

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 Wednesday, 18th October 2005.]

Recess 24- 30 October 2005

Tuesday 1 November & Wednesday 2 November 2005

Tuesday 8 November & Wednesday 9 November 2005

Tuesday 15 November & Wednesday 16 November 2005

Tuesday 1 November 2005

- **Election to the Local Government Partnership Council (1 min)**
- **Questions to the First Minister (45 mins)**
- **Business Statement (10 mins)**
- **Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25 and Standing Order 25 section 3 (1 min)**
- **The Water Supply (Exceptions from Supply System Prohibitions) Regulations 2005**

The Water Act 2003 amended the Water Industry Act 1991 to require water undertakers in England and Wales to grant licensed

water suppliers access to their supply systems under certain conditions in order to supply water to eligible premises of customers. These draft Regulations are part of the secondary legislation necessary to implement the competition regime in water supply. The 1991 Act (as amended) prohibits the use of, or the introduction of water into, a water undertaker's supply system except by a water undertaker or a licensed water supplier in pursuance of an agreement or a licence. The Regulations specify further circumstances in which there are exceptions to this prohibition.

The Regulations are being made by the National Assembly for Wales in relation to any supply system of a water undertaker whose area is wholly or mainly in Wales and by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in respect of all other water undertakers' supply systems. The two main Welsh water undertakers, Dwr Cymru and Dee Valley, also supply English customers, thus there will be cross border issues, which would be better managed by introducing these new provisions via Regulations jointly with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

- **The Water Supply Licence (New Customer Exception) Regulations 2005** The Water Act 2003 amended the Water Industry Act 1991 to require water undertakers in England and Wales to grant licensed water suppliers access to their supply systems under certain conditions, in order to supply water to eligible premises of customers.

These draft Regulations are part of the secondary legislation necessary to implement the competition regime in water supply. The competition regime is limited to eligible premises – defined as non-household premises whose annual water supply is estimated to be at least the volume threshold (the threshold has been initially set at 50 Ml/year). The threshold requirement has to be assessed when the licensed water supplier first enters into an undertaking to give a supply. These Regulations provide for the circumstances in which the threshold will not have to be reassessed as the licensee will not be regarded as entering into an undertaking with a new customer.

The Regulations are being made by the National Assembly for Wales in relation to premises supplied with water using the supply system of a water undertaker whose area is wholly or mainly in Wales and in respect of other premises, by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The two main Welsh water undertakers, Dwr Cymru and Dee Valley, also supply English customers, thus there will be cross border issues, which

would be better managed by introducing these new provisions via Regulations jointly with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

- **The Water Supply Licence (Prescribed Water Fittings Requirements) Regulations 2005**

The Water Act 2003 amended the Water Industry Act 1991 to require water undertakers in England and Wales to grant licensed water suppliers access to their supply systems under certain conditions, in order to supply water to eligible premises of customers. The draft Regulations are part of the secondary legislation necessary to implement the competition regime in water supply. These Regulations make provisions to prevent actual or likely damage to persons or property, water contamination, waste of water and misuse or undue consumption. The Regulations extend such provisions already applying to water undertakers to include licensed water suppliers.

The Regulations are being made by the National Assembly for Wales in relation to Wales and by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in relation to England.

- **Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25 (1 min)**

- **The Honey (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2005**

The Regulations will correct a minor transposition error to EC Directive 2001/110/EC. The amendment will add the reserved description 'pressed honey' to the list of specified honey products, which may, by way of Note 1 Schedule 1 to the Regulations, be simply described as honey.

- **The National Health Service (Appointment of Consultants) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations amend the National Health Service (Appointment of Consultants) (Wales) Regulations 1996 by applying the provisions of the 1996 Regulations to NHS Trusts. They also create two new exemptions from the requirement that an Advisory Appointments Committee must be held to appoint a consultant. The first applies to a person who has been in post as a consultant with the medical services of the armed forces and is appointed to a consultant post in one of the bodies to whom the 1996 Regulations apply without moving location or without the

post altering in any significant way. The second exemption applies to a consultant who retires but then returns to a very similar post in the same body, albeit that the terms of his employment may have altered. The Regulations also allow for one of the advertisements to be placed in electronic form and set out the exact requirements for the constitution of an Advisory Appointments Committee where two or more bodies to whom the 1996 Regulations apply act together to establish a joint Advisory Appointments Committee.

