



Key Events in the Development of the National Assembly for Wales

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Cynulliad National
Cenedlaethol Assembly for
Cymru Wales

Key Events in the Development of the National Assembly for Wales

This paper draws together the key events leading up to the creation of the Assembly and its development thereafter.

It focuses on administrative and procedural events but also refers to some other political or policy developments. The list is updated monthly by the Members' Research Service.

DATE	EVENT
2007	
26 June 2007	New Assembly Committees elected and membership announced (Link to National Assembly for Wales press release)
12 June 2007	First Legislative Competence Order (relating to Education and Training (Additional Learning Needs)) is published.
06 June 2007	National Assembly for Wales Commissioners elected: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lorraine Barrett AM (Labour)- Peter Black AM (Liberal Democrats)- William Graham AM (Conservatives)- Elin Jones AM (Plaid Cymru)
05 June 2007	The Commission is chaired by the Presiding Officer, Lord Elis-Thomas AM (Link to Record of Proceedings). HM The Queen officially opens the third term of the Assembly, accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and HRH Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall (Link to Record of Proceedings)
31 May 2007	First Minister appoints Deputy Ministers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Economy and Transport (with special responsibility for regeneration): Huw Lewis AM- Health and Social Services (with special responsibility for Social Services): Gwenda Thomas AM- Social Justice and Public Service Delivery (with special responsibility for housing): Leighton Andrews AM- Education, Culture and Welsh Language (with special responsibility for skills): John Griffiths AM (Link to Welsh Assembly Government press release)



DATE	EVENT
31 May 2007	<p>First Minister announces his new Cabinet for the third term of the Welsh Assembly Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister for Health and Social Services: Edwina Hart AM - Minister for Education, Culture and the Welsh Language: Carwyn Jones AM - Minister for the Economy and Transport: Dr Brian Gibbons AM - Minister for Sustainability and Rural Development: Jane Davidson AM - Minister for Social Justice and Public Service Delivery: Andrew Davies AM - Minister for Budget and Business: Jane Hutt AM <p>In addition to the six Cabinet posts above, the First Minister appoints Carl Sargent AM as Chief Whip and Deputy Business Minister.</p> <p>(Link to Welsh Assembly Government press release)</p>
25 May	Rhodri Morgan AM is elected First Minister (Link to Record of Proceedings)
09 May 2007	<p>First plenary meeting of Third Assembly held.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lord Elis-Thomas elected as Presiding Officer - Rosemary Butler AM elected as Deputy Presiding Officer <p>(Link to Record of Proceedings)</p>
03 May 2007	Assembly elections take place.
12 February 2007	The new Chief Executive and Clerk, Claire Clancy, takes up post.
07 February 2007	New Standing Orders approved in Plenary (Link to Record of Proceedings)
31 January 2007	Assembly business is postponed until 1 February due to industrial action.
31 January 2007	Standing Orders of the National Assembly for Wales published (Link to Standing Orders).
2006	
28 November 2006	The Rt Hon Peter Hain MP, Secretary of State for Wales makes a Statement on the Queen's Speech, followed by a debate in Plenary (Link to Record of Proceedings)
15 November 2006	Claire Clancy is appointed as the new Chief Executive and Clerk (Link to Record of Proceedings)
25 July 2006	The <i>Government of Wales Bill</i> receives Royal Assent (Link to Hansard). The Government of Wales Act 2006 is published.
24 July 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons amendments and reasons considered in the Lords (Link to Hansard)
18 July 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Consideration of Lords Amendments (Link to Hansard)
13 July 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords 3 rd reading (Link to Hansard)
04 July 2006	Trish Law AM attends her first Plenary session following the Blaenau Gwent by-election



DATE	EVENT
29 June 2006	Trish Law (Independent) is elected as the new Assembly Member for Blaenau Gwent
28 June 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Report Stage 2 nd day (Link to Hansard)
27 June 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Report Stage 1 st day (Link to Hansard)
12 June 2006	The Standing Committee of CALRE, the Conference of Presidents of European Regional Legislative Assemblies met in the Senedd to discuss matters of common interest concerning regional assemblies their interaction with each other, and their relationship with European institutions.
06 June 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage 3 rd day (Link to Hansard)
17 May 2006	The Assembly votes to establish a committee, known as the Shadow Commission, in order to plan for matters within the responsibility of the future Assembly Commission as set out in clause 27 of the Government of Wales Bill. Dafydd Elis-Thomas (Presiding Officer), Lorraine Barrett (Labour), Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), William Graham (Conservative), Peter Black (Liberal Democrat) were elected as members of the Shadow Commission with the Presiding Officer elected as Chair (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	The Assembly also votes to establish an Advisory Committee to recommend Standing Orders for the Assembly constituted under the Government of Wales Bill. Jane Hutt (Labour), Ann Jones (Labour), Val Lloyd (Labour), Gwenda Thomas (Labour), Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru), Lisa Francis (Conservative), Jenny Randerson (Liberal Democrat) were elected as members of the Committee on Standing Orders with Jenny Randerson elected as Chair of the committee (Link to Record of Proceedings)
03 May 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage 2 nd day (Link to Hansard)
02 May 2006	Tributes are paid in Plenary to the late Peter Law MP, AM for Blaenau Gwent (Link to Record of Proceedings)
25 Apr 2006	The Senedd welcomes its' 100,000 th visitor since it opened in February
19 Apr 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage 1 st day (Link to Hansard)
01 April 2006	Following the merger of the Wales Tourist Board, Welsh Development Agency, ACCAC and ELWa with the Welsh Assembly Government, two Assembly Committees are renamed to reflect the changes. The Economic Development and Transport Committee becomes the Enterprise, Innovation and Networks Committee, and the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee is renamed the Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee. There are no changes to Committee responsibilities.
22 Mar 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Second Reading (Link to Hansard)
	Debate in Plenary on the Report of the Assembly Committee in the Government of Wales Bill (Link to Record of Proceedings)
14 Mar 2006	The Report of the Assembly Committee on the Government of Wales Bill (pdf) is laid before the Assembly.



