PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU: APPROVAL OF SCOTTISH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

MADE AFFIRMATIVE INSTRUMENTS

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 5) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/74)

1. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 5) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/74) be approved.

Purpose

2. To remove from the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2021 the provisions in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine certification scheme. In particular, these Regulations remove the requirement for persons responsible for certain premises to operate a reasonable system for checking that persons on, or seeking to enter, their premises are fully vaccinated against coronavirus, have received appropriate test results, or are otherwise exempt from the requirement to demonstrate that they are fully vaccinated. These Regulations also remove the requirement for certain premises to prepare a compliance plan describing how their systems will operate and other measures in place to prevent or minimise the spread of coronavirus.

Consideration by committee

3. At its meeting on 17 March 2022, the Covid-19 Recovery Committee agreed to recommend that the regulations be approved. The Committee report was published on 17 March 2022.

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Coronavirus Act 2020 (Alteration of Expiry Date) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/40)

4. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Coronavirus Act 2020 (Alteration of Expiry Date) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/40) be approved.

Purpose

5. To change the expiry date of the following provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020 from 24 March 2022 to 24 September 2022: section 18(2) and Part 2 of schedule 13 (registration of deaths and still-births); section 36 (vaccination and immunisation); section 37(2) and certain provisions of Part 2 of schedule 16 (temporary closure of educational institutions and childcare premises); section 38(2) and Part 2 of schedule 17 (temporary continuity – education, training and childcare); and section 49 and schedule 19 (health protection regulations).

Consideration by committee

6. At its meeting on 17 March 2022, the Covid-19 Recovery Committee agreed to recommend (by division: For 4, Against 2, Abstentions 0) that the regulations be approved. The Committee report was published on 17 March 2022.

AFFIRMATIVE INSTRUMENTS

<u>Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Directions by Local Authorities)</u> (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft)

7. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Directions by Local Authorities) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

8. To amend the date on which The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Directions by Local Authorities) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 ("the Directions Regulations") expire from 25 March 2022 to 24 September 2022.

Consideration by committee

9. At its meeting on 17 March 2022, the Covid-19 Recovery Committee agreed to recommend (by division: For 4, Against 2, Abstentions 0) that the regulations be approved. The Committee report was published on 17 March 2022.

<u>Coronavirus (Scotland) Acts (Amendment of Expiry Dates) Regulations 2022</u> (SSI 2022/Draft)

10. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Coronavirus (Scotland) Acts (Amendment of Expiry Dates) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

11. To amend the expiry date of Part 1 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 and Part 1 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) (No.2) Act 2020 from the end of 31 March 2022 to the end of 30 September 2022.

Consideration by committee

12. At its meeting on 17 March 2022, the Covid-19 Recovery Committee agreed to recommend (by division: For 4, Against 2, Abstentions 0) that the regulations be approved. The Committee report was published on 17 March 2022.

Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Scotland) (Coronavirus) Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft)

13. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Scotland) (Coronavirus) Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

14. To extend, for one further year, the amendment to The Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Scotland) Regulations 2016, to allow a local authority to reduce the statutory repayment of loans fund advances that would have been due to be repaid in either the financial year 2020-21, 2021-22 or 2022-23, but in only one of these years. The reduced amounts must be repaid in future financial years. 2. To extend, for one further year, the delay to the deadlines for completion of audit of local authority accounts for the 2021-22 financial year. 3. To delay, for one year, amendments to provisions about the way local authorities determine loan fund repayment provision, so that this is based more fully on proper accounting practice.

Consideration by committee

15. At its meeting on 15 March 2022, the Local, Government, Housing and Planning Committee agreed to recommend that the regulations be approved. The Committee report was published on 15 March 2022.

Non-Domestic Rates (Valuation Roll) (Modification) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft)

16. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Non-Domestic Rates (Valuation Roll) (Modification) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

17. The Regulations modify the definition of "relevant increase" in the rateable value of lands and heritages in section 2A(5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1975.

Consideration by committee

18. At its meeting on 15 March 2022, the Local, Government, Housing and Planning Committee agreed to recommend that the regulations be approved. The Committee report was published on 15 March 2022.

Social Security Up-rating (Scotland) Order 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft)

19. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security Up-rating (Scotland) Order 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

20. To uprate the weekly rates of payment of Attendance Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, Industrial Death Benefit, Personal Independence Payment and the Severe Disablement Allowance. Under the Agency agreements for these benefits Scottish Ministers are committed to uprate these benefits at the same rate as the DWP.

Consideration by committee

21. At its meeting on 17 March 2022, the Social Justice and Social Security Committee agreed to recommend that the regulations be approved. The Committee report was published on 17 March 2022.

Budget (Scotland) Act 2021 Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft)

22. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Budget (Scotland) Act 2021 Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

- 23. To amend the Budget (Scotland) Act 2021, which authorised the Scottish Government's spending plans for the current financial year. The 2021-22 Spring Budget Revision document explains that changes increase the Scottish Government's budget by £1,202.2 million from £56,495.2 million to £57,697.4 million. The document explains that the main changes to these spending plans are:
 - funding changes, including Covid-19 allocations, to reflect deployment of available resources to portfolios (total net increase to the budget of £1,428.3 million),
 - Whitehall transfers and HM Treasury allocations to the Scottish Government (£131.2 million)
 - technical adjustments (net decrease of -£357.3 million)
 - transfer of resources between Scottish Government portfolios (budget neutral).

Consideration by committee

24. At its meeting on 8 March 2022, the Finance and Public Administration Committee agreed to recommend that the regulations be approved. The Committee report will be published on 18 March 2022.

Emergency SSIs:

25. The Bureau is invited to note that it is anticipated the following SSIs relating to Ukrainian refugees will be laid for consideration next week:

Emergency Social Security SSI (Affirmative) – Ukrainian Refugees

26. This SSI, which is being drafted in collaboration with the UK Government and DWP, will mean anyone coming to Scotland from Ukraine under the Home Office

schemes would be entitled to benefits from the DWP, in the same way as those in the rest of the UK. It is expected that this SSI will be laid on Monday 21 March, considered by the DPLR Committee on the morning of Tuesday 22 March and, subject to agreement, would be taken straight in the Chamber that afternoon in order to meet an urgent timescale for approval. The Social Justice and Social Security Committee is content, given the urgent nature of the SSI, for the Bureau to recommend that the SSI go straight to the Chamber before it can be considered by the Committee.

<u>Emergency SSI (Affirmative) – Vetting Checks – Ukrainian Refugee Vetting Scheme</u>

27. This SSI will allow Disclosure Scotland to vet those applying to house Ukrainian refugees. It is expected that this SSI will be laid towards the end of the week commencing 14 March The SSI will be considered by the DPLR Committee on the morning of Tuesday 22 March and would require Parliamentary approval by 23 March to come into force on 24 March. Given these timescales, the SSI could be considered by the Education, Children and Young People at its meeting on 23 March and then taken in the Chamber that afternoon or – if the Committee was content – the Bureau could recommend that the SSI be referred directly to the Chamber for consideration.

Decision

- 28. Business Managers are invited note that the above motions will be lodged.
- 29. Business Managers should reserve their position if their party intends to speak against or oppose the motions.

Parliamentary Business Team March 2022