

The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 57, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 15 December 2022

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon).

3. UNISON Year of Disabled Workers 2022: The Parliament debated S6M-06755 in the name of Pam Duncan-Glancy—That the Parliament celebrates UNISON and its recognition of 2022 as the Year of Disabled Workers; understands that UNISON is using these 12 months to promote disability in the workplace by highlighting the experiences of its disabled members as well as the value and insight that they bring to the union and workplace; notes that, with 200,000 disabled members, UNISON calls for a greater enforcement of legal rights, including the fundamental right to reasonable adjustments at work; recognises that the main aims of the Year of Disabled Workers include raising awareness of the social model of disability and the importance of changes to the workplace and working practices, explaining the implications of the disability pay gap as well as how it may be addressed, increasing members' confidence to self-define as disabled, and increasing the number of disabled workers, including in the Glasgow region.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero, Energy and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Budget 2023-24.

6. Asset Transfers and Community Empowerment – Five Years On: The Minister for Public Finance, Planning and Community Wealth (Tom Arthur) moved S6M-07247—That the Parliament welcomes the progress that has been made to date in implementing Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015; recognises that ownership, lease or management of land and buildings are powerful tools for communities to drive change and achieve their shared ambitions; acknowledges the programme of support for participatory budgeting that has given communities a stronger voice in decisions on how public money is spent, and agrees that place-based, community-led regeneration can help local areas, individuals and businesses to tackle poverty and inequality, and build community wealth, on their own terms.

Douglas Lumsden moved amendment S6M-07247.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-07247 in the name of Tom Arthur (Asset Transfers and Community Empowerment - Five Years On), insert at end "; welcomes the UK Government's Community Ownership Fund, which will allow communities to take ownership of local institutions that have fallen into disrepair or are under threat of closure, and further welcomes that there are projects in Scotland benefiting from this fund."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 47, Against 64, Abstentions 0).

Paul Sweeney moved amendment S6M-07247.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-07247 in the name of Tom Arthur (Asset Transfers and Community Empowerment - Five Years On), leave out from "welcomes" to end and insert "fully supports measures to empower communities and devolve power away from the Scottish Parliament, and considers that part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 was a positive step, allowing local groups to take ownership of assets for the benefit of their community; believes that pushing power into the hands of local people is a key part of unlocking the potential that exists across the whole country; recognises that, in communities across Scotland, there are positive examples of local groups taking control of assets and helping their area to flourish; regrets that communities still face significant barriers in exercising the rights given to them under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015; believes that there is still much to be done to ensure that communities across Scotland are given the resources and support they need to benefit from the Act, and calls on the Scottish Government to take all necessary steps to remove remaining barriers and push more power into the hands of communities."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 48, Against 65, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 93, Against 20, Abstentions 0).

7. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-07271—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 20 December 2022—

delete

followed by Members' Business

(b) Wednesday 21 December 2022—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs and Islands; Health and Social Care; Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Climate Change Committee's Review of Scottish Emissions Targets and Progress Report 2022

delete

5.15 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.45 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

8. **Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 6.29 pm.

David McGill Clerk of the Parliament 15 December 2022

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

Subordinate Legislation

Made Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 December 2022 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (additional amount: transactions relating to second homes etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2022 (SSI 2022/375)

laid section 68(4) to (6) of the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Scotland) Act 2013

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 15 December 2022 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Red Rocks and Longay Marine Conservation Order 2022 (SSI 2022/372) laid under section 165 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010

Food and Feed (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/373)

laid under paragraph 1(7) of schedule 7 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and paragraph 4 of Article 18A of Regulation (EC) 1831/2003

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 15 December 2022 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited - Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31 March 2022 (SG/2022/246) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Competition and Markets Authority Annual Plan 2023/24 (CMA/2022/03) laid under paragraph 13(2) of Schedule 4 to the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (as amended by section 40(3) of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020)

Scottish Information Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2021-22 (SG/2022/296) laid under section 46(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Scotland's Fiscal and Economic Forecasts – December 2022 (SFC/2022/7) laid under section 5(2) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

Forecast Evaluation Update – December 2022 (SFC/2022/8) laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

Scottish Budget 2023-24 (SG/2022/73) laid before the Scottish Parliament by the Scottish Ministers

High Level Carbon Assessment of the 2023-24 Budget (SG/2022/299) laid before the Scottish Parliament under section 94 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

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