



House of Commons
Welsh Affairs Committee

Formal Minutes

Session 2005–06

The Welsh Affairs Committee

The Welsh Affairs Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration, and policy of the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales (including relations with the National Assembly for Wales.)

Current membership

Dr Hywel Francis MP (Chairman) (*Labour, Aberavon*) (appointed 19 July 2005)
Mr Stephen Crabb MP (*Conservative, Preseli Pembrokeshire*) (appointed 19 July 2005)
David T. C. Davies MP (*Conservative, Monmouth*) (appointed 19 July 2005)
Nia Griffith MP (*Labour, Llanelli*) (appointed 19 July 2005)
Mrs Siân C. James MP (*Labour, Swansea East*) (appointed 19 July 2005)
Mr David Jones MP (*Conservative, Clwyd West*) (appointed 19 July 2005)
Mr Martyn Jones MP (*Labour, Clwyd South*) (appointed 19 July 2005)
Mrs Madeline Moon MP (*Labour, Bridgend*) (appointed 19 July 2005, discharged 6 March 2006)
Albert Owen MP (*Labour, Ynys Môn*) (appointed 6 March 2006)
Jessica Morden MP (*Labour, Newport East*) (appointed 21 November 2005)
Mrs Betty Williams MP (*Labour, Conwy*), (appointed 19 July 2005, discharged 21 November 2005)
Hywel Williams MP (*Plaid Cymru, Caernarfon*) (appointed 20 July 2005)
Mark Williams MP (*Liberal Democrat, Ceredigion*) (appointed 19 July 2005)

Powers

The Committee is one of the departmental select committees, the powers of which are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No 152. These are available on the Internet via www.parliament.uk.

Publications

The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the Internet at www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/welsh_affairs_committee.cfm. A list of Reports of the Committee in the present Parliament is at the back of this volume.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are Nick Wright (Clerk), Steve Boyce (Committee Specialist), Christine Randall (Committee Assistant), Sarah Colebrook (Secretary) and Jim Lawford (Senior Office Clerk).

Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk of the Welsh Affairs Committee, House of Commons, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JA. The telephone number for general enquiries is 020 7219 3264; and the Committee's email address is welshcom@parliament.uk.

Formal Minutes of the Committee, Session 2005–06

WEDNESDAY 20 JULY 2005

Members present:

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr David Jones
David T.C. Davies	Mr Martyn Jones
Dr Hywel Francis	Mrs Madeleine Moon
Nia Griffith	Mark Williams
Mrs Siân James	

1. Declarations of interest

Members declared their interests pursuant to the resolution of the House of 13 July 1992.

2. Election of the Chairman

Dr Hywel Francis was called to the Chair.

3. Admission of the public

Ordered, That members of the public be admitted during the examination of witnesses unless the Committee otherwise orders.

4. Witnesses

Ordered, That staff of the Committee be authorised to provide an informal indication to witnesses of probable areas of questioning in advance of oral evidence sessions, unless the Committee otherwise orders.

5. Meetings

Resolved, That, unless otherwise decided, the Committee meet on Tuesdays at 10.30 am.

6. Inquiries

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Wales Office Annual Report 2005.

7. Draft Special Report

Draft Special Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read a first and second time and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the First Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That responses of the Government to the Committee's Second and Third Reports issued in the previous session on Manufacturing and Trade and the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill [HL] be appended to the Report.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 11 October at 10.30 am.]

TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams
Mr David Jones	

1. Declaration of interest

Hywel Williams declared that he had no declarable interests.

2. Committee's programme of work (choice of inquiries)

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Energy in Wales.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Role of Wales in the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Activities of the Ministry of Defence in Wales.

2. Draft Special Report: Government response to the Committee's Fourth Report on Police, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Special Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read a first and second time and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Second Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That the Government response to the Committee's Fourth Report on Police, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Wales be appended to the Report.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 18 October at 10 am

TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr David Jones
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams

1. Oral evidence: Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

Mr Alan Cogbill, Director, Mr Cedric Longville, Legal Adviser and Zenny Saunders, Head of Legislation and Strategic Policy Branch, Wales Office; Mr Hugh Rawlings, Director, Local Government, Public Service and Culture Department, Mrs Kate Cassidy, Head of Policy, Constitutional Affairs Unit, and Mr Keith Bush, Legislative Counsel, Directorate of Legal Services, Welsh Assembly Government gave oral evidence.