DATE	EVENT
01 Mar 2006	Royal Opening of the new National Assembly for Wales Building in Cardiff Bay attended by HM The Queen, HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, HRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall (Link to Record of Proceedings)
28 Feb 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords First Reading (Link to Hansard) <i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Remaining Stages (Link to Hansard)
27 Feb 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Remaining Stages (Link to Hansard)
07 Feb 2006	The first Plenary session is held in the Senedd, the new Assembly building
30 Jan 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage– 3 rd day. (Link to Hansard)
24 Jan 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage– 2 nd day. (Link to Hansard)
	The Assembly elects the following Members to the Committee on Rail Infrastructure and Improved Passenger Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leighton Andrews (Labour) - Rosemary Butler (Labour) - Carl Sargeant (Labour) - Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru) - Lisa Francis (Conservative) - Eleanor Burnham (Liberal Democrat) - John Marek (Forward Wales) (Link to Record of Proceedings)
23 Jan 2006	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage– 1 st day. (Link to Hansard)
18 Jan 2006	The Assembly votes to establish a Committee on the Government of Wales Bill and elects the following Members to the Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lord Elis Thomas (Presiding Officer) (Chair) - Jane Hutt (Labour) - Leighton Andrews (Labour) - Ann Jones (Labour) - Val Lloyd (Labour) - Gwenda Thomas (Labour) - Ieuan Wyn Jones (Plaid Cymru) - Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru) - Nick Bourne (Conservative) - David Melding (Conservative)
17 Jan 2006	Michael German (Liberal Democrat) (Link to Record of Proceedings) The <i>Government of Wales Bill</i> debated in Plenary (Link to Record of Proceedings)
09 Jan 2006	The Government of Wales Bill receives second reading in the House of Commons (Link to Hansard)
2005	
13 Dec 2005	The Welsh Affairs Committee's First Report on The Government White Paper: Better Governance for Wales is published (First Report, 2005-06, HC 551) (Link to report)
8 Dec 2005	Publication of the new Government of Wales Bill , and first reading in the Commons (Link to Hansard)



DATE	EVENT
10 Nov 2005	The Welsh Affairs Committee meet as part of their inquiry into the Better Governance for Wales White Paper (Link to Hansard)
31 Oct 2005	The Welsh Affairs Committee meet as part of their inquiry into the Better Governance for Wales White Paper (Link to Hansard)
25 Oct 2005	The Welsh Affairs Committee meet as part of their inquiry into the Better Governance for Wales White Paper (Link to Hansard)
6 July 2005	The Committee on the Better Governance for Wales White Paper meets to receive evidence (Link to Committee Proceedings)
	The Assembly elects the following Members to the Committee on School Funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Denise Idris Jones (Labour) - Lynne Neagle (Labour) - Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru) - William Graham (Conservative) - Peter Black (Liberal Democrat) (Link to Record of Proceedings)
5 July 2005	The Committee on the Better Governance for Wales White Paper meets to receive evidence (Link to Committee Proceedings)
4 July 2005	The Committee on the Better Governance for Wales White Paper meets to receive evidence (Link to Committee Proceedings)
28 June 2005	The Assembly votes to establish a Committee on the Better Governance for Wales White Paper (Link to Record of Proceedings) and elects the following Members' to the committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lord Elis Thomas (Presiding Officer) - Jane Hutt AM (Labour) - Lorraine Barrett AM (Labour) - Carl Sargeant AM (Labour) - Jocelyn Davies AM (Plaid Cymru) - David Melding AM (Conservative) - Kirsty Williams AM (Liberal Democrat)
	Following Plenary, The Committee on the Better Governance for Wales White Paper meets for the first time to receive evidence (Link to Committee Proceedings)
21 June 2005	The Rt Hon Peter Hain MP, Secretary of State for Wales makes a Statement on the Queen's Speech, followed by a debate in Plenary (Link to Record of Proceedings)
15 June 2005	The White Paper on the reform of the Assembly, ' Better Governance for Wales ' is published, following a statement by The Secretary of State for Wales in Parliament. (Link to Hansard). The First Minister makes a statement on the White Paper in Plenary (Link to Record of Proceedings)
14 June 2005	The Assembly votes to establish a Committee to advise the Assembly on school funding (Link to Record of Proceedings)
7 June 2005	Mick Bates AM is elected to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, Kirsty Williams AM is elected to the Economic Development and Transport Committee, Jenny Randerson AM is elected to the Health and Social Services Committee and Jeff Cuthbert AM to the Legislation Committee (Link to Record of Proceedings)



DATE	EVENT
17 May 2005	Legislation to reform the National Assembly for Wales is announced in the Queen's speech. The full details of the Government of Wales (Amendment) Bill are to be published in a forthcoming White Paper. Three other items of Wales-specific legislation were announced: The Transport (Wales) Bill, The Commissioner for Older People (Wales) Bill and the Draft Tourism Accommodation Registration (Wales) Bill. (Link to Hansard)
5 May 2005	Laura Anne Jones AM is elected to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, Brynle Williams AM to the Local Government and Public Services Committee and William Graham AM to the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee. (Link to Hansard) The Labour Party wins the General Election with a majority of 67 seats. Two Assembly Members are returned to Westminster seats, Peter Law AM as the Independent MP for Blaenau Gwent and David Davies AM as the Conservative MP for Monmouth.
27 Apr 2005	The Assembly elects Members to Regional Committees. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
18 Apr 2005	Peter Law AM informs the Presiding Officer that he is no longer a member of the Labour Party. He therefore sits as an independent Member of the Assembly.
9 Mar 2005	Assembly approves changes to Standing Order 3.2, relating to offices for which an Assembly Member may receive an additional salary. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
22 Feb 2005	Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders as set out in the Report of the Business Committee of 14 February (Link to report). Standing Order 18A is amended to establish a Committee to scrutinise the First Minister. Standing Order 10 is amended to change the boundaries of the Regional Committees to be coterminous with the Assembly's electoral regions, meaning the creation of five Regional Committees: North Wales, Mid and West Wales, South Wales West, South Wales Central and South Wales East. SO 6.6 relating to the remittance of bills to Committees, SO 6.12 relating to the order of business, SO 6.14 relating to the Guidance on Motion and Amendments and SO 31 relating to subordinate legislation are also amended. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
14 Jan 2005	The First Minister announces the appointment of two new deputy ministers. Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey AM (Labour) is appointed the Deputy Minister for Economic Development and Transport, and Christine Chapman AM (Labour) becomes the deputy minister for Education & Lifelong Learning and Finance, Local Government & Public Services. Jeff Cuthbert AM (Labour) is appointed chair of the Objective One Monitoring Committee. News Release
10 Jan 2005	Dr Brian Gibbons AM is appointed as Minister for Health and Social Services. Jane Hutt AM is appointed to the role of Business Manager. Karen Sinclair AM will continue in her role as Chief Whip and attending Cabinet. News Release
2004	
1 Dec 2004	The Secretary of State for Wales makes a Statement on the Queen's Speech, followed by the Annual debate in Plenary (Link to Record of Proceedings)



