite Motion

NDM1073 - To propose that the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order 22.25:

Approves:

1. **The Seeds (Fees) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002** laid in the Table Office on 7th May 2002; and

Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order **The Seeds (Fees) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002**, laid in the Table Office on 21st May 2002

2. **The Education (School Day and School Year) (Amendment) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2002** laid in the Table Office on 14th May 2002; and

Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Education (School Day and School Year) (Amendment) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2002, laid in the Table Office on 28th May 2002

This motion was not subject to debate and proceeded to a vote immediately:

For 25; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 25

The motion was carried

2.05pm

Revisions to Standing Orders following the Assembly Review of Procedure Report - Tranche 1

NDM1074 - To propose that the National Assembly, acting under section 46(6) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, and Standing Order 34:

- i. considers the report of the Business Committee laid in the Table Office on 30/5/02;
- ii. approves the following revisions to the Standing Orders;
- iii. resolves that the revisions shall take effect immediately:

Temporary Chair

After Standing Order 1.10 add:

1.10A Any member other than a member of the Assembly Cabinet may, at the request of the Presiding Officer or Deputy when either is occupying the chair, act as temporary chair of a plenary meeting of the Assembly for not more than a quarter of an hour on any one occasion; but a temporary chair shall not exercise any of the powers of the Presiding Officer or Deputy except those necessary to maintain order in plenary meetings.

Delete Standing Order 1.11 and replace with

1.11 If both the Presiding Officer and Deputy are temporarily unable to serve (other than under the provisions of Standing Order 1.10A), the Clerk shall take the Chair solely in order to arrange for the election of a Member to fulfil the Presiding Officer's responsibilities until either the Presiding Officer or Deputy becomes available.

Election of Committees

After Standing Order 8.4 add:

8.4A Where more than one motion under paragraph 8.4 is due to be considered at any sitting, the Presiding Officer may seek the Assembly's permission to vote on all the motions together, and, if permission is granted, paragraphs 8.5 and 8.6 shall not apply and the motions shall be voted on together immediately without debate. The Assembly's permission will be deemed not to have been granted if any Member signifies objection.

Motions in Plenary Referring to Subject Committee Reports

Delete the final sentence of Standing Order 6.5

Add a new paragraph 6.13A

"Where a motion proposes only that the Assembly take note of a report submitted by a subject committee, no amendment may be tabled to that motion."

Title of First Minister, Minister, Business Minister and Finance Minister

1. In the "Interpretation" provisions in the Standing Orders for the definition of:

"Assembly Business Secretary" substitute "Business Minister means the member of the Assembly Cabinet designated in accordance with paragraph 2.5 to have particular responsibility for the management of the Assembly's business;"

"Assembly Secretary" substitute "Minister" means a member of the Assembly Cabinet (including the First Minister);"

"Assembly Secretary for Finance" substitute "Finance Minister" means the member of the Assembly Cabinet designated in accordance with paragraph 2.5 to have particular responsibility for the Assembly's finances;" and

"First Secretary" substitute: "First Minister" means the member elected under section 53(1) of the Act;"

2. Wherever the words:

(a) "First Secretary" occur in the Standing Orders substitute the words "First Minister".

(b) "an Assembly Secretary" or "Assembly Secretaries" occur in the Standing Orders substitute the words "a Minister" or "Ministers" as the case may be.

(c) "Assembly Business Secretary" occur in the Standing Orders substitute the words

"Business Minister".

(d) "Assembly Secretary for Finance" occur in the Standing Orders substitute the words "Finance Minister".

3. In the Contents Page of the Standing Orders delete the words "First Secretary" and insert the words "First Minister".

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 26; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 26

The motion was carried by the required 2/3rds majority

2.06pm

Approval of allowance changes to increase security in constituency offices

NDM1065 - To propose that the National Assembly, acting under section 16 (2) of the Government of Wales Act and Standing Order 3.1, determines that an allowance shall be available to fund any expenditure by Members of more than £2,000 in any financial year in respect of safety precautions which Members propose to carry out to safeguard themselves, their staff, their constituency and their office equipment, where such safety precautions have been recommended by the police. Such recommendation must be in writing and Members must submit the recommendations and at least 3 competitive quotations for the cost of carrying out such works in advance of any expenditure being incurred.

More than 3 Members requested that the bell be rung in accordance with Standing Order 6.21.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 32; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 32

The motion was carried by the required 2/3rds majority

2.14pm

Oral Questions to the First Minister

The 15 questions were answered. Question 7 was not asked. Questions 1, 3, 10 and 14 were withdrawn. Question 11 was transferred for written answer.

The session concluded at 2.43pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

1.15 pm on Thursday, 13th June 2002

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASSEMBLY LAST MET

Documents laid on 06 June 2002

Cabinet Response to the Audit Committee Report 04-02: Procurement in the Further Education Section In Wales - LD1442

Documents laid on 30 May 2002

Report Of The Business Committee On Proposals to Change Standing Orders - LD1441