Professor Richard Rawlings, Chair in Law, London School of Economics; Professor David Miers, Cardiff Law School; and Dr Roger Scully, Senior Lecturer in European Politics and Director of the Jean Monnet Centre for European Studies and Dr Richard

Wyn Jones, Director of the Institute of Welsh Politics, University of Wales Aberystwyth, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 25 October at 10 am

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr Martyn Jones
David T.C. Davies	Mrs Madeleine Moon
Mrs Siân James	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams

1. NHS Dentists in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the Chairman write to the Department of Health to request a memorandum on NHS Dentists in Wales.

2. Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

Rt. Hon. The Lord Richard QC, Mr Glyn Mathias, Electoral Commissioner, and Mrs Kay Jenkins, Head of Office Wales, The Electoral Commission, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Monday 31 October at 2.30 pm

MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 2005

Meeting at the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr Martyn Jones
David T.C. Davies	Mrs Madeleine Moon
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams
Mr David Jones	

1. Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Rt. Hon. The Lord Elis Thomas AM, Presiding Officer, and Mr Paul Silk, Clerk, National Assembly for Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 8 November at 10.30 am.]

TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Nia Griffith	Mrs Madeleine Moon
Mrs Siân James	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams

1. Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned until Thursday 10 November at 10.30 am.]

THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr David Jones
David T.C. Davies	Mrs Madeleine Moon
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams

1. Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Rt. Hon. Peter Hain MP, Secretary of State for Wales and Rt. Hon. Rhodri Morgan AM, First Minister, Welsh Assembly Government, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned Tuesday 22 November at 10.30 am.]

TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2005 AM

Members present:

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams
Mr David Jones	

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr Martyn Jones took the Chair.

1. Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

The Committee considered a draft Report.

[Adjourned until 2.30 pm.]

TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2005 PM

Members present:

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr David Jones
David T.C. Davies	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr Martyn Jones took the Chair

1. Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

The Committee considered a draft Report.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 29 November at 2 pm.]

TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mrs Madeleine Moon
Nia Griffith	Jessica Morden
Mrs Siân James	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams
Mr Martyn Jones	

1. Declaration of interests

Jessica Morden declared that she had no declarable interests.

2. Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

The Committee considered a draft Report, proposed by the Chairman.

[The Committee agreed the Chairman's draft Report, and agreed to publish it on 13 December 2005. The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the First Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee, Session 2005-06 (HC 551).]

[Adjourned until Tuesday 6 December at 10 am.]

TUESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mrs Siân James	Jessica Morden
Mr Martyn Jones	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Chicago and Denver in relation to its inquiry into Energy in Wales.

Ordered, That the Chairman do seek funding from the Liaison Committee in connection with this visit.

Resolved, That the Committee visit North Wales in relation to its inquiry into Energy in Wales.

2. Oral evidence: Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

Chief Constable Terence Grange, Dyfed-Powys Police, Chief Constable Michael Tonge, Gwent Police, Chief Constable Barbara Wilding, South Wales Police, Chief Constable Richard Brunstrom, North Wales Police and Deputy Chief Constable Paul Wood, gave oral evidence.

Cllr Ray Thomas, Chair South Wales Police Authority, Cllr Don Evans, Chair Dyfed Powys Police Authority, Cllr Ian Roberts, Chair North Wales Police Authority, Mr Geraint Price-Thomas, OBE, Chair Gwent Police Authority, Jean Wilding, Treasurer Dyfed Powys Police Authority and Shelley Bosson, Clerk, Gwent Police, Police Authorities of Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 13 December at 10 am.

TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2005

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb

David T.C. Davies

Nia Griffith

Mrs Siân James

Mr David Jones

Hywel Williams

1. NHS Dentistry in Wales

Mr Stuart Geddes, National Director, British Dental Association (BDA) Wales, and Dr M C Wills-Wood, Chairman of the Welsh Committee of BDA's General Dental Practice Committee, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 10 January at 10.30 am.

TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb
Nia Griffith
Mrs Siân James

Mr David Jones
Jessica Morden
Hywel Williams

1. Energy in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Make Poverty History Campaign

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 17 January at 10 am.]

TUESDAY 17 JANUARY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb
Mrs Siân James
Mr Martyn Jones

Jessica Morden
Hywel Williams

1. Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears MP, Minister of State, Home Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Wednesday 18 January at 2.30 pm.]

WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY 2006

Members present:

David T.C. Davies
Mr David Jones
Mr Martyn Jones

Jessica Morden
Hywel Williams

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr Martyn Jones was called to the Chair.

1. Government response to the Committee's First Report on the Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Special Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read a first and second time and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Second Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That Government response to the Committee's First Report on the Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales be appended to the Report.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 24 January at 10.30 am.]

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

David T.C. Davies	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Jessica Morden
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams

1. Energy in Wales

The Committee considered its visits to the USA and to North Wales.

2. Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

The Committee considered progress on its draft Report.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 31 January at 10 am.]

TUESDAY 31 JANUARY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

David T.C. Davies	Jessica Morden
Mrs Siân James	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams

1. Energy in Wales

Mr David Wagstaff, Director, Energy Strategy Development and Delivery, Mr Richard Abel, Director, Domestic Energy, Mr Gary Shanahan, Assistant Director, Bioenergy and Marine Renewables, Ms Cathy Allen, Assistant Director, Consents Policy and Delivery, Mr Brian Morris, Assistant Director, Carbon Abatement Technologies, and Ms Ruth Henrywood, Deputy Director Energy Review, Department of Trade and Industry, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 7 February at 10 am.

TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mrs Siân James
David T.C. Davies	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Jessica Morden

1. Energy in Wales

Professor Phil Bowen, Division of Mechanical Engineering and Energy Studies, Cardiff University, Member of the Welsh Development Agency's Energy Centre of Excellence, Professor Dennis Hawkes, Former Director of the Sustainable Environment Research Centre, University of Glamorgan and Mr Kevin Mowbray, Head of Welsh Energy Research Centre Secretariat, Welsh Energy Research Centre, and Mr Rod Edwards, Dulas Ltd, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 14 February at 10.30 am.

TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams

1. Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

A draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, was brought up and read the first time.

[The Committee agreed the Chairman's draft Report, Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales, and agreed to publish it on 22 February 2006. The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Second Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee, Session 2005-06 (HC 751).]

[Adjourned until Tuesday 28 February at 10 am.]

TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

David T.C. Davies	Jessica Morden
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams
Mr David Jones	

1. Energy in Wales

Dr Mark Legerton, Development Manager for Wales, RWE npower, Dr John McElroy, Head of Environmental Strategy, RWE npower, Mr William Heller, Managing Director, Falck Renewables Limited and Mr Roger Jones, Asset Manager, Falck Renewables Limited; Mr Adrian Bull, Head of Energy Policy Studies, and Miss Dorothy Seed, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, British Nuclear Fuels, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 14 March at 10 am.]

TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr David Jones
David T.C. Davies	Jessica Morden
Nia Griffith	Albert Owen
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams

1. Declaration of interests

Albert Owen declared that he had no declarable interests.

2. The Committee's programme of work

Resolved, That the Committee visit Mid and North Wales in relation to its inquiry into Energy in Wales.

3. Energy in Wales

Mr Maurice Price, Chief Executive, Ms Julie Kendrick, Commercial Director, and Mr Malcolm Harrison, Business Development Director, Express Power Ltd, gave oral evidence.

Dr John Valentine, Head of Non-Forage Crops Team, Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER), gave oral evidence.

Mr Gordon James, Assembly Campaigner, Mr Neil Crumpton, Energy and Transport Campaigner, Friends of the Earth Cymru, Mr Peter Ogden, Director, Mr Geoff Sinclair, Adviser to CPRW on Renewable Energy, Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales and Mr Martin Dowson, Countryside Protection Campaigner, Ramblers' Association Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 21 March at 10 am.]

TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

David T.C. Davies	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Albert Owen
Mrs Siân James	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	

1. Energy in Wales

Mr Wayne Thomas, Area Secretary, National Union of Mineworkers (NUM); and Mr Phil White, Marketing Director, and Mr Tyrone O’Sullivan, Chairman, Tower Colliery; gave oral evidence.