DATE	EVENT
23 Nov 2004	Two Wales-only bills are announced in the Queen's speech during the state opening of Parliament at Westminster; The Transport (Wales) Bill and The Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill. (Link to Hansard)
6 Oct 2004	Following a debate in Plenary on the Report of the Richard Commission, a motion is passed that the Assembly, having considered the report of the Richard commission, ' <i>calls on the First Minister to urge the Secretary of State for Wales to bring forward proposals to amend the Government of Wales Act 1998 for the following purposes:</i> a) <i>to effect a formal separation between the executive and legislative branches of the Assembly;</i> b) <i>to reform existing electoral arrangements in order to eliminate anomalies;</i> c) <i>to enhance the legislative powers of the Assembly.'</i> (Link to Record of Proceedings)
28 Sept 2004	The Assembly approves that House Committee will assume responsibility for the new Chamber building upon its completion. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
15 July 2004	First meeting of the Committee on Smoking in Public Places. (Link to Agenda)
21 June 2004	The first formal joint meeting of an Assembly subject committee and the Welsh Affairs Committee. The Economic Development and Transport Committee and the Welsh Affairs Committee discuss the Draft Transport (Wales) Bill. (Link to Agenda)
15 June 2004	Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders, as set out in the report of the Business Committee. New Standing Order 9.15 will allow members of the House of Commons Welsh Affairs Committee to participate in meetings of the Assembly's subject committees. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
8 June 2004	The Assembly votes to establish a committee in accordance with Standing Order No. 8.1 to advise the Assembly on the banning of smoking in public places (Link to Record of Proceedings) and elects the following Members to the Committee on Smoking in Public Places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - David Lloyd AM (Plaid Cymru) - Jeff Cuthbert AM (Labour) - Jonathan Morgan AM (Conservative) - Peter Black AM (Liberal Democrat), - Val Lloyd AM (Labour) (Chair)
27 May 2004	Draft Transport (Wales) Bill published.
13 May 2004	Her Excellency President Vaira Vike-Freiberga of Latvia visits the National Assembly.
26 April 2004	Change to Standing Orders passed on 24 March 2004 come into effect, meaning The Presiding Office is renamed as the Assembly Parliamentary Service.
31 March 2004	The Richard Commission's Report into the powers and electoral arrangements of the National Assembly is published.
	Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders in order to consolidate all orders amended during the first Assembly, and eliminate any inconsistencies and idiosyncrasies within. (Link to Record of Proceedings)



DATE	EVENT
24 March 2004	Changes to Standing Orders passed reflecting the change of name of the Presiding Office to Assembly Parliamentary Service. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
2 Feb 2004	National Assembly for Wales' new North Wales exhibition centre in Colwyn Bay opens to the public. News release
22 Jan 2004	First meeting of the Public Audit (Wales) Bill Committee 2004.
13 Jan 2004	The Assembly votes to establish the Public Audit (Wales) Bill Committee 2004, under Standing Order No. 8.1, to consider aspects of the Public Audit (Wales) Bill, including the Finance Minister's letter of 1 December to the Chair of the Public Audit (Wales) Bill Committee (Link to Record of Proceedings) and, elects the following members to the Public Audit (Wales) Committee 2004: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leighton Andrews AM (Labour) - Janice Gregory AM (Labour) - Alun Cairns AM (Conservative) - Jenny Randerson AM (Liberal Democrat) - Janet Davies AM (Plaid Cymru) (Chair)
2003	
5 Dec 2003	First Minister and Presiding Officer visit Penrhyn Quarry in Bethesda to cut first Welsh slate for use on the new Assembly building. News release .
3 Dec 2003	Annual debate on the Queen's Speech. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
28 Nov 2003	British-Irish Council meets in Wales at the Museum of Welsh Life, St Fagans.
19 Nov 2003	Minister-President Teufel of the Baden-Württemberg region of Germany addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 14 to permit substitutions for the Equality of Opportunity Committee; No 15, to permit substitutions for the European and External Affairs Committee; No 19, to allow for more than one local government finance report in any year, and to clarify the arrangements for laying documents. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
4 Nov 2003	Implementation of the Report of the Committee on Seating Arrangements.
Nov 2003	Publication of the report of the Electoral Commission The National Assembly for Wales elections 2003: the official report and results .
21 Oct 2003	Publication of the Report of the Committee on Seating Arrangements .
2 Oct 2003	First meeting of the Committee on Seating Arrangements.
15 Sep 2003	Ieuan Wyn Jones AM is elected as leader of the Plaid Cymru group within the Assembly.
10 Sep 2003	Announcement of the Appointment of a single individual (Adam Peat) to the three separate offices of Commissioner for Local Administration in Wales, Health Service Commissioner for Wales and Welsh Administration Ombudsman. Press release
August 2003	Work commences on the site of the new Assembly building.