- **The Beet Seed (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations implement EC Seeds Directives controlling the certification and marketing of beet, e.g. for sugar beet and fodder beet, etc. They include provisions that lay down the procedures relating to the certification of beet seed in Wales, including provisions relating to the entry of seed lots, the entry of crops, the field inspection of crops, the lodging of field inspection reports and similar documents, the re-grading of crops, seed testing, the lodging of seed test reports, the re-grading of seed and the withdrawal of official certification. The Regulations revoke and replace, with modifications, the Beet Seeds Regulations 1993 insofar as they apply to Wales. They also revoke the Beet Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1999 insofar as they apply to Wales and the Beet Seeds (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001, both of which amended the 1993 Regulations. In addition, these Regulations further implement in Wales amendments made in England by the Beet Seed (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004. EC Seeds Directives concerning the other species groups, such as cereals and vegetables are being implemented by separate Regulations.

- **The Seed (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement)(Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations revoke and replace the Seeds (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations 1985 as amended as respects Wales and the Seeds (Fees) Regulations 1985 as amended in relation to matters arising under the 1985 Regulations as respects Wales.

The EC directives controlling the certification and marketing of seed of the Main Agricultural and Vegetable Species require Member States to participate in Community organised seed trials,

which compare seed quality against directive requirements. These Regulations will ensure that the National Assembly for Wales (or Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs acting on its behalf) have powers to take, or use, samples for this purpose.

The Regulations include provisions for:

- registering seed companies;
- licensing seed industry personnel to inspect crops and sample seed;
- licensing seed testing stations to carry out official seed tests; and
- enforcement of seeds regulations, including procedures for drawing enforcement samples.

They also control the licensing of seed trade personnel. The National Assembly for Wales has powers to withdraw licenses from those who, for example, do not comply with license conditions or fail to maintain their competence. These new Regulations will extend the rights of appeal to the Plant Varieties and Seeds Tribunal, which has the power to adjudicate in such matters, where licenses are withdrawn. This will ensure that those whose employment might be affected by decisions on their licenses have a right to an independent hearing.

• **The Vegetable Seed (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations implement EC Seeds Directives controlling the certification and marketing of vegetable seed. They include provisions that lay down the procedures relating to the certification of vegetable seed in Wales, including provisions relating to the entry of seed lots, the entry of crops, the field inspection of crops, the lodging of field inspection reports and similar documents, the re-grading of crops, seed testing, the lodging of seed test reports, the re-grading of seed and the withdrawal of official certification.

These Regulations, which extend to Wales only, revoke and replace, with modifications, the Vegetable Seeds Regulations 1993 insofar as they apply to Wales. They also revoke the Vegetable Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1996 and the Vegetable Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1999 insofar as they apply to Wales and the Vegetable Seeds (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001, all of which amended the 1993 Regulations. In addition, these Regulations further implement in Wales amendments made in England by the Vegetable Seed (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004.

EC Seeds Directive concerning the other species groups such as cereals and beet are being implemented by separate Regulations.

- **Motion to approve The Cereal Seed (Wales) Regulations 2005 (15 mins)**

Seeds of the main agricultural and vegetable species cannot be marketed unless they have been certified and shown to comply with marketing requirements. Material may be marketed only after being officially examined and certified as meeting specified minimum standards (including varietal purity, health and germination) and as being derived from crops which have also met certain standards.

These Regulations implement EC Seeds Directives controlling the certification and marketing of cereals, e.g. wheat, barley and oats. They include provisions that lay down the procedures relating to the certification of cereal seed in Wales, including provisions relating to the entry of seed lots, the entry of crops, the field inspection of crops, the lodging of field inspection reports and similar documents, the re-grading of crops, seed testing, the lodging of seed test reports, the re-grading of seed and the withdrawal of official certification.

The Regulations revoke and replace, with modifications, the Cereal Seeds Regulations 1993 insofar as they apply to Wales. They also revoke the Cereal Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1995, the Seeds (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1997 and the Cereal Seeds (Amendment) Regulations 1999 insofar as they apply to Wales and the Cereal Seed (Wales) Regulations 2001, all of which amended the 1993 Regulations. The Regulations will also implement in Wales amendments made in England by the Cereal Seed (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004.

EC Seeds Directives concerning the other species groups, such as cereals and vegetables, are being implemented by separate Regulations.

- **Motion to approve the Bovine Products (Restriction on Placing on the Market) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (15 mins)**

These Regulations will implement in Wales a move from the Over Thirty Month (OTM) rule to BSE testing of over thirty month cattle born on or after 1 August 1996. Only those animals that have tested negative for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) will be allowed into the food chain. The OTM rule is currently one of the three main BSE controls in the UK and stops older animals going into the food chain. In December 2004, the UK Government announced the start of a managed transition towards replacing the OTM rule with a robust BSE testing regime of OTM cattle born after 1 August 1996. On 15 September 2005 the UK Government announced that it had accepted Food Standards Agency (FSA) advice that a reliable BSE testing system for OTM cattle had been successfully designed and trialled.

