

Plenary

Meeting date:
Tuesday, 24 January 2012

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Votes and Proceedings

(40)

1. Questions to the First Minister

Item started at 13.30

14 questions were asked. Question 10 was not asked. The Presiding Officer invited party leaders to ask questions to the First Minister after Question 2.

2. Business Statement and Announcement

[View Business Statement and Announcement](#)

Item started at 14.27

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

Item started at 14.40

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

Item started at 15.16

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

Item started at 15.47

6. Legislative Consent Motion on the Welfare Reform Bill

Item started at 16.10

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.

The Motion was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

7. Debate on European Programmes

Item started at 16.31

Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

The following amendments were 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’.

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
23	0	25	48

Amendment 1 was not agreed.

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.

A vote was taken on Amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
35	0	13	48

Amendment 2 was agreed.

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.

A vote was taken on Amendment 3:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
48	0	0	48

Amendment 3 was agreed.

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.

A vote was taken on Amendment 4:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
48	0	0	48

Amendment 4 was agreed.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
35	0	13	48

The motion as amended was agreed.

8. Debate on Communities First

Item started at 17.23

Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

The following amendments were 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.

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
23	0	25	48

Amendment 1 was not agreed.

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

A vote was taken on Amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
49	0	0	49

Amendment 2 was agreed.

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

A vote was taken on Amendment 3:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
18	6	25	49

Amendment 3 was not agreed.

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>

A vote was taken on Amendment 4:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
18	6	25	49

Amendment 4 was not agreed.

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:

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/communities-regeneration-Wales-full.pdf>
[Opens in a new browser window](#)

A vote was taken on Amendment 5:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
24	0	25	49

Amendment 5 was not agreed.

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

A vote was taken on Amendment 6:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
49	0	0	49

Amendment 6 was agreed.

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.

A vote was taken on Amendment 7:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
49	0	0	49

Amendment 7 was agreed.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

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.

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.

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

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

For	Abstain	Against	Total
36	13	0	49

The motion as amended was agreed.

Voting Time

Voting time started at 18.22

Votes Summary

The meeting concluded at 18.26

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