DATE	EVENT
15 July 2003	<p>Committee on Seating Arrangements established under Standing Order 8.1 (Link to Record of Proceedings)</p> <p>Members of Committee elected on the 16 July:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Karen Sinclair AM (Labour) - Lynne Neagle AM (Labour) - Leighton Andrews AM (Labour), - Carl Sargeant AM (Labour) - Janet Davies AM (Plaid Cymru) - Jonathan Morgan AM (Conservative) - Kirsty Williams AM (Liberal Democrat) - Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM (Plaid Cymru) (Chair)
9 July 2003	<p>The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 35, providing for the membership of Planning Decision Committees to reflect the new Party balance in the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)</p> <p>The Rt Hon Helen Clark MP Prime Minister of New Zealand addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)</p>
8 July 2003	<p>First meeting of the Public Audit (Wales) Committee.</p>
2 July 2003	<p>The National Assembly, acting under Standing Order No. 8.1, elects the following Members to the Public Audit (Wales) Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leighton Andrews AM (Labour) - Ann Jones AM (Labour) - Alun Cairns AM (Conservative) - Mick Bates AM (Liberal Democrat) - Janet Davies AM (Plaid Cymru) (Chair) (Link to Record of Proceedings)
1 July 2003	<p>Motion NDM1518 <i>the National Assembly for Wales agrees to enter into a lump-sum contract for the new Assembly Chamber building with Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd at a cost of £40,997,000.00 (exclusive of VAT)</i> is passed, following a debate in Plenary. Press release.</p> <p>The National Assembly establishes the Public Audit (Wales) Bill Committee under Standing Order No. 8.1 to advise the Assembly on the terms of the draft Public Audit (Wales) Bill. (Link to Record of Proceedings)</p>
12 June 2003	<p>The Assembly at the Pierhead welcomes its 100,000th visitor since the opening of the centre to the public in May 2001.</p>
5 June 2003	<p>HM The Queen officially opens the second term of the Assembly, accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and HRH Prince Charles. Link to Record of Proceedings</p>



DATE	EVENT
3 June 2003	<p>Chairs and Members of Subject Committees are elected in Plenary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alun Ffred Jones AM (Plaid Cymru), Environment Planning and Countryside (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Peter Black AM (Liberal Democrat), Education and Lifelong Learning (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Rosemary Butler AM (Labour), Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Ann Jones AM (Labour), Local Government and Public Services (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Janice Gregory AM (Labour), Social Justice and Regeneration (Link to Record of Proceedings) - David Melding AM (Conservative), Health and Social Services (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Christine Gwyther AM (Labour), Economic Development and Transport (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Janet Davies AM (Plaid Cymru), Audit Committee (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Gwenda Thomas AM (Labour), Equality of Opportunity (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Glyn Davies AM (Conservative), Legislation Committee (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Kirsty Williams AM (Liberal Democrat), Standards Committee (Link to Record of Proceedings) - Sandy Mewies AM (Labour), European and External Affairs (Link to Record of Proceedings)
20 May 2003	<p>Election of the Panel of Chairs from which the chairs of the Subject Committees are to be selected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rosemary Butler AM (Labour) - Janice Gregory AM (Labour) - Christine Gwyther AM (Labour) - Ann Jones AM (Labour) - Alun Ffred Jones AM (Plaid Cymru) - David Melding AM (Conservative) - Peter Black AM (Liberal Democrat)
13 May 2003	<p>The first plenary meeting is held on a Tuesday under the new order whereby Plenary sessions are held on a Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon.</p> <p>First Minister appoints Deputy Ministers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Development and Transport – Brian Gibbons AM (Labour) - Health and Social Care – John Griffiths AM (Labour) - Social Justice – Huw Lewis AM (Labour) More information <p>Members elected to House Committee and Business Committee. Link to Record of Proceedings</p>



DATE	EVENT
9 May 2003	First Minister announces his new Cabinet for the second term of the Welsh Assembly Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services - Sue Essex AM (Labour) - Minister for Assembly Business - Karen Sinclair AM (Labour) - Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration - Edwina Hart AM (Labour) - Minister for Health and Social Care - Jane Hutt AM (Labour) - Minister for Economic Development - Andrew Davies AM (Labour) - Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning - Jane Davidson AM (Labour) - Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside - Carwyn Jones AM (Labour) - Minister for Culture, Sports and Welsh Language - Alun Pugh AM (Labour) More information.
8 May 2003	Ieuan Wyn Jones AM resigns as President of Plaid Cymru.
7 May 2003	First plenary meeting of Second Assembly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lord Elis-Thomas elected as Presiding Officer - Dr John Marek AM elected as Deputy Presiding Officer - Rhodri Morgan AM re-elected as First Minister
1 May 2003	Assembly Elections take place.
3 April 2003	Athlete Colin Jackson addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
1 April 2003	Temporary Standing Order put in place to enable general subordinate legislation to be made by the Permanent Secretary during the period between the Assembly elections and the election of the Presiding Officer.
19 March 2003	Temporary Standing Order put in place to govern the first meetings of the Second Assembly.
12 Feb 2003	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 6.9 to clarify the procedures regarding Emergency Debates. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
2002	
18 Dec 2002	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order 36, enabling the reconstitution of the House Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
3 Dec 2002	President of Ireland Mary McAleese addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
26 Nov 2002	The new corporate identity for the Assembly is launched. (Press Release)
19 Nov 2002	Annual debate on the Queen's Speech. (Link to Record of Proceedings) Personal statement by David Melding AM upon his resignation as Chair of the Committee on Standards of Conduct. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
12 Nov 2002	Simon Mayo broadcasts live from the canteen in the National Assembly building in Cardiff Bay on Radio 5.
5 Nov 2002	The Assembly approves Standing Orders enabling the implementation of the 2 nd tranche of Assembly Review of Procedures recommendations. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
23 Oct 2002	The Rt. Hon Peter Hain MP is appointed Secretary of State for Wales.
October 2002	The National Assembly for Wales' Publication scheme is published.



DATE	EVENT
1 Oct 2002	The Members' Research Service is launched, incorporating the Members' Library into an expanded research service for Assembly Members and Committees.
19 Sep 2002	David Ian Jones AM replaces Rod Richards AM as an Assembly Member for the North Wales region.
10 Sep 2002	Rod Richards AM resigns from the Assembly as Regional Member for North Wales.
17 June 2002	The First Minister announces changes to the Cabinet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mike German AM (Liberal Democrat) is appointed as Minister for Rural Affairs and Wales Abroad - Carwyn Jones AM (Labour) is appointed as Minister for Open Government alongside his duties as Business Minister (Link to Record of Proceedings)
13 June 2002	HM The Queen addresses the Assembly on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	Mike German AM is reinstated into the Cabinet as Deputy First Minister.
11 June 2002	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders enabling the implementation of the 1 st tranche of Assembly Review of Procedure recommendations. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
9 May 2002	Jan Olbricht, the Marshal of Silesia, Poland addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
18 April 2002	Independent Commission chaired by Lord Richard to consider the powers and electoral arrangements of the National Assembly is established. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders No 6 and No 36 to remove the provision for Oral Questions to House Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
19 March 2002	The Honourable Peter Caruana QC, the Chief Minister of Gibraltar addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
26 Feb 2002	Andrew Davies AM (Labour) assumes the role of Economic Development minister. Rural Affairs minister Carwyn Jones AM (Labour) assumes the duties of Business Manager.
14 Feb 2002	Recommendations of the Assembly Review of Procedure adopted by Plenary. The National Assembly voted unanimously that ' <i>there should be the clearest possible separation between the Government and the Assembly which is achievable under current legislation</i> '. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
5 Feb 2002	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 4 addressing the Registration of Members' Interests. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
2001	
27 Nov 2001	The First Minister announces in Plenary that the term Welsh Assembly Government / Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru will in future be used to describe the policies and actions of the Cabinet, making a distinction between the executive and legislative parts of the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
27 Nov 2001	Assembly shop opens in the Pierhead Building.
22 Nov 2001	The Scottish Parliament elects The Rt Hon Jack McConnell MSP as First Minister.



