

Motions and Amendments for Debate on 8 June 2005

Motions tabled on 26 May 2005

NDM2476

Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

John Marek (Wrexham)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Whilst noting that nothing in the motion will have the effect of reducing the pre-eminence of the authority of the full Assembly or of reducing the role of the Assembly Committees in the exercise of the functions delegated by this motion, in exercise of its powers under sections 62 and 63 of the Government of Wales Act 1998,

(1) revokes any existing delegation by it to the Assembly First Minister of its functions under:

(a) sections 70(4) and 71(2) of the Government of Wales Act 1998;

(b) the Data Protection Act 1998, and

(c) the Freedom of Information Act 2000;

(2) delegates to the Assembly First Minister its functions under:

(a) sections 70(4) and 71(2) of the Government of Wales Act 1998;

(b) the Freedom of Information Act 2000; and

(c) the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/3391),

in each case in so far as concerns documents or information in the possession or under the control of any Assembly Minister or member of the staff of the Assembly in respect of whom civil service management functions, within the meaning of section 1 of the Civil Service (Management Functions) Act 1992, stand delegated to the First Minister;

(3) delegates to the Assembly First Minister its functions under the Data Protection Act 1998, in so far as concerns data processed (within the meaning of the Data Protection Act 1998) by any Assembly Minister or member of the staff of the Assembly in respect of whom civil service management functions, within the meaning of section 1 of the Civil Service (Management Functions) Act 1992, stand delegated to the First Minister, or data processed on behalf of the National Assembly for Wales at the request of an Assembly Minister or member of staff such as mentioned above;

(4) delegates to the House Committee its functions under:

(a) sections 70(4) and 71(2) of the Government of Wales Act 1998;

(b) the Freedom of Information Act 2000; and

(c) the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/3391),

in each case in so far as concerns documents or information which are in the possession or under the control of:

(i) that Committee, or

(ii) any member of that Committee acting in his or her capacity as such, or

(iii) any member of staff of the Assembly serving that Committee

for the purposes of that Committee's terms of reference;

(5) delegates to the House Committee its functions under the Data Protection Act 1998, in so far as concerns:

(a) data processed (within the meaning of the Data Protection Act 1998) by:

(i) that Committee, or

(ii) any member of that Committee acting in his or her capacity as such, or

(iii) any member of staff of the Assembly serving that Committee,

or

(b) data processed on behalf of the National Assembly for Wales at the request of that Committee or a member of staff such as mentioned above,

in each case for the purposes of the Committee's terms of reference;

(6) delegates to staff of the Assembly its functions (except in so far as such functions have been delegated to the House Committee by this delegation motion) under:

(a) sections 70(4) and 71(2) of the Government of Wales Act 1998;

(b) the Freedom of Information Act 2000; and

(c) the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/3391),

in each case in so far as concerns documents or information in the possession or under the control of any member of the staff of the Assembly in respect of whom civil service management functions, within the meaning of section 1 of the Civil Service (Management Functions) Act 1992, stand delegated to the House Committee; and

(7) delegates to staff of the Assembly its functions (except in so far as such functions as have been delegated to the House Committee by this delegation motion) under the Data Protection Act 1998, in so far as concerns:

(a) data processed (within the meaning of the Data Protection Act 1998) by any member of the staff of the Assembly in respect of whom civil service management functions, within the meaning of section 1 of the Civil Service (Management Functions) Act 1992, stand delegated to the House Committee, or

(b) data processed on behalf of the National Assembly for Wales at the request of such a member of staff.

This delegation will be made in the knowledge that those functions may, as appropriate, be further delegated to the appropriate Assembly Minister and to staff.

Copies of the Acts contained in this motion can be found on the following links:

Freedom of Information Act 2000

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/20000036.htm>

Data Protection Act 1998

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts1998/19980029.htm>

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/20043391.htm>

Government of Wales Act 1998

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts1998/19980038.htm>

Motions tabled on 01 June 2005

Short Debate

NDM2480 Elin Jones (Ceredigion): Where will the next Shan Cothi and Bryn Terfel come from? The future of small Eisteddfodau. **W**

NDM2481 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the outcome of the consultation exercise that was carried out by the Welsh Assembly Government on the mergers of the Welsh Development Agency (WDA), the Wales Tourist Board (WTB) and the National Council for Education and Training for Wales (ELWa), which was published on 24 May 2005.

Copies of 'Making the Connections: Report on the responses to the consultation by the Welsh Assembly Government on the merger of ELWa, the WDA and WTB' were placed in the Members Library on 24 May 2005 and can be accessed via the attached hyperlink:

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/themesmergers/content/responses/report-e.pdf>

<http://www.cymru.gov.uk/themesmergers/content/responses/report-w.pdf>

Amendments tabled on 2 June 2004

To propose that the Assembly resolves to adopt the following amendments to motions:

NDM2481

1. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes that the success or otherwise of the merger will be judged by the extent to which there is a discernible improvement in service delivery, with effect from the first day of the merger.

2. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Expresses concern that the merger process will take the focus away from service delivery; that staff and expertise could be lost; and requires service delivery to be no less customer orientated than before the merger was announced.

3. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Requires the Assembly Government to publish by 31 December 2005 a full financial statement of the extra resources committed to the Change Management Programme.

4. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Requires the Assembly Government to provide certainty of the roles for which staff will be required by 14 July 2005 in order to retain skills and expertise.

5. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to produce regular reports to the relevant Assembly Committees on the cost of the ASPB merger programme; and disclose to the Assembly in plenary its plans to improve the scrutiny of government policy and spending in those policy areas affected by ASPB mergers.

Amendments tabled on 03 June 2004

To propose that the Assembly resolves to adopt the following amendments to motions:

NDM2481

1. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Regrets the ad hoc approach and the lack of strategic planning taken by the Welsh Assembly Government, which has led to staff confusion and low morale and notes that 45.1 % of staff have considered leaving the employment of the WDA within the last 6 months.

2. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls for an immediate statement on the pension implications for ASPB staff, to include any plans to correct pension fund shortfalls and the source of finance to be used.

3. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Regrets the way in which the Welsh Assembly Government now criticises the ASPB's having previously defended and complimented them on their actions.

4. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls for the immediate publication of notes, memos and minutes of discussions that have considered redundancies resulting from the merger.

5. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls for a costed business plan to be presented to the Assembly immediately for consideration.

6. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls for the immediate publication of a breakdown of the £10M per annum savings the Welsh Assembly Government intends to realise as a result of the merger.

7. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls for the establishment of an independent evaluation team to present an annual report to the Assembly on the delivery of services, outcomes and value for money of the new departments created by the merger. The make up of the evaluation team to be agreed by all political parties.

8. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Recognises the need for a strong regional approach to which budgets will be devolved.

9. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Requires the Welsh Assembly Government to ensure adequate scrutiny of ELWa functions once it has been adsorbed into an Assembly Education and Life Long Learning Department.

10. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls upon Welsh Assembly Government to emphasise that the ELL Department fully responds to the needs of the work place and the learner.

11. David Melding (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

Ensures that an Assembly Education and Life Long Learning Department advances the requirements of part time further education, both vocational and academic, and enhances pathways toward further and higher education.