Mr Dylan Morgan, Secretary, *Pobl Atal Wylfa B*/People Against Wylfa B; and Mr Hugh Richards, Secretary, Welsh Anti Nuclear Alliance, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 28 March at 10 am.

TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Nia Griffith

Mr Martyn Jones

Mrs Siân James

Mark Williams

Mr David Jones

1. Energy in Wales

Dr Ian Masters, Welsh Energy Research Centre, University of Wales, Swansea, Mr James Orme, Director, Swanturbines Ltd, Mr Peter Ullman, Chairman, Tidal Electric, and Mr Joe Verdi, Commercial Director, Marine Current Turbines Ltd, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Monday 8 May at 12.45 pm

MONDAY 8 MAY 2006

At the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Nia Griffith

Hywel Williams

Mr Martyn Jones

Mark Williams

Albert Owen

1. Energy in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Mr Andrew Davies AM, Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks, and Dr Ron Loveland, Welsh Assembly Government, gave oral evidence.

Mr Rob Cottam, Mr Peter Southgate, Mr Campbell Dunford and Dr John Constable, All-Wales Energy Group, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Wednesday 17 May at 10 am.

WEDNESDAY 17 MAY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Albert Owen
Nia Griffith	Mark Williams
Mr David Jones	

1. Energy in Wales

Mr John Burley, General Manager, Dragon LNG, gave oral evidence.

Mr Richard Waite and Dr Brian Burnett, Nuclear Decommissioning Agency, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Monday 22 May at 12.15 pm

MONDAY 22 MAY 2006

At the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

David T.C. Davies	Hywel Williams
Nia Griffith	

1. Future of RAF St Athan

The Committee considered this matter.

Jane Hutt AM, David Melding AM, and Jenny Randerson AM, National Assembly for Wales All Wales St Athan Group; Cllr Mike Harvey, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure, Vale of Glamorgan Council, gave oral evidence.

Mr Andrew Davies AM, Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks, and Mr David Swallow, Welsh Assembly Government, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 23 May at 10.45 am.]

TUESDAY 23 MAY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb

Mr Martyn Jones

Mrs Siân James

Albert Owen

1. Future of RAF St Athan

The Committee considered this matter.

Mr Chris Bryant MP, Chairman and Mr John Smith MP, Secretary, All Party M4/St Athan Parliamentary Steering Group, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 6 June at 10.30 am.]

TUESDAY 6 JUNE 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mrs Siân James

Hywel Williams

Mr David Jones

Mark Williams

1. Energy in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future of RAF St Athan

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 13 June at 10.30 am.]

TUESDAY 13 JUNE 2006 AM

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Martyn Jones

Hywel Williams

Albert Owen

Mark Williams

1. Future of RAF St Athan

The Committee considered this matter.

Mr Tom Watson MP, Under-Secretary of State, Brigadier Geoff Nield, Defence Training Review Integrated Project Team Leader, and Mr Nick Evans, Director General Management and Organisation, Ministry of Defence, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until 4 pm.]

TUESDAY 13 JUNE 2006 PM

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Nia Griffith

Albert Owen

Mrs Siân James

Hywel Williams

Mr David Jones

Mark Williams

Mr Martyn Jones

1. Energy in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Mr Malcolm Wicks MP, Minister of State for Energy, Mr David Wagstaff and Clare Harding, Department of Trade and Industry, and Mr John Williams, Wales Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 20 June at 10.30 am.

TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Hywel Williams
Albert Owen	Mark Williams

1. Committees forthcoming programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Energy in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Future of RAF St Athan

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 4 July at 10.30 am.

TUESDAY 4 JULY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Hywel Williams
Nia Griffith	Mark Williams
Mr Martyn Jones	

1. Government response to the Committee's Fourth Report on Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Special Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read a first and second time and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fourth Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That response of the Government to the Committee's Fourth Report on Proposed restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales be appended to the Report.

2. Current restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

Mr Tony McNulty MP, Minister of State for Policing, Security and Community Safety, and Ms Louise Dominian, Regional Lead for Wales on Police Restructuring, Home Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Thursday 6 July at 10.30 am.]

