

Thursday, 2nd May 2002

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Session commenced at 9.05am

Questions to Andrew Davies, the Minister for Economic Development

The first 7 questions were answered. Question 3 was transferred for written answer. Question 4 was not asked.

9.27am

Finance Questions to Edwina Hart, the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities

The first 8 questions were answered. Question 5 was withdrawn.

Statement: The Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language on the Review of the First Year of Free Admission to National Museums - *This item has been postponed until 21 May*

9.41am

Statement: The Minister for Economic Development made a statement on Job Losses at the ITV Digital Call Centre in Pembroke Dock

10.38 am

Point of Order

Dafydd Wigley on comments made in Westminster by the Secretary of State for Wales about the Assembly's spending priorities.

The Presiding Officer said that the National Assembly's budget was decided by the National Assembly in accordance with the Government of Wales Act and Standing Orders.

10.45 am

Debate on the Wales European Centre

NDM1040 - To propose that the National Assembly:

1. Acknowledges the increasing significance of the European agenda for Wales over the next few years and the Welsh Assembly Government's intention to strengthen its representation in Brussels;
2. Notes the actions of the Welsh Assembly Government in giving 12 months' notice of

intention to withdraw from membership of the Wales European Centre and the need for further negotiations with other stakeholders in the Wales European Centre concerning its future;

3. Notes the intention of the Welsh Assembly Government to agree suitable arrangements with the Presiding Office for support to Assembly Members and Assembly Committees in contacts with European institutions;
4. Endorses the intention of the Welsh Assembly Government to report the outcome of these negotiations to plenary for its consideration.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):

In point 1, add after 'representation':

'and the representation of the National Assembly'

Amendment 2 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):

Delete point 2 and replace with:

'Calls on the First Minister to withdraw the letter which gave notice of the Government's intention to withdraw its membership of the Wales European Centre in twelve months time to ensure that all options are considered before a final decision is made;

Amendment 3 - Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central):

In point 2, remove 'Welsh Assembly Government' and replace with 'First Minister'.

Amendment 4 - Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central):

Delete point 3 and replace with:

'Notes the failure of the First Minister to agree suitable arrangements with the Presiding Office, for support to Assembly Members and Assembly Committees, prior to his decision to give notice terminating our membership of WEC.'

Amendment 5 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):

In point 4, delete all after 'Government' and replace with:

' to consult with the European and External Affairs Committee on the plans to strengthen the Government's and the National Assembly 's representation in Brussels and when these negotiations are complete to present a motion to Plenary for its' endorsement.'

Amendment 6 - Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central):

Add new point at end of motion:

'Regrets the decision of the First Minister to give notice of the termination of our membership of WEC without reference to the National Assembly for Wales.'

Amendment 7 - Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central):

Add new point at end of motion:

'Acknowledges the significant contribution of WEC on behalf of Wales in Brussels.'

Amendment 8 - Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central):

Add new point at end of motion:

'Notes the unanimous decision of the National Assembly for Wales on 29th February 2000 to join WEC and the status of that decision.'

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 24; Abstain 0; Against 30; Total 54

Amendment 1 was defeated.

Amendment 2

For 23; Abstain 0; Against 30; Total 53

Amendment 2 was defeated.

Amendment 3

For 9; Abstain 16; Against 29; Total 53

Amendment 3 was defeated.

Amendment 4

For 8; Abstain 16; Against 30; Total 54

Amendment 4 was defeated.

Amendment 5

For 22; Abstain 0; Against 27; Total 49

Amendment 5 was defeated.

Amendment 6

For 24; Abstain 0; Against 30; Total 54

Amendment 6 was defeated.

Amendment 7

For 38; Abstain 15; Against 0; Total 53

Amendment 7 was carried.

Amendment 8

For 24; Abstain 0; Against 30; Total 54

Amendment 8 was defeated.

The motion, as amended

For 29; Abstain 16; Against 8; Total 53

The motion, as amended, was carried.

12.06pm

Debate nominated by Gareth Jones in accordance with Standing Order 29

NDM1022 Gareth Jones (Conwy):

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, acting under standing order 29.2, instructs the Minister for Environment, Planning and Transport to bring forward draft subordinate legislation to amend the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995.

The objective to be achieved is to place a duty on local authorities to consult with Health Authorities or other appropriate statutory health bodies when they receive planning applications to build schools on contaminated land.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 23; Abstain 0; Against 27; Total 50

The motion was defeated.

1.01pm

Short Debate: *NDM1037* Phil Williams (South Wales East): Inclusive Government

The session concluded at 1.22pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

2.00pm on Tuesday, 7th May 2002

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASSEMBLY LAST MET

Documents laid on 30 April 2002

- The Meat (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) (Wales) Regulations 2002 - LD1388
- The Meat (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) (Wales) Regulations 2002 - Regulatory Appraisal - LD1389
- The Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 2002 - LD1390
- The Welsh Language Scheme (Public Bodies) Order 2002 - Regulatory Appraisal - LD1391