DATE	EVENT
13 Nov 2001	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 6.2, allowing the Assembly to meet at a particular time rather than a particular day. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
8 Nov 2001	Scottish First Minister The Rt Hon Henry McLeish MSP resigns. The Rt Hon Jim Wallace MSP is elected as Acting First Minister until a new First Minister is chosen.
30 Oct 2001	The Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Tony Blair MP, addresses the Assembly for the first time. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders No 12 extending the time available for the Government to respond to an Audit Committee report, No 15, allowing the European Affairs Committee to consider a matter within the remit of a single subject committee within the permissions of that committee and add to its' remit matters relating to fostering relations outside the European Union; and No 23, extending the Executive procedure to deal with the Foot and Mouth crisis. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
16 Oct 2001	Val Lloyd AM attends her first plenary session, following the Swansea East by-election.
27 Sep 2001	Val Lloyd AM wins the Swansea East constituency in the Assembly's first by-election.
19 July 2001	Tributes are paid in Plenary to the late Val Feld, Member for Swansea East who died on 17 July 2001. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 22. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
17 July 2001	The National Assembly, further to its resolution of 21 June 2000, resolves to seek competitive tenders for the completion of the Assembly building based on the design prepared by the Richard Rogers Partnership and either lease it to the Assembly or sell it for an agreed lump sum; and pending acceptance of such a tender, to suspend works on the building. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
12 July 2001	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 23 enabling the introduction of the Executive procedure. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
6 July 2001	Mike German AM (Liberal Democrat) steps aside temporarily from the position of Deputy First Minister. Rhodri Morgan AM (Labour) takes over responsibility for Economic Development and Jenny Randerson AM (Liberal Democrat) is appointed Acting Deputy First Minister.
	Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM (Plaid Cymru) is elected as Chair of the South West Wales Regional Committee.
5 July 2001	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 3 to allow payments to be made to Party groups and allowing for additional payments to be made to Chairs of Subject Committees. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
26 June 2001	Following suspension for the general election on 7 June, three plenary meetings are held in one week on the 26, 27 and 28 June.
	The Secretary of State for Wales makes a statement in the chamber on the Queen's Speech. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
7 June 2001	Labour wins the UK General Election by a majority of 167 seats.



DATE	EVENT
17 May 2001	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders 6.3 and 6.26 allowing Members to table questions to the Business Minister on his responsibilities other than for business. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
15 May 2001	The Assembly approves the Education (Extension of Careers Education) (Wales) Regulations 2001. The Regulations were brought forward following Brian Hancock AM's successful motion under Standing Order 29 of 24 October 2000. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
8 May 2001	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 23.3 bringing forward a temporary Executive procedure to allow an Assembly Minister to approve Assembly subordinate legislation made together with a UK Minister or UK Government Department, the Scottish or Northern Ireland Executive during the Foot and Mouth Crisis. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
3 May 2001	Christine Gwyther AM (Labour) is elected to replace Val Feld AM (Labour) as Chair of the Economic Development Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
1 May 2001	The Assembly rejects the censure motion put forward by the Welsh Conservatives against the Minister for Health and Social Services, Jane Hutt AM. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
5 April 2001	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 34 allowing for temporary revisions of Standing Orders. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
3 April 2001	Eleanor Burnham AM (Liberal Democrat) attends first plenary session after replacing Christine Humphreys AM as an Assembly Member for the North Wales region.
31 March 2001	Christine Humphreys AM (Liberal Democrat) resigns from the Assembly.
1 March 2001	Tributes are paid in plenary to Mr John Lloyd, Clerk to the Assembly, on his retirement. (Link to Record of Proceedings) The new Clerk, Mr Paul Silk takes up his post.
	The Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD, addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	A 'turf cutting' ceremony is held on the site of the new Assembly building.
	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order 12 allowing the Presiding Officer to issue guidelines on avoiding conflicts of interest when participating in the activities of the Audit Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
28 Feb 2001	The Assembly visitor centre at the Pierhead Building is launched. (Further Information)
6 Feb 2001	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders No 3, allowing a representative of the House Committee to table and move motions relating to its functions, and No 6 reflecting the changes to Standing Order 22 effected on 5 December 2000. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
18 Jan 2001	The first questions are put to the House Committee in Plenary. (Link to Record of Proceedings)



DATE	EVENT
12 Dec 2000	The Paralympic athlete, Tanni Grey-Thompson OBE addresses the Assembly (Link to Record of Proceedings) and the Secretary of State for Wales makes a statement on the Queen's Speech. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
7 Dec 2000	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 4 and No 6.20, allowing the Presiding Officer to take a vote by roll call or show of hands. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
6 Dec 2000	The first meeting of the Assembly Review of Procedure Group.
5 Dec 2000	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 22 (Subordinate Legislation), separating it into different parts. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
28 Nov 2000	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order No 6.3, allowing the Minister for finance to answer questions on her responsibilities for Finance separately to her other responsibilities. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
15 Nov 2000	The first meetings are held of the Culture Committee and the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee.
10 Nov 2000	The Office of the Presiding Officer is renamed the Presiding Office.
9 Nov 2000	Elections to Subject Committees take place in Plenary. Chairs of Committees elected as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cynog Dafis AM MP (Plaid Cymru) is elected Chair of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee - Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM (Plaid Cymru) is elected as Chair of the Culture Committee. - Glyn Davies AM (Conservative) is elected to replace Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM as Chair of the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee. - Mick Bates AM (Liberal Democrat) is elected to replace Michael German AM (Liberal Democrat) as Chair of the Legislation Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
26 Oct 2000	The Rt Hon Henry McLeish MSP is elected as the Scottish Parliament's new First Minister.
25 Oct 2000	The final meetings of the Post-16 and Pre-16 Education Committees are held.
24 Oct 2000	Brian Hancock AM's (Plaid Cymru) motion to instruct the Assembly Secretary for Post-16 Education and Training to bring forward draft subordinate legislation under section 46(3) of the Education Act 1997 is the first successful proposal made under Standing Order 29. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
19 Oct 2000	Dr John Marek AM MP (Labour) is elected in Plenary to replace Jane Davidson AM as Deputy Presiding Officer under Standing Order 1.13. (Link to Record of Proceedings)



