

# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 63, Session 6

## Meeting of the Parliament

### Wednesday 22 December 2021

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

**1. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Justice and Veterans, and then Finance and the Economy and then Education and Skills were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

**2. Ministerial Statement:** The Minister for Environment and Land Reform (Mairi McAllan) made a statement and answered questions on Protecting and improving the water environment.

**3. Business Programme:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02654—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business-

Tuesday 11 January 2022

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by First Minister's Statement: COVID-19 Update

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Addressing the Impact of Labour Shortages on Scotland's Economy

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 12 January 2022

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Covid Recovery and Parliamentary Business; Net Zero, Energy and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Care Services

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 13 January 2022

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: Rural Affairs and Islands

followed by Scottish Government Debate: National Mission on Drugs - the First Year and Next Steps

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 18 January 2022

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by First Minister's Statement: COVID-19 Update

followed by Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee Debate: Retrofitting of Properties for Net-zero

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 January 2022

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

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

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 January 2022

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: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Coronavirus (Discretionary Compensation for Selfisolation) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 10 January 2022, 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.

The motion was agreed to.

**4. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02655—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/440) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**5. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02656—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 9) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/441) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**6. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02657—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 10) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/443) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**7. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02658—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 11) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/454) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**8. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02659—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 12) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/455) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**9. Designation of Lead Committee:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02660—That the Parliament agrees that the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Non-Domestic Rates (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**10. Parliamentary Recess Dates:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02666—That the Parliament agrees, further to motion S6M-00125 and under Rule 2.3.1, that the parliamentary recess dates of 24 December 2021 to 9 January 2022 (inclusive) be replaced with 24 December 2021 to 9 January 2022 (inclusive) with the exception of 29 December 2021 and 5 January 2022, on which dates business may be programmed by the Bureau.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**11. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 as noted above.

12. Potential for Dumfries City Status: The Parliament debated S6M-02397 in the name of Emma Harper—That the Parliament welcomes the bid from Dumfries and Galloway Council for Dumfries to be recognised as Scotland's 8th city, as part of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee in 2022: understands that, on Friday 27 November 2020, Dumfries and Galloway Council officially launched its campaign to see the town secure city status in 2022, and that Dumfries, known nationally as Queen of the South, could benefit socially, financially and culturally if successful; further understands that when other towns, such as Perth, Stirling and Inverness, received city status they went from strength to strength, with greater job creation, increased inward migration, as well as visitors, increased investment and improved transport infrastructure connectivity to other cities; further notes the potential for Dumfries' city status to benefit the entire Dumfries and Galloway region through promotion of what it sees as the region's world class facilities, such as its mountain biking at the various 7Stanes sites, its worldrecognised Galloway dark skies park, its world-leading food and drink sector, including its local breweries and whisky, gin and rum distilleries, as well as through its historical and cultural ties to Burns, Bruce and Barrie; commends the work of all partners involved in taking the bid forward including Dumfries and Galloway Council, Mark Jardine and the Dumfries People's Project, Lord Lieutenant of Dumfries, Fiona Armstrong, and local people for their constructive involvement from early 2021, and supports all efforts to secure Dumfries, which due to its geographical location could be Scotland's first city, as a city that would improve investment to the town, and region as a whole, and which would put Dumfries on the international map as one of Scotland's cities.

The meeting closed at 4.37 pm.

David McGill Clerk of the Parliament 22 December 2021

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

#### **Committee Reports**

The following report was published on 22 December 2021-

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 4th Report, 2021 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Elections Bill (SP Paper 74)

#### Legislative Consent Memorandum

The following memorandum was lodged on 21 December 2021—

Keith Brown, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-12)

#### **Subordinate Legislation**

#### **Negative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 22 December 2021 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Council Tax (Dwellings and Part Residential Subjects) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/489)

laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Private Storage Aid Scheme (Pigmeat) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/492)

laid under article 229(1) of Regulation (EU) No. 1308/2013

Official Controls (Transitional Staging Period) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) (No. 3) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/493)

laid under Article 144(5) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and paragraph 1(7) of schedule 7 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018

#### Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 22 December 2021 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Water Industry Commission for Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2020-21 SG/2021/370 laid under section 5(4) of Part 1 of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium Report of Discontinued Investigations- Compendium of Case Reports for December 2021 **SPSO/2021/11** laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

National Records of Scotland: Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011 - Report by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland 2020-2021 SG/2021/258 laid under Section 12 of the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Annual Report and Accounts for 2020/21 SG/2021/380 laid under Section 42A(1) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005

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