



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 83, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 8 March 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Covid-19 Recovery and Parliamentary Business, and then on Finance and the Economy were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. International Women's Day 2023 – Embrace Equity: The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon) moved S6M-08137—That the Parliament welcomes the 2023 International Women's Day theme of #EmbracingEquity, which recognises that each person has different circumstances, and that there is a need to focus resource and opportunity where it is most needed to reach an equal outcome; recognises that it is the responsibility of everyone to end the discrimination that women and girls face; acknowledges that, while much progress towards achieving equity has been made, there is more to do in Scotland and around the world to achieve and maintain equity; welcomes the independent Stewart review into increasing women's participation in entrepreneurship; recognises and takes up the challenges given by the National Advisory Council on Women and Girls to address systemic inequality; further recognises that cultural shifts are needed alongside legislation; recognises the tireless work of organisations and communities across Scotland to promote equity and support all women, and agrees that equity is necessary for society and the economy to thrive, and that everyone should work together to embrace equity on, and beyond, International Women's Day.

Meghan Gallacher moved amendment S6M-08137.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08137 in the name of Nicola Sturgeon (International Women's Day 2023 - Embrace Equity), after “maintain equity” insert “; expresses disappointment in the backsliding of women's rights across the world in the past year, and particularly in Iran and Afghanistan”.

After debate the amendment was agreed to (DT).

Pam Duncan-Glancy moved amendment S6M-08137.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08137 in the name of Nicola Sturgeon (International Women's Day 2023 - Embrace Equity), insert at end “; believes that using Scottish choices to implement split payments for Universal Credit is key to this, and calls on the Scottish Government to provide an update on progress made on this within this calendar year.”

After debate the amendment was agreed to (DT)

The motion, as amended, was agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament welcomes the 2023 International Women's Day theme of #EmbracingEquity, which recognises that each person has different circumstances, and that there is a need to focus resource and opportunity where it is most needed to reach an equal outcome; recognises that it is the responsibility of everyone to end the discrimination that women and girls face; acknowledges that, while much progress towards achieving equity has been made, there is more to do in Scotland and around the world to achieve and maintain equity; expresses disappointment in the backsliding of women's rights across the world in the past year, and particularly in Iran and Afghanistan; welcomes the independent Stewart review into increasing women's participation in entrepreneurship; recognises and takes up the challenges given by the National Advisory Council on Women and Girls to address systemic inequality; further recognises that cultural shifts are needed alongside legislation; recognises the tireless work of organisations and communities across Scotland to promote equity and support all women; agrees that equity is necessary for society and the economy to thrive, and that everyone should work together to embrace equity on, and beyond, International Women's Day; believes that using Scottish choices to implement split payments for Universal Credit is key to this, and calls on the Scottish Government to provide an update on progress made on this within this calendar year.

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-08150—That the Parliament—

(a) the following programme of—

Tuesday 14 March 2023

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Trade (Australia and New Zealand) Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee Debate: The Role of Local Government and its Cross-sectoral Partners in Financing and Delivering a Net-zero Scotland

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 15 March 2023

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Delivering the Scottish Government's Vision for Agriculture through the Agricultural Reform Route Map

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 16 March 2023

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Bill

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Procurement Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Social Security (Additional Payments) (No. 2) Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 21 March 2023

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 22 March 2023

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture; Justice and Veterans

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 23 March 2023

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions

2.45 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 13 March 2023, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

Douglas Lumsden moved amendment S6M-0 8150.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08150 in the name of George Adam (Business Programme), leave out—

“2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice, Housing and Local Government”
and insert

“2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

followed by Ministerial Statement: Children’s Orchestras Funding U-turn

followed by Ministerial Statement: Ferguson Marine and Ferry Services Update

followed by Ministerial Statement: Deposit Return Scheme Update”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 56, Against 65, Abstentions 0).

Neil Bibby moved amendment S6M-0 8150.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08150 in the name of George Adam (Business Programme), leave out from first “*followed by* Committee Announcements” to “Tuesday 21 March 2023” and insert—

“followed by Scottish Government Debate: Delivering the Scottish Government’s Vision for Agriculture through the Agricultural Reform Route Map

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Decision Time

followed by Members’ Business

Thursday 16 March 2023

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

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

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Bill

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Procurement Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Social Security (Additional Payments) (No. 2) Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.25 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Tuesday 21 March 2023".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 22, Against 94, Abstentions 5).

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 97, Against 22, Abstentions 1).

4. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-08151—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 30 June 2023.

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-0 8151.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08151 in the name of George Adam (Stage 1 Timetable), leave out "30 June 2023" and insert "1 November 2023".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 55, Against 65, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-08152—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 24 March 2023.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-08153—That the Parliament agrees that the Cost of Living (Tenant Protection) (Scotland) Act 2022 (Amendment of Expiry Dates and Rent Cap Modification) Regulations 2023 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 87, Against 31, Abstentions 0).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2 and 6 as noted above.

8. Save Loch Lomond: The Parliament debated S6M-08046 in the name of Ross Greer—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the popularity of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park as a result of the area’s world famous natural landscape and wildlife; considers that, while this popularity brings economic benefits to local communities, it also results in challenges such as traffic and parking congestion, antisocial behaviour and disruption for residents; believes that Flamingo Land’s recently revised plans for a massive tourist development at Balloch, including 104 lodges, two hotels, a water park and 372 parking spaces, would significantly worsen these problems, while providing insufficient benefit to the local economy; notes the work undertaken by Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, VisitScotland and other stakeholders to encourage green tourism; considers that there is still much more to be done to achieve the collective aspiration for a more sustainable and respectful use of the park by visitors, and notes the calls on Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park to recognise what it sees as the overwhelming view of the local community, shared by the National Trust, Woodland Trust, Ramblers Scotland and others, and reject what it considers Flamingo Land’s latest unwelcome application.

The meeting closed at 6.03 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
8 March 2023

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 8 March 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 20th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 7 March 2023 (SP Paper 335)

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 3rd Report, 2023 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Non-Domestic Rates (Miscellaneous Anti-Avoidance Measures) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SP Paper 336)

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