DATE	EVENT
17 Oct 2000	<p>First Minister The Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM MP and Michael German AM sign the Partnership Agreement. (Press Release)</p> <p>The First Minister announces further changes to his ministerial team, appointing the following Deputy Ministers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deputy Minister for Economic Development - Alun Pugh AM (Labour) - Deputy Minister for Local Government - Peter Black AM (Liberal Democrat) - Deputy Minister for Health - Brian Gibbons AM (Labour) - Deputy Minister for Rural Affairs, Culture and Environment - Delyth Evans AM (Labour) - Deputy Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning - Huw Lewis AM (Labour) <p>Chair of Objective One Monitoring Committee - Christine Chapman AM (Labour). (Press Release)</p>
16 Oct 2000	<p>The First Minister announces the new Partnership Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First Minister – Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM MP (Labour) - Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economic Development - Michael German AM (Liberal Democrat) - Business Manager - Andrew Davies AM (Labour) - Minister for Finance and Communities - Edwina Hart AM (Labour) - Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning - Jane Davidson AM (Labour) - Minister for Culture and Sports - Jenny Randerson AM (Liberal Democrat) - Minister for Environment - Sue Essex AM (Labour) - Minister for Rural Affairs - Carwyn Jones AM (Labour) - Minister for Health and Social Services - Jane Hutt AM (Labour) <p>As a result of the reshuffle, Peter Law AM and Rosemary Butler AM leave the Cabinet.</p> <p>The Cabinet adopts the term 'Minister' in place of 'Secretary'. (Press Release)</p>
12 Oct 2000	<p>Tributes are paid to the Rt Hon Donald Dewar MSP MP, Scotland's First Minister, following his death on 11 October 2000.</p>
10 Oct 2000	<p>The Assembly votes to establish the House Committee under new Standing Order 28 and also to create a separate budget for the Office of the Presiding Officer in accordance with Standing Order 19 (Link to Record of Proceedings). In doing this, the Presiding Office assumes independence for certain functions from the rest of the Assembly.</p>
9 Oct 2000	<p>Tom Middlehurst AM resigns as Assembly Secretary for Post-16 Education and Training. Press Release</p>
6 Oct 2000	<p>Putting Wales First: A Partnership for the People of Wales, the Partnership Agreement between Labour and the Liberal Democrats is published.</p>
5 Oct 2000	<p>The new coalition partnership between Labour and the Liberal Democrats is announced. Press Release</p>
14 Sep 2000	<p>The first plenary session is held on a Thursday under the new arrangement whereby, in future, plenary sessions will take place on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons.</p>



DATE	EVENT
12 Sep 2000	Clocks are introduced in the Chamber to time questions and speakers during debates.
3 Aug 2000	The motion under Standing Order 8.1 to establish a Children's Commissioner Appointment Advisory Committee is passed in plenary. In accordance with Standing Order 8.4 Jane Hutt AM (Labour) is elected as Chair of the Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings) Ieuan Wyn Jones AM MP succeeds Rt Hon Dafydd Wigley AM MP as President of Plaid Cymru - The Party of Wales.
24 July 2000	Delyth Evans AM (Labour) is appointed as Deputy Secretary for Agriculture, Local Government and Environment to replace Carwyn Jones AM.
23 July 2000	The First Secretary announces a change in the Cabinet as Carwyn Jones AM replaces Christine Gwyther AM as Agriculture Secretary.
12 July 2000	First Minister announces in plenary that agreement has been reached on an all-party review of the Assembly's procedures working within the framework of the Government of Wales Act 1998 - The Assembly Review of Procedure group. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
27 June 2000	Sir David Steel KBE MSP, Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament, addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings) The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders No 12 and 22, thus providing substitution arrangements for disqualified Members on the Audit Committee and introducing accelerated procedure. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
21 June 2000	Assembly reaffirms its decision of 26 January 2000, relating to the new Assembly building, resolving to continue with Option B as described in the document ' <i>National Assembly for Wales New Building Project Information</i> '. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
31 May 2000	The Rt Hon Dafydd Wigley AM MP steps down as President of Plaid Cymru.
23 May 2000	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders 19 regarding the Determination of Assembly the Budget, and orders 22.12 and 27 allowing for a memorandum of corrections to be tabled and a Planning Development Committee to meet during recess. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
17 May 2000	The third censure motion tabled against the Assembly Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development, Christine Gwyther AM, this time by the Welsh Conservatives, is rejected by the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
9 May 2000	Delyth Evans AM attends her first plenary session as Assembly Member for the Mid and West Wales regional constituency vacated by The Rt Hon Alun Michael AM MP.
1 May 2000	The Rt Hon Alun Michael AM MP stands down as the Assembly Member for Mid and West Wales.
26 April 2000	Assembly Cabinet minutes are published for the first time and made available on the internet .
6 April 2000	First meeting of the Environment, Planning and Transport Committee.