- **Plaid Cymru nominated debate (45 mins)**

- **Debate on Health and Social Services` Committee Report : Review of the National Service Framework for Mental Health –Standard 2 : User and Carer Participation (60 mins)**

Wednesday 2 November 2005

- **Questions to Brian Gibbons, Minister for Health and Social Services (30 mins)**
- **Questions to Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, Welsh Language & Sport (30 mins)**
- **Questions to the House Committee (5 mins)**
- **Debate on Affordable Housing (90 mins)**
- **Short Debate (30 mins)**

Tuesday 8 November 2005

- **Questions to the First Minister (45 mins)**
- **Business Statement (10 mins)**
- **Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25 (1 min)**
- **The Tryptophan In Food (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations continue to prohibit the use of tryptophan in foods but re-introduce the sale of laevorotatory tryptophan (L-tryptophan) as a dietary (food) supplement, with strict purity criteria and maximum recommended daily dosage of 220mg. The Regulations will provide for the necessary enforcement powers and revoke the Tryptophan in Food Regulations, which prohibit the use of tryptophan in food.

- **The Education (Free School Lunches)(State Pension Credit) (Wales) Order 2005**

This Order prescribes the guarantee credit element of State Pension Credit for the purposes of section 512ZB of the Education Act 1996. The effect is that where a parent is in receipt of the guarantee credit element his or her child is entitled to free school lunches.

- ***Proposal to debate the next 4 items together but with separate votes (30 mins)***

- **Motion to approve the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Commencement No11) (Wales) Order 2005**

- The intended effect of the Order is to commence those parts of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 where the Assembly has commencement powers and where they have not yet been commenced, thus bringing the 2002 Act fully into force and replacing Regulations made under the Adoption Act 1976

- **Motion to approve The Local Authority (Non-agency Adoptions) (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations are designed to ensure proper processes are in place regarding non-agency adoptions. These will ensure safety of process when people wish to adopt a child who is not placed for adoption with them by an adoption agency (non-agency adoptions).

- **Motion to approve The Local Authorities (Prescribed Fees)(Adoptions with a Foreign Element) (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations provide a discretionary power for local social services authorities to charge intercountry adopters for a range of facilities provided to them in connection with adoption of children from foreign countries. The facilities involved mainly relate to counselling and the preparation of assessments on the suitability of the persons concerned as adopters of a child from a specific country.

- **Motion to approve The Local Authority Adoption Service (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations establish the standards that Local Authorities must maintain in the delivery of an adoption service. They will be inspected against these Regulations and associated minimum standards by the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales.

They will replace the Local Authority (Adoption Services) (Wales) Regulations 2003, made under the Adoption Act 1976 and the Care Standards Act 2000. The forthcoming repeal of the 1976 Act and its replacement by the Adoption and Children Act 2002 requires the existing Regulations to be replaced.

- **Welsh Liberal Democrat Party nominated debate (45 mins)**

- **Debate on the Annual Report of the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales(45 mins)**

Wednesday 9 November 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)**
- **Statement by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning : A whole approach to nutrition in schools (30 mins)**
- **Debate on the Welsh Assembly Government`s Energy Policy (90 mins)**
- **Short debate (30 mins)**

Tuesday 15 November 2005

- **Questions to the First Minister (45 mins)**
- **Business Statement (10 mins)**
- **Statement by the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside : The Welsh Assembly Government`s response to the Environment ,Planning and Countryside Committee`s Report on "Meeting Landfill and Recycling Targets."**

The Report was debated in Plenary on 28 September 2005

- **Motion approve under Standing Order 24. 25 (1 min)**
- **The Fishery Products (Official Controls Charges) (Wales) Regulations 2005**

These Regulations provide for the execution and enforcement by Local Food Authorities to recover a contribution towards the costs of carrying out hygiene inspection charges in respect of fish and fishery products caught in their natural environment and landed directly in Wales from:

- Member States;
- EEA States other than Member States;
- Greenland; and
- Third countries.

These charges are levied by Local Food Authorities to contribute towards costs for hygiene inspections, as direct landings of fish are not required to enter through controlled points of entry in Wales.

- **Slot reserved for subordinate legislation(60 mins)**
- **Debate on Learning Pathways (60 mins)**

Wednesday 16 November 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)**
- **Debate on Looked After Children (90 mins)**
- **Short debate (30 mins)**