

Plenary

Meeting date:
Tuesday, 24 January 2012

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Agenda (40)v4

1. Questions to the First Minister (60mins)

The Presiding Officer will call the Party Leaders to ask questions without notice to the First Minister after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

2. Business Statement and Announcement (30 mins)

[View Business Statement and Announcement](#)

3. Statement by the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services: Progress on the Social Services Bill (30 mins)

4. Statement by the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage: Priorities for the Welsh Historic Environment (30 mins)

5. Statement by the Minister for Local Government and Communities: The Simpson Compact with Local Government (30 mins)

Supporting Documents

[A Compact for Change between the Welsh Government and Welsh Local Government](#)

[The Welsh Government's Collaborative Footprint for Public Services](#)

6. Legislative Consent Motion on the Welfare Reform Bill (30 mins)

NDM4888 Gwenda Thomas (Neath)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order 29.6 agrees that in addition to the provisions referred to in motion NDM4713 the further provisions referred to in the Welfare Reform Bill relating to the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission, in so far as they fall within the legislative competence of the National Assembly for Wales, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

Supporting Documents

A [Legislative Consent Memorandum](#) has been laid in Table Office on 3 January 2012 in accordance with Standing Order 29.2(iii).

A copy of the Welfare Reform Bill can be found at:

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/welfarereform.html>

[Report of the Children and Young People Committee](#)

7. Debate on European Programmes (60 mins)

NDM4897 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes:

a) the European Commission's legislative proposals for Structural Fund, and Rural and Fisheries programmes;

b) the Welsh Government's "Reflection exercise" which seeks stakeholders' views on the strategic priorities for the prospective European programmes in Wales (2014-2020); and

c) the Welsh Government's commitment to strengthening further Wales' links with the EU institutions in the development and implementation of its European Programmes.

The European Commission's legislative proposals for Common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund are available on the following [link](#):

The European Commission's legislative proposals for Structural Funds are available on the following links:

– [European Regional Development Fund](#)

-[European Social Fund](#)

-[European Territorial Cooperation](#)

The European Commission's legislative proposals for the Rural programme are available on the following link:

-[European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development](#)

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – William Graham (South Wales East)

In point c) delete all after 'institutions' and replace with:

'is best achieved by delivering European Programmes efficiently, effectively and ensuring maximum benefit for the people of Wales'.

Amendment 2 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add new point at end of motion:

Acknowledges that UK European policy may not be in the best interests of Wales and calls on the Welsh Government to develop the capacity for direct representations to EU institutions.

Amendment 3 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the proposed move to monitor outcomes rather than outputs and the opportunity this could create to improve the impact of the next round of structural funding.

Amendment 4 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that all remaining money in the current round of funding is targeted at schemes which create sustainable jobs.

8. Debate on Communities First (60 mins)

NDM4896 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the new Communities First Programme, which will focus on tackling poverty

with community involvement being a key principle.

Supporting Documents

[Communities First – The Future: Consultation seeking views on the changes proposed to the Communities First programme](#)

[Summary of Ministerial Decisions:](#)

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes that the new Communities First Programme will require a foundation of effective corporate governance to enable the creation of independent Community Organisations.

Amendment 2 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that the appropriate evaluation is built into all Communities First projects in order to measure success and to enable improvements to be made during the lifetime of the projects

Amendment 3 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that the original Communities First programme did not focus on tackling poverty

Amendment 4 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes that the Public Accounts Committee's report into Communities First concluded that 'the Communities First programme cannot demonstrate value for money.'

The Public Account Committee report can be accessed on the following link:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/cr-ld7923.pdf>

Amendment 5 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes that, in its report, 'Regenerating Communities First Neighbourhoods', the Joseph Rowntree Foundation identified only 'marginal improvements' in

Communities First areas.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation report can be accessed on the [following link](#):

Amendment 6 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that its new Communities First programme delivers better results than its predecessor

Amendment 7 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that its new Communities First programme has clear, relevant and measurable targets to tackle poverty.

Voting Time

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13:30 on Wednesday, 25 January 2012