DATE	EVENT
5 April 2000	First meeting of the Local Government and Housing Committee. The Assembly approves changes to Standing Orders enabling the Presiding Officer to exercise the functions of the Deputy Presiding Officer and to allow Members to register interests by post. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
29 March 2000	Richard Edwards AM (Labour) is elected as Chair to the Environment, Planning and Transport Committee and Gwenda Thomas AM (Labour) is elected as Chair to the Local Government and Housing Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
22 March 2000	Following a meeting of the New Assembly Building project group, the new building project is put on hold. (Press Release)
15 March 2000	Edwina Hart AM (Labour) is elected to replace Jane Hutt AM (Labour) as Chair of the Equal Opportunities Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
14 March 2000	The First Secretary's media briefings are published for the first time. Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM (Plaid Cymru) is elected to replace Ieuan Wyn Jones AM (Plaid Cymru) as Chair of the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
8 March 2000	Final meeting of the Local Government and Environment Committee.
29 Feb 2000	The Presiding Officer announces in plenary that David Lambert has been appointed as an independent legal adviser to the Office of the Presiding Officer. (Link to Record of Proceedings) Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM MP (Labour) is elected to replace Rt Hon Alun Michael AM MP (Labour) as Chair of the Committee on European Affairs. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
23 Feb 2000	The First Secretary announces the appointment of three Deputy Secretaries who will assist Cabinet Assembly Secretaries in their work. The appointments are: - Health and Social Services - Alun Pugh AM (Labour) - Agriculture, Local Government and Environment - Carwyn Jones AM (Labour) - Education and the Economy - Christine Chapman AM (Labour) (News Release)
22 Feb 2000	The First Secretary announces Cabinet appointments and changes in portfolio: - First Secretary and Secretary for Economic Development – Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM MP (Labour) - Business Secretary - Andrew Davies AM (Labour) - Finance Secretary - Edwina Hart AM (Labour) - Secretary for Post 16 Education and Training - Tom Middlehurst AM (Labour) - Secretary for Health and Social Services - Jane Hutt AM (Labour) - Secretary for Education and Children - Rosemary Butler AM (Labour) - Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development – Christine Gwyther AM (Labour) - Secretary for Local Government and Housing - Peter Law AM (Labour) - Secretary for Environment, Planning and Transport - Sue Essex AM (Labour) (News Release)



DATE	EVENT
16 Feb 2000	The functions of the Third Transfer of Functions Order are delegated to the First Secretary.
15 Feb 2000	The Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM MP is elected as First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
9 Feb 2000	Motion proposed in the names of Nicholas Bourne AM, Michael German AM, Jocelyn Davies AM, William Graham AM and Jenny Randerson AM, that <i>'the National Assembly for Wales has no confidence in the First Secretary'</i> . (Link to Record of Proceedings)
	The Rt Hon Alun Michael AM MP, under Standing Orders, presents his resignation as First Secretary.
	Under Standing Order 2.10 the Cabinet elects Rhodri Morgan as acting First Secretary. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
26 Jan 2000	Assembly resolves to go ahead with the new Assembly building, on the revised basis set out in New Assembly Building Project - Assembly Progress Report No 1/2000 '.
25 Jan 2000	Third Transfer of Functions Order is approved (SI 2000/253).
19 Jan 2000	The Assembly approves changes to Standing Order 27 in relation to Planning Decision Committees. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
1999	
8 Dec 1999	The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, David Hanson MP, addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
30 Nov 1999	The Honourable Roy MacLaren, the High Commissioner for Canada, addresses the Assembly. The Secretary of State for Wales makes a statement in plenary on the Queen's Speech. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
24 Nov 1999	David Melding AM (Conservative) is elected to replace Nicholas Bourne AM (Conservative) as Chair of the Standards Committee. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
15 Nov 1999	<i>The National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) (No.2) Order 1999</i> comes into force (SI 1999/2787).
9 Nov 1999	Standing Orders are revised such that in future all votes will be taken electronically. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
2 Nov 1999	The Assembly rejects the motion of no confidence in the First Secretary, Rt Hon Alun Michael AM MP, tabled by the Welsh Conservatives. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
19 Oct 1999	The Assembly adopts the censure motion tabled by members from the three opposition parties against the Assembly Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development (Christine Gwyther). (Link to Record of Proceedings)
12 Oct 1999	Mr Bob Carr, the New South Wales Premier, addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
5 Oct 1999	First meeting of the House Committee.
23 Sep 1999	An 'all-day' plenary is held for the first time with sessions in both the morning and afternoon.
21 Sep 1999	First meeting of the Audit Committee.
15 Sep 1999	The Assembly rejects the censure motion tabled by the Welsh Conservatives against the Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development, Christine Gwyther AM. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
18 Aug 1999	Nicholas Bourne AM is elected as leader of the Welsh Conservatives.
10 Aug 1999	Rod Richards AM resigns as leader of the Welsh Conservatives.



DATE	EVENT
29 July 1999	The Rt Hon Paul Murphy MP appointed as Secretary of State for Wales.
22 July 1999	First meeting of the Standards Committee.
21 July 1999	Changes to Standing Orders 6.35 and 6.36 (Link to Record of Proceedings) relating to the Short Debate.
20 July 1999	The Assembly agrees that the Richard Rogers Partnership should be instructed to continue with the development of the New Assembly Building Project within the cost parameters that have been established. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
13 July 1999	Val Feld AM (Labour) is elected to replace The Rt Hon Ron Davies AM MP (Labour) as Chair of the Economic Development Committee. The election is to take effect immediately following the conclusion of the meeting of the Economic Development Subject Committee on 14 July 1999. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
9 July 1999	The first meetings are held of the Mid Wales and South East Wales Regional Committees. At which Glyn Davies AM (Conservative) is elected Chair of the Mid Wales Regional Committee and Jenny Randerson AM (Liberal Democrat) is elected Chair of the South East Wales Regional Committee.
6 July 1999	His Excellency Mr Phillip Lader, Ambassador of the United States of America addresses the Assembly. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
2 July 1999	The first meetings are held of the North Wales and South West Wales Regional Committees. At which Gareth Jones AM (Plaid Cymru) is elected Chair of the North Wales Regional Committee and Peter Black AM (Liberal Democrat) is elected Chair of the South West Wales Regional Committee.
1 July 1999	<i>The National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999</i> comes into effect, transferring the powers of the Secretary of State for Wales to the National Assembly for Wales (SI 1999/672).
	Also, the first meeting of the European Affairs Committee is held.
	Welsh Office staff transfer to the Assembly. The Welsh Office ceases to exist.
29 June 1999	First meeting of the Legislation Committee. (Minutes)
23 June 1999	The first meetings are held of the Health and Social Services (Minutes), Local Government and Environment (Agenda), and the Post-16 Education and Training Committees (Minutes).
	Motion passed to elect the following Committee Chairs in plenary, under section 60(3) and (5) of the <i>Government of Wales Act 1998</i>
	- Janet Davies AM (Plaid Cymru), Audit
	- Michael German AM (Liberal Democrat), Legislation
	- Nicholas Bourne AM (Conservative), Standards
	- Rt Hon Alun Michael AM MP (Labour), European Affairs
	- Jane Hutt AM (Labour), Equal Opportunities. (Link to Record of Proceedings)



