

Second Assembly Plenary Meeting (203)

Votes and proceedings for Wednesday, 17th May 2006

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm

[Detailed voting results are available here](#)

Item 1 - Motion to Suspend Standing Orders

NNDM3048 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Orders 37.5 and 37.6:

1. Suspends Standing Order 6.13, and that part of Standing Order 5.4 that requires the weekly Business Statement to constitute the agreed timetable for Assembly business, to allow NNDM3046 and NNDM3047 – relating to the establishment and election of the Shadow Commission – to be considered in Plenary on Wednesday 17th May 2006; and

2. Suspends Standing Order 6.14 to allow any amendments in relation to NNDM3046, tabled before 11:00am on Wednesday 17th May, to be considered in Plenary on Wednesday 17th May 2006.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 45; Abstain 1; Against 1; Total 47

The motion was carried

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2.01pm

Item 2 - Motion to establish a Shadow Commission

NNDM3046 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.1, resolves:

1. To establish a Committee to plan for the matters within the responsibility of the future Assembly Commission as set out in Clause 27 of the Government of Wales Bill;
2. That the title of the Committee shall be the Shadow Commission;
3. That Membership of the Shadow Commission shall comprise one Assembly Member from the Labour Party, one from Plaid Cymru, one from the Welsh Conservative Party and one from the Welsh Liberal Democrat Party and the Presiding Officer who shall chair the Committee;
4. That the terms of reference of the Shadow Commission shall be to plan for the matters within the responsibility of the Assembly Commission.
5. That the committee shall cease to exist on the 2 May 2007.

Costs of the Commission

The Commission will be serviced from existing Assembly Parliamentary Service staff resources at no additional cost.

Benefits of the Commission

Establishing the shadow Commission, which will comprise cross party representation, would be the best way forward to consider the matters within the responsibility of the future Assembly Commission as set out in Clause 27 of the Government of Wales Bill.

There are no additional implications.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 45; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 45

The motion was carried

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2.04pm

Item 3 - Motion to elect members to the Shadow Commission

NNDM3047 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order 8.4, elects the following Members to its Shadow Commission:

Dafydd Elis-Thomas (Presiding Officer)

Lorraine Barrett (Labour)

Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru)

William Graham (Conservative)

Peter Black (Liberal Democrat)

and elects the Presiding Officer to be the Chair of the Shadow Commission.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 46; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 46

The motion was carried

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2.05pm

Item 4- Motion to establish the Committee on Standing Orders

NNDM3044 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.1:

1. Establishes an Advisory Committee to recommend Standing Orders for the Assembly constituted under the Government of Wales Bill;
2. The title of the Committee shall be the Committee on Standing Orders;
3. Membership of the Committee shall comprise seven Assembly Members, four from the Labour Party, one from Plaid Cymru, one from the Welsh Conservative Party and one from the Welsh Liberal Democrat Party who shall chair the Committee;
4. The terms of reference for the Committee on Standing Orders shall be to:
 - a) Make every effort to recommend new standing orders, which are capable of securing a two thirds majority approval by plenary;
 - b) Prepare a report, which shall set out proposed new standing orders for consideration by plenary.
5. The Committee shall, report on or before 31 January 2007. The committee shall cease to exist on the 1 March 2007.

The above motion was accompanied by the following assessment of the costs, benefits and any other implications of establishing the committee:

Assessment of the Costs and Benefits of establishing the Committee on Standing Orders

Costs of the Committee

The Committee will be serviced from existing Assembly Parliamentary Service staff resources at no additional cost.

Benefits of the Committee

Establishing the additional Committee, which will comprise cross party representation, would be the best way forward to consider and recommend Standing Orders for the Assembly constituted under the Government of Wales Bill.

The Committee shall, report on or before January 31 2007 and shall cease to exist on the 1 March 2007.

