

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE STANDING ORDERS

Introduction

1. The Business Committee has considered and approved the following proposed revisions to Standing Order 18, relating to the House Committee. The text of the amendments, in both Welsh and English, is attached as annex A.

Background

2. The Government of Wales Act 2006 gives some functions to the current Assembly. These functions relate to actions which need to be carried out before separation of the Assembly into an executive and legislature following the Assembly elections in May 2007.

3. It has been proposed that the following two functions are delegated to the House Committee by resolution in Plenary:

- Power to promote awareness of election system and devolved government, including by making grants and/or providing financial assistance to the Electoral Commission (under GOWA 2006, Schedule 2, paragraphs 5 & 6. By virtue of paragraph 18 of Schedule 11, this function is exercisable until the end of the initial period by the Assembly as constituted by GOWA 1998).
- Function of being consulted by the Secretary of State before the Order transferring staff to the Assembly Commission is made (under GOWA 2006, Schedule 11, paragraph 43(10)).

4. Before the motion to delegate the functions can be approved by the Assembly, Standing Order 18 will need to be amended to allow the Committee to exercise the delegation functions.

Proposal

5. The proposed revisions have been agreed by Business Committee. The Assembly is invited to approve them.

Clerk to the Business Committee
January 2007

Annex A

Amendments to Standing Order 18

“18.2(vii) until the end of the initial period as defined in section 161(5) of the Government of Wales Act 2006, the exercise of the powers set out in paragraphs 5 and 6 of Schedule 2 to that Act (promotion of awareness of election system and devolved government); and

18.2(viii) being consulted by the Secretary of State before the making of an order under paragraph 43(2) of Schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006 (staff of the Assembly).”

Gwelliannau i Reol Sefydlog 18

“18.2(vii) arfer y pwerau a nodwyd ym mharagraffau 5 a 6 yn Atodlen 2 i'r Ddeddf honno hyd ddiwedd y cyfnod cychwynnol fel y'i diffinnir yn adran 161(5) o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, (hybu ymwybyddiaeth am y drefn etholiadol a llywodraeth ddatganoledig); a

18.2(viii) derbyn ymgynghoriad gan yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol cyn gwneud gorchymyn dan baragraff 43(2) o Atodlen 11 i Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 (staff y Cynulliad).”