THURSDAY 6 JULY 2006 AM

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Albert Owen
Nia Griffiths	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams
Mr David Jones	

1. Energy in Wales

The Committee considered a draft Report.

[Adjourned until 3 pm.]

THURSDAY 6 JULY 2006 PM

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams
Albert Owen	

1 Energy in Wales

The Committee considered a draft Report.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 11 July at 10.30 am.

TUESDAY 11 JULY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mrs Siân James
David T.C. Davies	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Mark Williams
Jessica Morden	

1. Energy in Wales

A draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, was brought up and read a first time.

[The Committee agreed the Chairman's draft Report, Energy in Wales, and agreed to publish it on 20 July 2006. The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Third Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee, Session 2005-06 (HC 876).]

[Adjourned until Thursday 13 July at 10.30 am.

THURSDAY 13 JULY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Nia Griffith	Mark Williams
Albert Owen	

1. Future of RAF St Athan

A draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, was brought up and read a first time.

[The Committee agreed the Chairman's draft Report, Future of RAF St Athan, and agreed to publish it on Tuesday 25 July. The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report

are published in the Fourth Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee, Session 2005-06 (HC 1129).]

[Adjourned until Wednesday 19 July at 3 pm.

WEDNESDAY 19 JULY 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mrs Siân James	Hywel Williams
Jessica Morden	Mark Williams
Albert Owen	

1. Current restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales

A draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, was brought up and read a first time.

[The Committee agreed the Chairman's draft Report, Current restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales, and agreed to publish it on 27 July 2006. The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fifth Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee, Session 2005-06 (HC 1418).]

2. The Committee's programme of work

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Welsh prisoners in the prison estate.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Benefits to Wales of the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into globalisation and localisation and their impacts on Wales, in the new year.

[Adjourned to a time and date to be set by the Chairman.

TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Jessica Morden
Nia Griffith	Albert Owen
Mrs Siân James	Hywel Williams
Mr David Jones	Mark Williams
Mr Martyn Jones	

1. Government response to the Committee's Report, Energy in Wales

Draft Special Report, Government response to the Third Report of the Committee (Energy in Wales), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fifth Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That the Government's response to the Third Report from the Committee be appended to the Report.

2. Government response to the Committee's Report, Future of RAF St Athan

Draft Special Report, Government response to the Fourth Report of the Committee (Future of RAF St Athan), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Sixth Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That the Government's response to the Fourth Report from the Committee be appended to the Report.

[Adjourned until Wednesday 25 October at 9.30 am.]

WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2006

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr Stephen Crabb	Mr Martyn Jones
Mr David T.C. Davies	Albert Owen
Nia Griffith	Hywel Williams
Mrs Siân James	Mark Williams
Mr David Jones	

1. Welsh prisoners in the prison estate

The Committee agreed its programme of meetings and witnesses in connection with this inquiry.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Cardiff and Bristol on 6-7 November, and HMP Altcourse, Liverpool on 4 December, in connection with this inquiry.

2. Globalisation and its impact on Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Globalisation and its impact on Wales.

Resolved, That the four main themes to this inquiry would be: employment, population movement, food production and supply, and broadcasting.

3. Energy: follow-up inquiry

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee undertake a short follow-up inquiry to its Third Report, Energy in Wales, focusing in particular on two main themes: opencast coal exploitation, employment and the environment; and microgeneration, energy conservation and efficiency.

4. Wales Office Annual Reports 2005 and 2006

Rt. Hon. Peter Hain MP, Secretary of State for Wales, Mr Alan Cogbill, Director, and Mr John Williams, Deputy Director, Wales Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 31 October at 10.30 am.]

TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER 2006

Members present:

Mr David T.C. Davies	Mr Martyn Jones
Nia Griffith	Albert Owen
Mr David Jones	Hywel Williams

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr Martyn Jones took the Chair.

1. Government response to the Committee's Report, Current restructuring of the

Police Forces in Wales

Draft Special Report, Government response to the Fifth Report of the Committee (Current restructuring of the Police Forces in Wales), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Seventh Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That the Government's response to the Fifth Report from the Committee be appended to the Report.

2. Legislative Competence Orders in Council: proposed procedure

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee conduct an inquiry into the proposed procedure for Legislative Competence Orders in Council, introduced by the Government of Wales Act 2006.