There are no additional implications.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 48; Abstain 0; Against 1; Total 49

The motion was carried

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2.10pm

Item 5 - Motion to elect members to the Committee on Standing Orders

NDM3045 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order 8.4, elects the following Members to the Committee on Standing Orders:

Jane Hutt (Labour)

Ann Jones (Labour)

Val Lloyd (Labour)

Gwenda Thomas (Labour)

Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru)

Lisa Francis (Conservative)

Jenny Randerson (Liberal Democrat)

and elects Jenny Randerson to be the Chair of the Committee.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 51; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 51

The motion was carried

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2.12pm

Item 6 - Questions to Brian Gibbons, Minister for Health and Social Services

The first 10 questions were answered. Question 14 was withdrawn.

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2.54pm

Item 7 - Questions to Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport

The first 10 questions were answered. Questions 1+2 were grouped together for answer.

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3.20pm

Item 8 - Questions to the House Committee

Both questions were answered.

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3.28pm

Urgent Question

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3.39pm

Item 9 - Motion to seek the National Assembly`s agreement that the Welsh Assembly Government has satisfied the requirements of the Standing Order 31 proposal by Gwenda Thomas AM, which was debated in Plenary on 23 November 2005

NDM3043 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

The National Assembly for Wales

1. Recognises that the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills:

- a) brought forward The Education Act 2002 (Commencement No. 8) (Wales) Order 2006, which commences section 175 of the Education Act 2002 for approved in Plenary 31 January 2006; and
- b) will issue guidance to support local education authorities and governing bodies exercise their functions to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, which includes the nomination of a named governor responsible for child protection matters and the setting up of local education authority databases of nominated governors for consultation during the summer term to take effect in schools during the Autumn term 2006.

2. Believes that the actions sought by Gwenda Thomas in her Standing Order 31.2 motion NDM2641 debated on 23 November 2005, will have been satisfactorily completed, and therefore that it should not proceed with the remaining steps in the Standing Order 31 procedure.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 42 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 11 ; Total 53

The motion was carried

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3.48pm

Item 10 - Motion to approve changes to Main Expenditure Groups

NDM3040 Sue Essex (Cardiff North)

That the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 21.6, approves the changes to Main Expenditure Groups for the financial year 2006-07 laid in the Table Office on Tuesday 9 May by the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services and Communities, Sue Essex.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 53 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 0 ; Total 53

The motion was carried

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The Deputy Presiding Officer took the chair

4.19pm

Item 11 - Debate on the Manufacturing Industry

NDM3041 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the increasing strength of competition within the manufacturing sector globally;
2. Recognises the continuing need for the manufacturing sector in Wales to position itself to take advantage of the global situation;
3. Endorses the need for continued public sector support for the sector in Wales

The following amendments were tabled:

(1+2+7)

(3+4)

(5+6)

Amendment 1. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In point 2 after ‘global situation’ insert:

‘and, in the light of the limited availability of footloose international companies in the manufacturing sector, recognises the growing importance of indigenous SME's and urges the Government to take proactive steps to help existing manufacturing SME's in Wales, to expand and new ones to be established’

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 22 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 28 ; Total 50

Amendment 1 was defeated

Amendment 2. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In point 3 after 'Wales' insert:

'and therefore recognises the need for a more focussed and strategic approach to the use of EU funding'

Amendment 2

For 21 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 28 ; Total 49

Amendment 2 was defeated

Amendment 3. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Target investment at growth industries and industries of the future.

Amendment 3

For 5 ; Abstain 10 ; Against 35 ; Total 50

Amendment 3 was defeated

Amendment 4. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Recognises that Wales' manufacturing position would be strengthened by membership of the Euro.

Amendment 4

For 14 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 35 ; Total 49

Amendment 4 was defeated

Amendment 5. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Regrets the drop in manufacturing output in Wales while the sector in the rest of the UK is growing, and expresses concern at falls in the index of production, construction, manufacturing and the value of exports, as well as the increase in unemployment over the last 12 months, and calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to recognise its failures and revise its strategies accordingly.

Amendment 5

For 22 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 28 ; Total 50

Amendment 5 was defeated

Amendment 6. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls upon the Welsh Assembly Government to undertake appropriate and regular surveys of employers in the manufacturing industry and to take action accordingly, to ensure the upskilling of employees within the sector.