DATE	EVENT
16 June 1999	Assembly delegates its functions to the First Secretary under Section 62(1)b of the <i>Government of Wales Act 1998</i> . (Link to the Record of Proceedings)
26 May 1999	Opening Ceremony of the National Assembly for Wales attended by HM the Queen, HRH the Duke of Edinburgh and HRH the Prince of Wales.
19 May 1999	Election of the Panel of Subject Committee Chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rt Hon Ron Davies AM MP (Labour), Economic Development - Sue Essex AM (Labour), Planning and Environment - Ieuan Wyn Jones AM MP (Plaid Cymru), Agriculture and Rural Affairs - Cynog Dafis AM MP (Plaid Cymru), Post-16 Education and Lifelong Learning - William Graham AM (Conservative), Pre-16 Education, Schools and Early Learning - Kirsty Williams AM (Liberal Democrat), Health and Social Services. (Link to Record of Proceedings)
12 May 1999	Inaugural plenary meeting of the National Assembly for Wales. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lord Elis-Thomas AM (Plaid Cymru) elected as Presiding Officer - Jane Davidson AM (Labour) elected Deputy Presiding Officer - Rt Hon Alun Michael AM MP (Labour) elected as First Secretary <p>Assembly Cabinet appointed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Development - Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM MP (Labour) - Education (up to 16) - Rosemary Butler AM (Labour) - Health and Social Services - Jane Hutt AM (Labour) - Post-16 Education and Training - Tom Middlehurst AM (Labour) - Agriculture and Rural Economy - Christine Gwyther AM (Labour) - Environment (incorporating local government and planning) - Peter Law AM (Labour) - Trefnydd (Business Secretary) - Andrew Davies AM (Labour) - Finance - Edwina Hart AM (Labour) (Link to Record of Proceedings)
6 May 1999	First Assembly elections take place. Welsh Office Devolution Unit is wound up.
12 April 1999	The Standing Orders of the National Assembly for Wales are made by the Secretary of State for Wales, The Rt Hon Alun Michael MP.
26 March 1999	European Council announces that the West Wales and the Valleys area of Wales has qualified for Objective One status.
10 March 1999	<i>The National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999</i> is made (SI 1999/672).
10 March 1999	<i>The Representation of the People Order (SI 1999/450)</i> is made, setting out the arrangements for the Assembly elections.
18 Jan 1999	First Welsh Office staff move into Crickhowell House.
January 1999	Standing Orders Commissioners submit their report to the Secretary of State for Wales.
1998	



DATE	EVENT
4 Dec 1998	A consultation paper on the Record of Proceedings is issued for response by January 1999.
30 Nov 1998	It is announced that the Assembly broadcasting contract has been awarded to Barcud Derwen.
27 Oct 1998	The Rt Hon Alun Michael MP is appointed as the new Secretary of State for Wales. Press Release
26 Oct 1998	The Rt Hon Ron Davies MP resigns as Secretary of State for Wales.
20 Oct 1998	Secretary of State for Wales, The Rt Hon Ron Davies MP, announces that he has accepted the recommendation of the design panel for the new Assembly building in favour of the Richard Rogers Partnership. Press Release
7 Oct 1998	It is announced that Winston Roddick QC will be the first Counsel General to the Assembly.
Autumn 1998	Assembly Implementation Unit established to put procedures in place, recruit staff etc.
Sep 1998	First meeting of the Standing Orders Commission.
24 Aug 1998	The National Assembly for Wales Advisory Group report is produced.
31 July 1998	Royal Assent is given to the Government of Wales Act 1998 .
29 July 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords – Consideration of Commons Amendment. (Link to Hansard)
22 July 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons – Consideration of Lords Amendment (Link to Hansard)
15 July 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords 3rd Reading. (Link to Hansard)
9 July 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Report Stage – 2 nd day. (Link to Hansard)
1 July 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Report Stage – 1 st day. (Link to Hansard)
15 June 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage – 5 th day. (Link to Hansard)
9 June 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage – 4 th day. (Link to Hansard)
3 June 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage – 3 rd day. (Link to Hansard)
2 June 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage – 2 nd day (Link to Hansard)
11 May 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords Committee Stage – 1 st day (Link to Hansard)
21 April 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords 2 nd Reading. (Link to Hansard)
17 April 1998	National Assembly for Wales Advisory Group issue consultation paper entitled <i>Have Your Say</i> , for response by 29 May 1998.
27 March 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Lords 1 st Reading. (Link to Hansard)
26 March 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Report Stage – 2 nd day / Commons 3 rd Reading. (Link to Hansard)
25 March 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Report Stage – 1 st day. (Link to Hansard)
2 March 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage – 7 th day. (Link to Hansard)
25 Feb 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage – 6 th day. (Link to Hansard)
3 Feb 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage – 5 th day. (Link to Hansard)
2 Feb 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage – 4 th day. (Link to Hansard)



DATE	EVENT
26 Jan 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage – 3 rd day. (Link to Hansard)
21 Jan 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage – 2nd day. (Link to Hansard)
20 Jan 1998	<i>Government of Wales Bill</i> Commons Committee Stage – 1 st day. (Link to Hansard)
1997	
Dec 1997	National Assembly Advisory Group (NAAG) appointed.
8-9 Dec 1997	2 nd Reading of the <i>Government of Wales Bill</i> . (Link to Hansard)
26 Nov 1997	1 st Reading of the <i>Government of Wales Bill</i> . (Link to Hansard)
18 Sep 1997	In Referendum on Devolution in Wales, the electorate was asked to indicate whether: '1. I agree that there should be a Welsh Assembly; or 2. I do not agree that there should be a Welsh Assembly' Result: Yes 50.3%, No 49.7% (Link to Act below).
31 July 1997	Royal Assent is given for the Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Act 1997 .
22 July 1997	The White Paper <i>A Voice for Wales</i> is published.
15 May 1997	1 st Reading of the <i>Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill</i> . (Link to Hansard)
1 May 1997	Labour Government elected – manifesto commitment to hold a referendum on an Assembly for Wales.