

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Session commenced at 9.05am

Point of Order

Edwina Hart offered to postpone her statement on "Communities First - Consideration of responses to second consultation exercise" as the statement had not been made available to other parties prior to the commencement of the session.

The Presiding Officer agreed to the postponement .

Due to the absence of the First Minister, who was to propose the following motion, the Presiding Officer suspended the session for 10 minutes.

9.15am

Debate on Wales and the World

NDM709 To propose that the Assembly:

Endorses the Cabinet's commitment to raising the international profile and influence of Wales.

The following amendments were selected:

Amendment 1 - William Graham (South Wales East);

Delete "Cabinet's" and insert "Liberal Democrat – Labour coalition".

Amendment 2 - William Graham (South Wales East);

Add a new sentence, which reads:

"Recognises the need for additional resources to be made available to revitalise the tourism industry and seeks to promote Welsh tourism overseas".

Amendment 3 - William Graham (South Wales East);

Add a new sentence, which reads:

"Calls upon the Liberal Democrat – Labour coalition to generate the conditions necessary to attract further inward investment into the economy of Wales".

Amendment 4 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Add at end of motion:

Calls on the Labour / Liberal Democrat Administration to base its efforts to raise Wales' international profile on distinctive Welsh values, in particular the National Assembly's overarching principle of sustainable development.

Amendment 5 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Add at end of motion:

Calls on the Labour / Liberal Democrat Administration to ensure that the National Assembly participates fully in all relevant European Union and other international bodies, conferences and consultations.

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 9; Abstain 13; Against 26; Total 48

Amendment 1 was defeated

Amendment 2

For 22; Abstain 0; Against 24; Total 47

Amendment 2 was defeated

Amendment 3

For 9; Abstain 13; Against 26; Total 48

Amendment 3 was defeated

Amendment 4

For 21; Abstain 0; Against 26; Total 47

Amendment 4 defeated

Amendment 5

For 13; Abstain 9; Against 26; Total 48

Amendment 5 was defeated

The motion

For 47; Abstain 1; Against 0; Total 48

The motion was carried

10.26a.m

A procedural motion was proposed by the Minister for Assembly Business under Standing Order 6.16 to bring forward the following statement postponed from earlier proceedings

A vote was taken on the procedural motion

For 47; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 47

The procedural motion was carried

10.26a.m

Statement

The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities on "Communities First - Consideration of responses to second consultation exercise"

11.04am

The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair

Debate on the European Union under Standing Order 6.5

NDM710 To propose that the Assembly:

1. Notes the 2000 – 2001 Annual Report of the European Affairs Committee which was laid in the Table Office on 18 June 2001;
2. Recognises the significant progress made in strengthening Wales' relationship with the European Union and its institutions by the increased participation of Assembly Ministers in the Council of Ministers, the role of the Assembly's office in Brussels and the recent decision to join the Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions;
3. Notes the progress made in implementing European Structural Funds programmes in Wales;

4. Calls upon the Assembly Cabinet to consider the impact on Wales of the key issues of enlargement of the European Union, future cohesion policy and European governance and take all necessary steps to ensure that Welsh interests are recognised;

The following amendments were selected:

Amendment 1 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Add at the end of point 2:

and calls on the UK Government to ensure that members of the Assembly Cabinet are given lead roles in the Council of Ministers when issues of vital importance to Wales are being discussed.

Amendment 2 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Add at end of point 3:

but regrets that the European Affairs Committee was not allowed to discuss the European Structural Funds programmes as they are not within the remit of this Committee;

Amendment 3 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Delete point 4 and replace with:

Calls upon the Assembly Cabinet to take up the opportunity to influence The debate on the enlargement of the European Union, future Cohesion Policy and European Governance by ensuring that the Assembly's views are presented in all available fora in a timely and consistent manner;

Amendment 4 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Add as new point at the end of the motion

Calls for the European Affairs Committee to be given a clearly defined scrutiny role;

Amendment 5 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Add new point at the end of the motion

Regrets the fact that the First Minister did not sign the political declaration by the Governments of Bavaria, Catalonia, North-Rhine Westphalia, Salzburg, Scotland, Wallonia and Flanders on the future of the European Union (28th of May 2001).