Amendment 6

For 22 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 27 ; Total 49

Amendment 6 was defeated

Amendment 7. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government, in view of its commitment to sustainability, to introduce new policies to help the manufacturing sector in Wales reduce its energy consumption and maximize its recycling capacity in order to lessen the carbon-footprint emanating from this sector, without undermining its growth potential.

Amendment 7

For 22 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 28 ; Total 50

Amendment 7 was defeated

The motion unamended:

NDM3041 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the increasing strength of competition within the manufacturing sector globally;
2. Recognises the continuing need for the manufacturing sector in Wales to position itself to take advantage of the global situation;
3. Endorses the need for continued public sector support for the sector in Wales

The motion unamended

For 50 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 0 ; Total 50

The motion was carried

5.00pm

The Business Minister proposed a motion to extend the meeting until 6.30pm under Standing Order 6.21

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 28; Abstain 0; Against 4; Total 33

The motion was carried

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5.30pm

With the DPO's permission, Glyn Davies moved a procedural motion under 6.19(v) to postpone the Short Debate under Item 13.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 28; Abstain 0; Against 1; Total 29

The motion was carried

5.31pm

Item 12 - Debate on ESTYN – the Report of Her Majesty`s Chief Inspector of Schools

NDM3042 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales notes:

1. The annual report of Her Majesty`s Chief Inspector of Education and Training;
2. The Chief Inspector`s view that standards are improving in many areas of education and training;
3. The action being taken though our distinctive agenda for Wales, "The

Learning Country", to break down barriers to learning and address the areas for improvement identified by the Chief Inspector.

The following amendments were tabled:

(1+2+3+4+5+6+7)

(8+9+10+11)

Amendment 1. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Instructs the Assembly Government to direct funding towards reducing the number of children not in education, training or employment.

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 1 was defeated

Amendment 2. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the number of children leaving school with inadequate literacy, numeracy and social interaction skills.

Amendment 2

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 2 was defeated

Amendment 3. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the Inspectors' observations that 30% of learners were absent from the lessons assessed and the lack of effective strategies to help learners keep up their attendance.

Amendment 3

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 3 was defeated

Amendment 4. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the failure to address education issues relating to the youth justice system.

Amendment 4

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 4 was defeated

Amendment 5. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Instructs the Assembly Government to address the 0% growth in real terms in further education spending.

Amendment 5

For 16; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 42

Amendment 5 was defeated

Amendment 6. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the failure to meet Assembly Government set examination targets in secondary schools and colleges.

Amendment 6

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 6 was defeated

Amendment 7. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern that schools in deprived areas in England outperform schools in such areas in Wales.

Amendment 7

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 7 was defeated

Amendment 8. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes the concern expressed by Estyn of the condition of school buildings and the lack of co-ordination in planning their maintenance and repair.

Amendment 8

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 8 was defeated

Amendment 9. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the limited affect of CCETs and 14-19 Networks and calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to provide these partnerships with the resources and powers to bring about change.

Amendment 9

For 17; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 43

Amendment 9 was defeated

Amendment 10. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to improve provision for learning for young people with mental health problems.

Amendment 10

For 43; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 43

Amendment 10 was carried

Amendment 11. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Recognises the need for Local Education Authorities to address the lack of provision of full time education for excluded pupils in Wales.

Amendment 11

For 43; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 43

Amendment 11 was carried

The motion, as amended:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales notes:

1. The annual report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training;
2. The Chief Inspector's view that standards are improving in many areas of education and training;
3. The action being taken though our distinctive agenda for Wales, "The Learning Country", to break down barriers to learning and address the areas for improvement identified by the Chief Inspector.
4. Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to improve provision for learning for young people with mental health problems.
5. Recognises the need for Local Education Authorities to address the lack of provision of full time education for excluded pupils in Wales.

The motion, as amended

For 43; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 43

The motion, as amended, was carried

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Item 13 - Short debate - NDM3039 Glyn Davies (Mid and West Wales): Urban Green Space and Affordable Housing - The Assembly had earlier agreed to postpone

this debate.

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The meeting concluded at 6.20pm

**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at
2.00pm on Tuesday, 23rd May 2006**

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

