

The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 49, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 18 November 2021

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. Road Safety in Falkirk:** The Parliament debated S6M-01281 in the name of Stephen Kerr—That the Parliament recognises efforts in Airth and Reddingmuirhead to introduce a 20mph speed limit; considers that, in busy areas, a 20mph speed limit is safer for pedestrians, in particular school children and cyclists, and notes the view that local councils should be empowered to make decisions on speed limits, acknowledging their local knowledge.
- **4. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions:** Questions were answered by members of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body.
- **5. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Rural Affairs and Islands were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.
- 6. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the UK Government's Levelling Up Agenda in Scotland: The Minister for Just Transition, Employment and Fair Work (Richard Lochhead) moved S6M-02158—That the Parliament agrees that the UK Government's Spending Review plans for Levelling Up and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund not only fall well short of Scottish expectations and needs, but also infringe the

sovereignty of the Scottish Parliament by circumventing the devolution settlement to deliver policy in areas that are clearly and firmly within the ambit of the Scottish Government, and calls on the UK Government to keep the promises made to Scotland, and to work in full partnership with the Scottish Government and local communities on the development of these programmes going forward to ensure they support job creation and a just transition, and meet the needs of Scotland's citizens.

Miles Briggs moved amendment S6M-02158.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02158 in the name of Richard Lochhead (The UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the UK Government's Levelling Up Agenda in Scotland), leave out from "agrees" to end and insert "welcomes the UK Government's plans to level up every part of the UK; further welcomes the recent announcement of the funding for dozens of projects in every part of Scotland through the Community Renewal Fund and the Levelling Up Fund; agrees with local authorities across Scotland that have applauded the UK Government for directly funding projects in their areas; calls on the Scottish Government to stop talking down Scotland's place in the UK and the value of such to the people of Scotland; agrees that the UK Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund should at least match the level of EU funding it is replacing; calls on the UK Government to meet that target in line with commitments made in its recent budget, and further calls on the Scottish and UK governments, as well as local authorities, to work together to ensure the efficient delivery of projects to every community across Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 89, Abstentions 0).

Rhoda Grant moved amendment S6M-02158.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02158 in the name of Richard Lochhead (The UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the UK Government's Levelling Up Agenda in Scotland), leave out from "infringe" to end and insert "circumvents the devolved settlement; recognises that gender inequality remains stubbornly high; notes that there are increasing regional inequalities across Scotland, including in health, child poverty, income and economic opportunities, which neither the UK Government nor the Scottish Government is adequately tackling, and calls on the Scottish Government to reinstate the previously scrapped regional equality targets to direct government action and funding of local authorities to urgently address this injustice across the country."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 23, Against 94, Abstentions 0).

Willie Rennie moved amendment S6M-02158.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02158 in the name of Richard Lochhead (The UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the UK Government's Levelling Up Agenda in Scotland), leave out from "not only fall" to end and insert "fall well short of what is needed, and calls on the UK Government to establish a joint council for

levelling up that will agree and oversee spending in relation to the levelling up agenda and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, for this council to include representatives of the constituent authorities of the UK, and for this council to work in partnership with local communities on the development of these programmes going forward to ensure they support job creation and a just transition, and meet the needs of citizens."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 23, Against 95, Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65, Against 51, Abstentions 1).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02190—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 5) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/359) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

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

The meeting closed at 5.19 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
18 November 2021

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 18 November 2021—

COVID-19 Recovery Committee, 7th Report, 2021 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the COVID-19 Recovery Committee on 18 November 2021 (SP Paper 42)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 2nd Report, 2021 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Budget (Scotland) Act 2021 Amendment Regulations 2021 (SP Paper 45)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 15th Report, 2021 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 16 November 2021 (SP Paper 47)

Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 18 November 2021 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 (Supplementary Provision) (Jurisdiction) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/420)

laid under section 82(2)(f) of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019

Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 (Places of Safety) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/421)

laid under section 82(2)(b) of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 18 November 2021 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/419 (C. 29))

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 18 November 2021 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Housing Regulator - Annual Performance Report and Accounts 2020/21 SG/2021/307 laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The Scottish Commission on Social Security: scrutiny report on The Disability Assistance for Children and Young People (Scotland) Regulations 2021 and the Scottish Child Payment Regulations 2020 (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2022 SCoSS/2021/08 laid under 97(8)(a)(ii) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

The Scottish Commission on Social Security: scrutiny report on the Disability Assistance for Children and Young People and Scottish Child Payment (Suspensions) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2021 SCoSS/2021/09 laid under 97(8)(a)(ii) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

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