

**BUSINESS PAPERS**

**PART 2 – SECTION H**

**RECORD OF VOTES & PROCEEDINGS FOR TUESDAY 13th JULY 1999**

**The session will commenced at 2.00**

**2.01pm**

**Presiding Officer Statement**

The Presiding Officer made a statement informing members that at 5.30pm today there would be a presentation by Alun Michael on the new Assembly Building.

**2.02pm**

**Point of Order**

Helen Mary Jones raised a point of order under SO 5.2 on the timing of this presentation as it falls outside the Assembly working hours.

The PO stated that the SO refers to formal Government business and that such a presentation does not fall into this category. However, he was mindful that SO 5.2 was drafted to allow Members to participate fully in the work of the Assembly and that this presentation, taking place outside Assembly working hours, may well breach the spirit of SO's . He agreed that wherever possible, the Government should seek to timetable such matters in which Assembly Members might have an interest between 9am and 5.30pm and he agreed to monitor this.

**2.05pm**

**Election to Panel of Subject Committee Chairs and Economic Development Committee**

Motion: It is proposed that the Assembly, acting in accordance with section 57(5) of the Government of Wales Act 1998-

- elects Val Feld (Labour) to the panel of subject committee chairs in place of Ron Davies; and
- selects Val Feld (Labour) to chair the Economic Development Subject Committee,

such election and selection to take effect immediately following the conclusion of the meeting of the Economic Development Subject Committee on 14th July 1999.

The motion was proposed by Andrew Davies

The motion was carried

**2.06pm**

**Questions to the First Secretary**

The first 5 questions were reached

**2.34pm**

**Emergency Question**

Ann Jones (Vale of Clwyd). Is she satisfied that the North Wales Health Authority acted responsibly and appropriately to the incident of meningitis causing the death of a young primary school teacher in Rhyl last week.

Jane Hutt Assembly Secretary for Health and Social Services responded.

**2.40pm**

**Business Statement:** the Business Secretary

The Assembly agreed the business statement.

**2.42pm**

**Point of Order**

David Melding raised a point of order concerning papers being issued to Assembly Members after being released to the press.

The Business Secretary confirmed that this is under consideration and a paper would be taken to the Business Committee where consideration will be given to how best to take this forward.

**2.48pm**

**Debate on the establishment of a House Committee**

Motion that the Assembly :

- notes the assessments of costs and benefits and other implications which are set out in the paper "National Assembly for Wales: Establishment of a House Committee" laid in the Table Office on 8th July 1999.
- establishes a House Committee in accordance with the following requirements as to its membership, its terms of reference, its meetings and its duration:

**Terms of Reference**

The House Committee shall:

- advise the Presiding Officer on the views of Members in respect of the efficiency and

quality of services provided through the Office of the Presiding Officer and generally for Assembly Members and the public;

- consider monitoring reports submitted to it in respect of such services;
- make such advice to the Assembly as it sees fit on the standards of accommodation, services and equipment provided to Members and on the services to the public;
- report to the Assembly at least once a year.

## **Membership**

The Assembly shall elect to the Committee one Member from each political group in the Assembly, together with another Member to chair it. If a Member other than the Deputy Presiding Officer is elected to chair the Committee, the Deputy Presiding Officer shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Committee.

A member of the Committee may, having given advance notice to the Chair, be represented at the meeting of the committee by another member from the same political group who has been identified in advance. The nominated representative may participate in the meeting of the Committee in all respects as if he or she was a member of it.

If the Deputy Presiding Officer has been elected to chair the Committee, but his or her absence from a particular meeting is unavoidable, he or she will nominate the Assembly Business Secretary, or a member of the Panel of Chairs of the Subject Committees, to chair the meeting, failing which the Presiding Officer shall nominate an individual from the panel. Where any member not being a member of the Committee chairs a meeting following such a nomination, he or she shall be treated for all purposes at the meeting as a member of the Committee.

## **Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least 3 times in each year. It shall meet in private.

Provisions in Standing Order 8 relating to quorums for committees or voting in committees shall not apply to the Committee.

## **Duration**

The Committee shall continue in existence until the date of the first anniversary of its initial meeting.

The motion was proposed by Andrew Davies

The motion was carried.

**2.54pm**

**The Establishment of an Assembly Broadcasting Company**

Motion:

- To propose that the Assembly, Authorises the establishment of an Assembly Broadcasting Company in accordance with the principle set out in the paper "National Assembly for Wales: Proposed Broadcasting Arrangements" laid in the Table Office on July 8 1999, in accordance with Standing Order 6.
  - Under Section 63(1) of the Government of Wales Act, delegates to Assembly staff the work of finalising legal details to establish a Broadcasting Company.
  - Adopts the Code of Conduct for Broadcasting the Proceedings of the National Assembly for Wales as laid in the Table Office on July 8 1999.
- The motion was proposed by Andrew Davies

**The following amendments were selected:**

**Elin Jones (Ceredigion);** Add at the end of Paragraph 1  
Insert "and ensuring equal treatment of the Welsh and English languages."

**leuan Wyn Jones (Ynys Mon);** Insert Paragraph 21  
"That an annual report be presented to the Assembly on the arrangements contained in this Code and that such a report contains details of the audited accounts of the Broadcasting Company".

Elin Jones agreed to withdraw her amendment.

The motion, as amended by leuan Wyn Jones, was carried.

**3.23pm**

**Short Debate: Jenny Randerson (Cardiff Central)**

The Assembly believes that the Economic Development Committee should take note of its view that Objective One funds should be truly additional to the Block Grant which comes to Wales.

The motion was carried.

**The session concluded at 3.54pm**

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**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at**

**2.00 pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 1999**

***Papers Laid Before the Assembly: 8<sup>th</sup> July 1999***

***Documents for Plenary Debate***

**Proposed Broadcasting Arrangements**

**Code of Conduct for Broadcasting the Proceedings**

**Establishment of a House Committee**

***Papers Laid Before the Assembly: 9<sup>th</sup> July 1999***

***Documents for Plenary Debate***

***Determination on Members' Salaries and Allowances***

**J W Lloyd**

**Clerk to the Assembly**