3. Globalisation and its impact on Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Welsh prisoners in the prison estate

The Committee considered this matter.

Mr Peter Brook, Director of Corporate Services, Sian West, Acting Director of Offender Management for Wales, and Mr Guy Boersna, Director of the Commissioning and Contestability Programme Unit, National Offender Management Unit, and Mr John May, Operational Manager for Wales, HM Prison Service, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Monday 6 November at 10 am.]

MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2006

At the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay

Members present:

Dr Hywel Francis, in the Chair

Mr David T.C. Davies

Mrs Siân James

Mr Martyn Jones

Mr Albert Owen

Mr Hywel Williams

Mr Mark Williams

1. Welsh prisoners in the prison estate

The Committee considered this matter.

Mr Huw Edwards, Chair, North Wales Duty Solicitors Committee, and Mrs Janet Wallsgrove, Director, Mr Jerry Knight, Custody and Rehabilitation Director, G4S Justice Services, Mrs Alison Lewis, Head of Resettlement , HMP and YOI Parc, and Mr Clive Watters, Families and Friends of Prisoners, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 21 November at 10.30 am

DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

In accordance with the resolution of the House of 13 July 1992, Members of select committees are required to give details of their pecuniary interests for circulation to the Committee, before proceeding to the election of a Chairman or, if appointed to the Committee subsequently, when attending their first meeting. Such declarations of interest, when made, are recorded in the formal minutes.

The interests have been recorded below under the categories used in the Register of Member's Interests:

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Remunerated Directorships |
| 2 | Remunerated employment, office, profession, etc. |
| 3 | Clients |
| 4 | Sponsorship or financial or material support |
| 5 | Gifts, benefits and hospitality (U.K.) |
| 6 | Overseas visits |
| 7 | Overseas benefits and gifts |
| 8 | Land and property |
| 9 | Registrable shareholdings |
| 10 | Miscellaneous and unremunerated interests |

CRABB, Stephen

6. Overseas visits

29 August-2 September 2005, to India. Hotel accommodation provided by the Government of India. Flights paid for by Dr Liam Fox's office from a donation by Mr Stanley Fink, a businessman from Middlesex. *(Registered 20 October 2005)*

8. Land and property

Residential leasehold property in South London, from which rental income is received.

DAVIES, David T. C.

2. Remunerated employment, office, profession etc

Member of the National Assembly for Wales

4. Sponsorship or financial or material support

Donations to my constituency association were made by:
Redfig Ltd, London; Mr D Purock and Miss A Ferrari, Chepstow.
(Registered 2 June 2006)
Bearwood Corporate Services Ltd. *(Registered 20 July 2005)*

FRANCIS, Dr Hywel

Nil.

GRIFFITH, Nia**4. Sponsorship or financial or material support**

Donation to my constituency party from USDAW. (*Registered 21 July 2005*)

8. Land and property

Small holding, in receipt of Tir Gofal funding.

JAMES, Siân**8. Land and property**

House in Neath.

JONES, David**2. Remunerated employment, office, profession etc**

Senior partner, David Jones & Company, solicitors, Llandudno.

4. Sponsorship or financial or material support

Donation to my constituency party from Bearwood Corporate Services Ltd. (*Registered 20 July 2005*)

8. Land and property

Leasehold office premises in Llandudno, Conwy.

JONES, Martyn**2. Remunerated employment, office, profession etc**

Privy Council appointee to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, for which I receive an attendance allowance.

MOON, Madeleine**4. Sponsorship or financial or material support**

Donation to my constituency party from Mr Win Griffiths (my predecessor as Member of Parliament for Bridgend). (*Registered 2 June 2005*)

6. Overseas visits

11-16 September 2005, to Israel and the Palestinian Territories with Labour Friends of Israel (LFI). The travel and hospitality were provided

by the Israeli Ministry for Foreign Affairs and LFI. (*Registered 19 September 2005*)

MORDEN, Jessica

Nil.

OWEN, Albert

4. Sponsorship or financial or material support

Donations to my constituency party from Communication Workers Union. (*Registered 9 August 2005*)

WILLIAMS, Mark

Nil.

WILLIAMS, Hywel

Nil.