

AGENDA

Votes and Proceedings for Wednesday 3rd December

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm

2.00pm

Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration

The first 11 questions were asked. Question 9 was transferred for written answer.

2.22pm

Questions to Andrew Davies , Minister for Economic Development and Transport

The first 6 questions were asked.

2.49pm

Statement by the Secretary of State for Wales on the Queen`s Speech followed by a debate

NDM1731 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the content of the UK Government's Legislative Programme for 2003-04; and
2. Commends those Bills with particular relevance to the Assembly's responsibilities to the appropriate subject committees for further consideration. Such consideration should focus on the provisions each Bill should make for Wales and how the Assembly might use its' new powers therein

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Delete Point 2 and replace with:

2. Regrets the Westminster Government's failure to address the serious problems of rising crime faced by Welsh residents and the United Kingdom as a whole, in the Legislative Programme for 2003-2004.

Amendment 2

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to negotiate within the UK Government to prioritise a new Government of Wales Act that would devolve primary legislative and tax varying powers to the National Assembly and in the meantime regrets the lack of influence Wales has over the inclusion of Wales only Bills due to not having a full time Secretary of State in the UK Cabinet.

Amendment 3

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the inclusion of measures to introduce top-up fees to Higher Education Institutions

Amendment 4

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the exclusion of Mental Health (Wales) Bill.

Amendment 5

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the exclusion of measures to ensure that liability for GM contamination of organic or conventional falls upon the growers.

Amendment 6

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the proposal setting up a Pension Protection Fund within a new Pension Bill and calls on the UK Government to ensure that the Fund protects the pensions of those employees where companies are currently in the winding up process.

Amendment 7

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that no progress has been made on:

- a) Making St David's Day as a Bank Holiday in Wales,
- b) Secure free personal care for the elderly, and
- c) Banning smoking in specified public buildings.

Amendment 8

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the lack of any serious attempt by the Westminster Government to address pensioner poverty in Wales and the United Kingdom as a whole in the Legislative Programme for 2003-2004.

Amendment 9

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the Westminster Government's failure to provide any assistance to students facing financial debt in Wales in the Legislative Programme for 2003-2004.

Amendment 10

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the paucity of Wales-only measures proposed in the Westminster Government's Legislative Programme for 2003-2004.

Amendment 11

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the lack of any specific legislative proposals to make good the problems faced by Allied Steel workers and others whose pensions are now worthless, in the Westminster Government's Legislative Programme for 2003-2004.

Amendment 12

Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets the lack of any legislation designed to introduce a democratic element to the Upper House, in the Westminster Government's Legislative Programme for 2003-2004.

Amendment 13

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Regrets that the proposed Draft Charities Bill may restrict those seeking to organise charitable fundraising activities and calls on the UK government to rethink their proposals.

Amendment 14

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes the decision to allow the National Assembly to determine how Higher Education in Wales is funded, but regrets the fact that the lack of an adequate funding formula for Wales will restrict its ability to find alternatives to tuition fees.

Amendment 15

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Expresses regret at there being only one Wales-specific bill in the Queen's Speech and calls on the UK government to bring forward legislation to create a Welsh Senedd with primary law-making powers.

Amendment 16

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Condemns the proposals to cut back on the right of appeal for asylum seekers, which will hit genuine victims and further undermine the quality of asylum decisions.

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 11; Abstain 0; Against 44; Total 55

Amendment 1 was defeated

Amendment 2

For 16; Abstain 0; Against 40; Total 56

Amendment 2 was defeated

Amendment 3

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 3 was carried

Amendment 4

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 4 was defeated

Amendment 5

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 5 was carried

Amendment 6

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 6 was defeated

Amendment 7

For 20; Abstain 4; Against 31; Total 51

Amendment 7 was defeated

Amendment 8

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 8 was defeated

Amendment 9

For 26; 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 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 11 was defeated

Amendment 12

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 29; Total 56

Amendment 12 was defeated

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 17; Abstain 0; Against 39; Total 56

Amendment 15 was defeated

Amendment 16

For 18; Abstain 0; Against 38; Total 56

Amendment 16 was defeated

Vote on the Motion

For 29; Abstain 0; Against 27; Total 56

The Motion was carried

5.03pm

Short debate - NDM1726 Alun Ffred Jones (Caernarfon); Local Regeneration Fund and Match-Funding - Short Changing Wales

The meeting will conclude by 5.23pm

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASSEMBLY LAST MET

Documents Laid on 03 December 2003

- The National Assembly for Wales Members' Pension Scheme Annual Report & Accounts for the Period 01 April 2002 to 31 March 2003 - LD2512

Documents Laid on 02 December 2003

- Local Government Finance Report 2004-05 (Final Settlement – Councils) - LD2510
- The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) (No.2)(Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2502
- The Wildlife and Countryside (Registration, Ringing and Marking of Certain Captive Birds) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2503
- The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2504
- The Plant Protection Products Regulations 2003 - LD2505
- The African Swine Fever (Wales) Order 2003 - LD2506
- The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2507

Committee Reports Laid on 02 December 2003

- LC797 - The Dog Fouling (Fixed Penalty) (Wales) Order 2003 - LD2508
- LC798 - The Litter (Fixed Penalty) (Wales) Order 2003 - LD2509
- LC792 - The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2483
- LC791 - The Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 2004 - LD2484
- LD795 - The Education (Pupil Exclusions and Appeals) (Pupil Referral Units) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2485

- LC796 - The Education (Pupil Exclusions and Appeals) (Maintained Schools) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2486
- LC802 - The Wildlife and Countryside (Registration, Ringing and Marking of Certain Captive Birds) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2487
- LC804 - The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2488
- LC783 - The Independent Schools (Religious Character of Schools) (Designation Procedure) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2489
- LC786 - The Independent Schools (Provision of Information) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2490
- LC788 - The Independent School (Publication of Inspection Reports) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2491
- LC789 - The Independent School (Standards) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2492
- LC790 - The Education (Information about Individual Pupils) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2493
- LC793 - The Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 - LD2494
- LC794 - The Education (School Day and School Year) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2495
- LC800 - The Collagen and Gelatine (Intra-Community Trade) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2496
- LC801 - The Central Rating List (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 - LD2497
- LC803 - The Adoption Agencies (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2003 - LD2498
- LC805 - The Waste Management Licensing (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2004 - LD2499

The Following Petition was received on the 26 November 2003

Petition: A declaration on the future of Communities of Wales (PO44CC)

Principal Petitioner: Cymdeithas yr Iaith

No. of Petitioners: 1848

We call on the government of Wales along with all the local authorities of Wales to adopt and implement policies on housing and planning which will ensure a sustainable future for the Welsh language and the natural environment in all the communities of Wales.

They should adopt the following principles as a basis for responsible policies:

- That everybody has a right to a home and that housing and property are regarded as a necessity rather than as a marketable commodity

- That local people's access to the existing stock of housing and property is encouraged and ensured
- That house and property prices reflect the local market
- That the planning system protects and serves local communities.