



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 1, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 16 May 2023

Note: (DT) signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Dr Kamyab Givaki, Scottish Iranian Association, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-08981—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(i) Tuesday 16 May 2023—

after

followed by Topical Questions

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Ferguson Marine Due Diligence

(ii) Wednesday 17 May 2023—

after

followed by Scottish Labour Party Debate: Tackling Scotland's Mental Health Crisis

insert

followed by Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Debate: Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 10th Report, 2023 (Session 6)

delete

5.10 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

(b) that the Social Security (Residence Requirements) (Sudan) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 [draft] be considered by the Parliament.

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

4. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its response is to reports that NHS Grampian was warned about, and failed to address, “significant” issues on the Baird and Anchor units almost three years before announcing delays, was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care (Michael Matheson).

5. Celebrating the Success of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme: The Minister for Public Health and Women's Health (Jenni Minto) moved S6M-08948— That the Parliament recognises the success of the COVID-19 vaccination programme; notes that over 15 million vaccines have been administered and that tens of thousands of deaths have been prevented; agrees that vaccination has led to the World Health Organization (WHO) declaring an end to the public health emergency; recognises that COVID-19 has not gone away and offers condolences to all those who have lost a loved one during the pandemic; agrees that the success of the vaccination programme has allowed people to be kept safe, while the country lives with COVID-19; encourages those who are eligible for vaccination to come forward when called, in order to protect themselves and others, and thanks the dedicated health and social care workers who continue to deliver the vaccine.

Sandesh Gulhane moved amendment S6M-08948.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08948 in the name of Jenni Minto (Celebrating the Success of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme), insert at end “; notes that the UK Government's procurement strategy allowed Scotland to become one of the first countries in the world to begin vaccination, and recalls that, at the time, the Scottish Government wanted to join the EU vaccine scheme, which distributed vaccines far slower than the UK scheme.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 31, Against 60, Abstentions 19).

Carol Mochan moved amendment S6M-08948.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08948 in the name of Jenni Minto (Celebrating the Success of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme), insert at end “; recognises the importance of the cooperation and pooling of resources by the four nations in the procurement and roll-out of vaccines; accepts that lessons must be learned from the COVID-19 vaccination programme, with

concerning evidence of lower vaccine uptake in minority ethnic groups, those living in the most deprived areas, younger people and pregnant women; considers that the Scottish Government's support for those with long COVID and those formerly on the Highest Risk List is inadequate, and calls on the Scottish Government to meet with people with long COVID and experts to discuss the long-term funding needed to treat this condition, and ensure that the most vulnerable in society can access antiviral medicines and prophylaxis."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 49, Against 60, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Committee Announcement: Edward Mountain, on behalf of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, made an announcement on the Scottish Government's Air Quality Improvement Plan and wider air quality issues.

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 5 as noted above.

8. The Clearances Again: The Parliament debated S6M-08590 in the name of Rhoda Grant—That the Parliament congratulates Donald Francis (DF) MacNeil, and Skipinnish, on securing a top ten iTunes download position for their song The Clearances Again; understands that this was achieved just 24 hours after the song's release; further understands that this song is a protest song, which seeks to raise awareness of the Scottish Government's proposed Highly Protected Marine Areas; believes that these proposals will ban inshore fishing and all marine activities and impact on the economy of the Highlands and Islands, and notes the view that the Scottish Government should heed the reported concerns and revisit this policy.

The meeting closed at 6.00 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
16 May 2023

Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 16 May 2023—

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 8th Report, 2023 (Session 6):
Report on The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (Interim Target)
Amendment Regulations 2023 [draft] (SP Paper 367)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 31st Report, 2023 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 9 May 2023 (SP Paper 368)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 5th Report, 2023 (Session 6):
Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) on the Powers of Attorney Bill (SP Paper 369)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 May 2023 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011 (Application to Civil Partnerships and Consequential Provision) Order 2023 [draft]
laid under section 17(3) of the Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011 and section 35(5) of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014

Laid Only Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 15 May 2023 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016 (Commencement No. 5) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/145 (C.14))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2020 (Commencement No. 5) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/146 (C.15))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Legislative Consent Memorandums

The following memorandum was lodged on 15 May 2023—

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing, Economy, Fair Work and Energy:
Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Data Protection and Digital
Information (No. 2) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-36)

The following memorandum was lodged on 16 May 2023—

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing, Economy, Fair Work and Energy:
Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Electronic Trade Documents
Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-37)

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