

AGENDA

Votes and Proceedings for Wednesday 19th November

The meeting commenced at 2.04pm

2.04pm

Motions to revise membership of Subject Committees

NDM1702 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.4, elects Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru) to its Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee in place of Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru).

NDM1703 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.4, elects Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru) to its Health and Social Services Committee in place of Dai Lloyd (Plaid Cymru).

NDM1704 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.4, elects Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru) to its Social Justice and Regeneration Committee in place of Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru).

NDM1705 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.4, elects Alun Ffred Jones (Plaid Cymru) to its Local Government and Public Services Committee in place of Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru).

NDM1706 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South) - Withdrawn

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 15.4, elects Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru) to its Committee on European and External Affairs in place of Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru).

NDM1707 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.4, elects Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru) to its Education and Lifelong Learning Committee in place of Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru).

A vote was taken on the Motions

For 54; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 54

The Motions were carried

2.05pm

Local Government Questions to Sue Essex, Minister for Finance, Local Government & Public Services

The first 5 questions were asked. Question 9 was withdrawn.

2.29pm

Questions to Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport

The first 6 questions were asked. Questions 1 and 4 were grouped

2.48pm

Statement by the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside : Potato ring rot

3.09pm

Point of Order - Kirsty Williams under SO1.12 about the defeat of the government motion on the Wanless Report in Plenary on Tuesday 18th November when the Presiding Officer exercised his casting vote.

3.18pm

Motions to approve changes to Standing Orders

NDM1708 Jenny Randerson (Cardiff Central)

To propose that the national Assembly acting under Section 46(6) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and Standing Order 34:

1. Considers the report of the Business Committee e-mailed to Members and laid in the Table Office on 12th November 2003;
2. Approves the amendments to Standing Orders set out in the Business Committee Report

laid in the Table Office on 12th November; and

3. Notes that revised guidance on the laying of documents before the Assembly will be issued by the Presiding Officer to reflect the new Standing Order 37.

Vote on the Motion

For 51; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 51

The Motion was carried by a 2/3rds majority

3.21pm

Debate on International Congress of Young Disabled People

NDM1711 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that The National Assembly for Wales:

1. Welcomes the "Rights Into Action" International Congress of Young Disabled People held in Swansea in July 2003;
2. Notes the Charter agreed by the participants;
3. Welcomes the fact that the Equal Opportunities Committee will be taking the issues raised into consideration as part of its "Mainstreaming Equality" policy review during 2004; and
4. Commits itself to promoting the participation of young disabled people in decision-making, and to mainstreaming young disabled people's concerns within each devolved portfolio.

The Following Amendment was tabled:

Amendment 1

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at the end of the motion:

'Recognises the importance to young disabled people of policies to promote equal citizenship, accessibility, a culture of equality, equal learning opportunities and equal access for employment and grants.

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 52; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 52

Amendment was carried

Vote on the Motion

For 52; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 52

The Motion was carried

4.00pm

Debate on the State of the Environment Report

NDM1710 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Welcomes the publication of "A living and working environment for Wales: the State of the Welsh Environment 2003", a joint report by the Countryside Council for Wales, the Environment Agency Wales and the Forestry Commission Wales; and;
2. Welcomes the commitment of the Welsh Assembly Government (in "Wales: A Better Country") to develop an environmental strategy for Wales in response to the recommendations of this report.

Welsh & English copies of the "A living and working environment for Wales: the State of the Welsh Environment 2003" were emailed to Members on 12 November.

A compact disc containing full technical details supporting the Report has been placed in the Members' Library.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

At end of Point 2, insert:

", whilst expressing concern that the Welsh environment shows little, if any, signs of improvement."

Amendment 2

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add at end of paragraph 2:

"and for greater emphasis in the future on action rather than words."

Amendment 3

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

"Calls on the Labour Assembly Government to ascertain as a matter of urgency whether evidence demonstrating the threat posed to wildlife from GM crops constitutes a legal basis to ban GM crops in Wales."

Amendment 4

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

"Notes with concern the little progress made towards achieving the targets for renewable energy and calls upon the Minister to make a progress report to the appropriate committee."

Amendment 5

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

"Recognises the value to the environment of agri-environment schemes and calls for the restoration of the proposed cut in funding for Tir Gofal."

Amendment 6

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Notes the poor record in recycling in Wales and calls on the Labour Assembly Government to encourage all stakeholders to meet the targets set in the Waste Strategy.

Amendment 7

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Notes the concerns of the Welsh Assembly Government Technical Advisory Group (TAG) regarding the significant delay in publishing Technical Advice Note 8 (TAN8) and the consequences this has for the renewables industry in Wales.

Amendment 8

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Encourages the Labour Assembly Government to hasten its efforts in rolling out a broad and shallow agri-environmental framework.

Amendment 9

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Calls on Labour Assembly Government to put forward exemplar projects which demonstrate significant carbon reduction and address climate change.

Amendment 10

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Calls on Labour Assembly Government to broaden its renewables strategy to be inclusive of voltaic systems, biomass and tidal turbines.

Amendment 11

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Regrets that the Labour Assembly Government has not as yet met the requirements of the Sustainable Energy Act 2003 in regards of designating an energy efficiency aim for residential accommodation.

Amendment 12

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Recognises the need to put in place a distinctive Welsh moorlands strategy, addressing biodiversity and profitable land use in upland areas.

Amendment 13
Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Regrets that the report does not address the deficiencies in the management of Welsh wetlands.

Amendment 14
Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Laments the lack of attention in the report to sites designated as of "World Heritage" importance.

Amendment 15
Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Insert as new point at the end of the motion:

Regrets that the expansion of the UNESCO biosphere concept in Wales remains unaddressed by this report.

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 26; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 55

Amendment 1 was defeated

Amendment 2

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 2 was defeated

Amendment 3

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 3 was defeated

Amendment 4

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 4 was defeated

Amendment 5

For 24; Abstain 0; Against 28; Total 52

Amendment 5 was defeated

Amendment 6

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 6 was defeated

Amendment 7

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 7 was defeated

Amendment 8

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 8 was defeated

Amendment 9

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 9 was defeated

Amendment 10

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 10 was defeated

Amendment 11

For 26; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 55

Amendment 11 was defeated

Amendment 12

For 56; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 56

Amendment 12 was carried

Amendment 13

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 13 was defeated

Amendment 14

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 14 was defeated

Amendment 15

For 26; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 55

Amendment 15 was defeated

Vote on the Motion as amended

For 39; Abstain 0; Against 17; Total 56

The Motion was carried

5.06pm
Short debate - NDM1701 William Graham (South Wales East); Sick and Still Waiting - The NHS in South East Wales

The meeting will conclude by 5.33pm

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASSEMBLY LAST MET

Documents Laid on 19 November 2003

- Ancient Monuments Board for Wales Annual Report 2001-2002 Conserving Privately Owned Scheduled Ancient Monuments - LD2421

Documents Laid on 18 November 2003

- Sustaining our environment – A Review of the work of the Countryside Council for Wales in 2002-03 - LD2413

Committee Reports Laid on 18 November 2003

- LC775 - The Nurses Agencies (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 - LD2414

- LC776 - The Local Government Act 2003 (Commencement) (Wales) Order 2003 - LD2415
- LC777 - The Council Tax (Valuation Bands) (Wales) Order 2003 - LD2416
- LC778 - The Health (Wales) Act 2003 (Commencement No 2) Order 2003 - LD2417
- LC780 - The South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee (Levies) Regs 2003 - LD2418
- LC781 - The South Wales Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 2003 - LD2419
- LC767 - The Specified Sugar Products (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2420