

Motions and Amendments for Debate on 20 October 2004

Motions tabled on 13 October 2004

Short Debate

NDM2134 Leighton Andrews (Rhondda): Wales-on-demand: Creating Welsh digital content and businesses.

NDM2133 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order 21.3, take note of the draft budget for the financial years 2005-2006, 2006-07 and 2007-08 laid in the Table Office on Tuesday 12 October 2004 by the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services.

Copies of the Assembly Government's Draft Budget 2005-2006 to 2007-2008 were e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 October 2004.

Amendments Tabled on 14 October 2004

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

NDM2133

1. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In line 2 delete 'take note' and replace with 'notes with concern'.

2. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Calls for a fair funding policy that ensures that the Assembly is adequately funded to meet the needs of the people of Wales.

3. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Notes that the Labour Assembly Government pledges of free school breakfasts and no top

up fees till 2007 have major implications for this budget and deplores the Labour Assembly Government 's inability to produce the figures upon which these pledges were made.

4. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Condemns the Labour Assembly Government's failure to to reduce waiting times and lists and calls for changes in the draft budget to address these failures.

5. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Condemns the Labour Assembly Government's failure to provide adequate resources to support the rural economy.

6. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Notes the concerns raised by local government regarding the funding of education and calls on the Labour Assembly Government to establish an all party group to examine school funding.

Amendments tabled on 15 October 2004

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

NDM2133

1. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Believes that this budget shows the clear indications of the Barnett squeeze and that the Barnett formula is outdated and in need of reform.

2. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Notes that after a comprehensive review of all spending, half the budget lines have been flat-lined between 2004/5 and 2005/6 leading to a real terms cut.

3. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the government's decision to introduce a BEL focussed on Asylum Seekers and Refugees.

4. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Believes that, though the nature of the Barnett formula leaves Welsh public services under-funded, two aspects of the budget are particularly under-funded: Revenue Support Grant and Student Support Funds and further believes that an increased investment in both of these budget lines would be of benefit to Wales.

5. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the improved investment in the waste strategy, notes the contribution being made from landfill tax credits but calls for a review of the financial impact on local authorities of improving recycling incentives and the landfill tax escalator and believes that a further increase in investment in recycling would improve Wales' environmental and financial sustainability.

6. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Notes that the Draft budget shows reserves of £120m, significantly above the reserve level at previous draft budgets, believes that the government will allocate this money at the final and supplementary budget stages and accordingly calls on the Minister to allocate £30m of reserves at this stage of the cycle, to priority budget lines such as Revenue Support Grant and Student Support Funds.

7. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Minister to re-allocate the monies designated for free school breakfasts to priority budget lines such as Revenue Support Grant and Student Support Funds.

8. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Notes that over £100m is spent every year in Wales on the running costs of quangos and believes that redirecting 10% of the running costs of the quangos, to priority budget lines such as Revenue Support Grant and Student Support Funds would be an invaluable discipline as the quangos prepare to merge with the Assembly administration.

9. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Minister to freeze the funding for Trunk road investment at 2004/5 levels and direct that funding towards priority budget lines such as Revenue Support Grant and Student Support Funds.

10. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Notes that the budget profile assumes the continuation of European structural funding at existing programme spend levels past the period of full Objective One and that the transition period post Objective One would not sustain the level of funding illustrated in the draft budget and calls on the Minister to make a statement explaining the disparity between the draft budget and the uncertainty over the future of European Structural funding.

11. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):

Add as a new point at end of motion:

Believes that the funding made available through the deprivation grant BEL and the Social Justice ' Regeneration and other services' BEL would be better and more fairly delivered via the mainstream Revenue Support Grant formula.