



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of Parliamentary Bureau meeting 18 April 2023
at 12:00 pm
Q1.03/MS Teams

Present:

- Liam McArthur (Chair)
- Annabelle Ewing
- George Adam
- Alexander Burnett
- Martin Whitfield
- Gillian Mackay

Also attended:

- Rona Mackay

Officials present:

- David McGill
- Tracey White
- Catherine Fergusson
- Jo Hardy
- Rebecca Carradice
- Jason Nairn
- Jennifer Bell
- Irene Fleming
- Samantha Currie
- Gail Grant

Apologies:

- Alison Johnstone (Chair)

Previous minutes and matters arising

1. The minutes of 28 March 2023 were agreed.

Business Programme

2. The Bureau considered a revised programme of business for the week commencing 17 April and a programme of business for the weeks commencing 24 April and 1 May 2023.
3. Alexander Burnett and Martin Whitfield reserved their parties' positions on the business programme in relation to the scheduling of a debate on the Illegal Migration Bill.
4. The Bureau agreed that Members' Business on Wednesday 25 April would be S6M-08189: Christine Graham: Global Intergenerational Week 2023, on Wednesday 26 April S6M-08250: Stephanie Callaghan: Celebrating Autism Acceptance and on Thursday 27 April S6M-08476: Ariane Burgess: Community-led Housing Supporting a Sustainable Future.

Timetabling of a Bill at Stage 1

5. The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Parliament that consideration of the Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 be completed by Friday 6 October 2023.
6. The Bureau noted that a proposal to extend to the Stage 1 deadline for the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) would be considered at its next meeting.

Approval of SSIs

7. The Bureau noted that a motion would be lodged inviting the Parliament to approve the Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2023.

Committee request to meet at the same time as the Parliament

8. The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Parliament that the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee be given permission to meet at the same time as the Chamber between 2.00pm and 3.30pm on Thursday 27 April.

Appointment of the Commissioner for Children and Young People

9. The Bureau agreed that time for consideration of a motion on the appointment of a new Commissioner for Children and Young People be included in business during the week beginning 24 April 2023.

Committee Membership

10. The Bureau agreed to lodge motions proposing Committee membership and Committee Substitute changes.

Ministerial changes – impact on parliamentary business

11. The Bureau considered the impacts on parliamentary business of recent changes to ministerial portfolios. In relation to committee remits, the Bureau agreed that committee remits should be adjusted in a way that ensures committees continue with the same subject matter responsibilities as previously for the remainder of the session and to consider the future role and remit of the Covid-19 Recovery Committee separately, including inviting the Convener and Deputy Convener of that Committee to a future Bureau meeting.

12. The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Parliament a new cycle of portfolio questions, commencing from the week beginning 1 May 2023. Some concerns were raised about questions to the Minister for Independence and the requirement that question must relate to matters for which Scottish Ministers have general responsibility. The Bureau agreed to return to discuss the allocation of questions relating to the responsibilities of the Minister for Parliamentary Business at a later date. The Bureau also agreed to write to the SPPA Committee in connection with possible changes to Standing Orders rules on Portfolio Questions.

Catherine Fergusson
Clerk to the Parliamentary Bureau
18 April 2023