Amendment 6 - Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales);

Add new point at the end of the motion

Calls on the First Minister to convey to the UK Prime Minister the Assembly's deep disappointment at his failure to endorse a comprehensive Sustainable Development Strategy for the European Union, the so called Cardiff process, at the EU Summit in Gothenburg.

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 22; Abstain 0; Against 25; Total 47

Amendment 1 was defeated

Amendment 2

For 22; Abstain 0; Against 25; Total 47

Amendment 2 was defeated

Amendment 3

For 22; Abstain 0; Against 27; Total 49

Amendment 3 was defeated

Amendment 4

For 22; Abstain 0; Against 28; Total 50

Amendment 4 was defeated

Amendment 5

For 13; Abstain 9; Against 28; Total 50

Amendment 5 was defeated

Amendment 6

For 13; Abstain 9; Against 28; Total 50

Amendment 6 was defeated

The motion

For 36; Abstain 13; Against 1; Total 50

The motion was carried

11.56am

Minority Party Debate: Plaid Cymru

NDM708 The National Assembly:

- 1. Notes the severe problems encountered by local people in obtaining access to affordable housing in rural communities throughout Wales, together with the impact of this on the sustainability of Welsh as a living community language.*
- 2. Calls upon the Government of Wales to conduct a detailed review of the situation and to bring forward policies to address it.*

The following amendments were selected:

Amendment 1 - William Graham (South Wales East);

In Point 1. Delete "Notes" and insert "Acknowledges".

2. William Graham (South Wales East);

In Point 1. Delete ", together with the impact of this on the sustainability of Welsh as a living community language". **WITHDRAWN**

Amendment 3 - William Graham (South Wales East);

Insert a new point between point 1 and 2 that reads:

"Recognises that the need for the Liberal Democrat – Labour Assembly Administration to take further measure to rejuvenate the rural economy."

Amendment 4 - William Graham (South Wales East);

In Point 2. Delete "Government of Wales" and insert "Liberal Democratic – Labour coalition".

Amendment 5 - William Graham (South Wales East);

At the end of the motion add a further Point, which reads:

"Condemns the direct action campaign proposed by Cymdeithas yr Iaith".

Amendment 6 - William Graham (South Wales East);

At the end of the motion add a further Point, which reads:

"Calls on the Liberal Democrat – Labour coalition to implement an intense community education programme to encourage, and increase the opportunities, for the people of Wales to learn their national language".

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 8; Abstain 25; Against 13; Total 46

Amendment 1 was defeated

Amendment 2 was withdrawn

Amendment 3

For 21; Abstain 26; Against 0; Total 47

Amendment 3 was carried

Amendment 4

For 8; Abstain 26; Against 13; Total 47

Amendment 4 was defeated

Amendment 5

For 8; Abstain 27; Against 13; Total 48

Amendment 5 was defeated

Amendment 6

For 21; Abstain 27; Against 0; Total 48

Amendment 6 was carried

The motion, as amended

For 13; Abstain 0; Against 35; Total 48

The motion, as amended, was defeated.

The session concluded at 1.05pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

9.05 am on Thursday, 28th June 2001

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASEMBLY LAST MET

DOCUMENTS LAID ON 19 JUNE 2001

LC288 The General Teaching Council for Wales (Functions) (Amendment) Regulations 2001
LD895

LC289: The General Teaching Council for Wales (Additional Functions) (Amendment) Order
2001 LD894

LC290: The Education (School Day and School Year) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001
LD893

LC291: The Teacher Training Incentive (Further Education) (Wales) Regulations 2001 LD896

LC292: The Inspection of Education and Training (Wales) Regulations 2001 LD897