



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 99, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 31 March 2022

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

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

3. Impacts of Benefit Sanctions: The Parliament debated S6M-03259 in the name of Kaukab Stewart—That the Parliament notes with concern a recent paper by researchers from the University of Glasgow examining the impact of social security sanctions internationally on the labour market, and wider social impacts; understands that it found that any temporary positive impacts on employment carry with them negative impacts for job quality and stability in the longer term, along with increased transitions to non-employment or economic inactivity; further understands that the studies reported significant associations between sanctions and increased material hardship and health problems, and found some evidence that sanctions were associated with increased child maltreatment and poorer child wellbeing, and considers that this is further evidence of what it sees as the ineffective and punitive nature of the sanctions regime in the UK, which it considers negatively impacts people across Scotland, including in the Glasgow Kelvin constituency.

4. Motion without Notice: Kaukab Stewart moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Environment and Land Reform (Màiri McAllan) made a statement and answered questions on Interim Principles for Responsible Investment in Natural Capital.

7. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Business, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise (Ivan McKee) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland's Vision for Trade – Annual Report.

8. Miners' Strike (Pardons) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans (Keith Brown) moved S6M-03864—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Miners' Strike (Pardons) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-03904—That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security (Up-rating) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 109, Against 0, Abstentions 4).

10. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-03862—That the Parliament agrees that—

Graeme Dey be appointed to replace James Dornan as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee;

Ruth Maguire be appointed to replace Fergus Ewing as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee;

Marie McNair be appointed to replace Graeme Dey as a member of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee;

Paul McLennan be appointed to replace Marie McNair as a member of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee;

Fergus Ewing be appointed to replace Ruth Maguire as a member of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-03903—That the Parliament agrees that Annie Wells be appointed to replace Meghan Gallacher as a member of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-03863—That the Parliament agrees that—

Graeme Dey be appointed to replace Fergus Ewing as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee;

Ruth Maguire be appointed to replace Emma Roddick as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee;

Stuart McMillan be appointed to replace James Dornan as the Scottish National Party substitute on the COVID-19 Recovery Committee;

Fergus Ewing be appointed to replace Alasdair Allan as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Finance and Public Administration Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

13. Suspension and Variation of Standing Orders: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved— That the Parliament agrees that, with effect from 1 April 2022, for the purposes of committee meetings up to 1 July 2022—

(a) in Rule 6.3A.1 after “member” the words “or members” be inserted;

(b) Rule 6.3A.2 be suspended;

(c) in Rule 6.3A.4 the first sentence be suspended;

(d) after Rule 6.3A.5(d) be inserted “(e) a political party withdraws in writing to the Bureau that nomination of the member or members nominated for the purposes of committee meetings up to 1 July 2022.”; and

(e) in Rule 12.1.15 the words “(other than a committee substitute)” be omitted in both instances where they occur.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

14. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.10 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
31 March 2022

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

Legislative Consent Memorandum

The following memorandum was lodged on 31 March 2022—

Keith Brown, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Online Safety Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-18)

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 31 March 2022—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 23rd Report, 2022 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 29 March 2022 (SP Paper 148)

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 4th Report, 2022 (Session 6): The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2022 [draft] (SP Paper 151)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 5th Report, 2022 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee on 31 March 2022 (SP Paper 152)

Subordinate Legislation

Made Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 31 March 2022 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 6) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/123)
laid under paragraph 6(2) and (3) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 31 March 2022 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (Framework) Order 2022 (SSI 2022/119)
laid under section 88(3) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005

Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2022 (SSI 2022/124)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Council Tax Reduction and Council Tax (Discounts) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/125)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 31 March 2022 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Act of Adjournal (Criminal Procedure Rules 1996 Amendment) (Electronic Monitoring) 2022 (SSI 2022/120)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 31 March 2022 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

West Lothian College Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021 SG/2022/65 laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

West College Scotland Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021 SG/2022/64 laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

University of the Highlands and Islands: Perth College Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021 SG/2022/63 laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Animal Health Act 1981: Expenditure and Prosecutions – 2021 SG/2022/30 laid under Section 80 of the Animal Health Act 1981

Heat Networks Delivery Plan, March 2022 SG/2022/46 laid under Section 93(4)(b) of the Heat Networks Scotland Act 2021

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