



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 105, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 2 May 2024

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 (Humza Yousaf).
- 3. New Energy Infrastructure in the North of Scotland:** The Parliament debated S6M-12842 in the name of Tess White—That the Parliament acknowledges the reported concerns of communities across the north of Scotland, especially those in Aberdeenshire, Angus, Moray and the Highlands, regarding new energy infrastructure; notes that the Scottish Government reportedly indicates that this infrastructure is needed to meet the 2030 offshore wind connection dates and its net zero targets; recognises what it sees as the importance of decarbonising the electricity system, and notes the belief that the strategy to achieve net zero should use a variety of energy sources and consider all infrastructural options, such as undergrounding electrical transmission cables or submarine cables, in order to protect the local economy and character of rural communities; understands that the concerns of rural communities relate to the location, scale and accelerated timeframe of these projects, and that they feel their views are routinely disregarded by the Scottish Government's current strategy, which has reportedly resulted in an unjust transition taking place in rural communities across Scotland; notes in particular the impact of these plans on the wellbeing of affected residents, who are reportedly worried about their health, businesses, property value, cultural heritage, and the potential loss of prime agricultural land; understands that affected residents

have criticised the consultation process of transmission network operator, Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN); highlights petition PE2095 to improve the public consultation processes for energy infrastructure projects, which was lodged in the Scottish Parliament by Margaret Tracey Smith; notes the calls for the Scottish Government to ensure that local community submissions are considered as a key factor in considering what applications and routes should be approved; acknowledges what it sees as the strength of feeling among affected communities that rural Scotland is being disproportionately impacted by new energy infrastructure, and recognises local campaigners who are working to raise awareness of these plans so that the voices of affected residents are heard.

**4. Motion without Notice:** Tess White 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 Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

**6. PE1887: Create an Unborn Victims of Violence Act:** Jackson Carlaw, on behalf of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee, moved S6M-12995—That the Parliament notes public petition PE1887 on creating a specific offence that enables courts to hand down longer sentences where miscarriage has been caused through acts of domestic violence.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**7. Motion Without Notice:** The Minister for Cabinet and Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.41pm.

The motion was agreed to.

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

The meeting closed at 4.42 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
2 May 2024

## **Appendix**

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

### **Committee Reports**

The following report was published on 2 May 2024—

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6):  
Registration of Social Workers and Social Service Workers in Care Services  
(Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 573).

### **Subordinate Legislation**

#### **Affirmative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 2 May 2024 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Scottish Pubs Code Adjudicator (Miscellaneous Listings) Order 2024 [draft]  
laid under section 25(3) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010  
and section 2(8) of the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011

Scottish Pubs Code Adjudicator (Duty to Publish Certain Information) Regulations  
2024 [draft]  
laid under section 24(3) of the Tied Pubs (Scotland) Act 2021

Scottish Pubs Code Regulations 2024 [draft]  
laid under section 24(2) of the Tied Pubs (Scotland) Act 2021

#### **Other Documents**

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 2 May 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 – Yearly report on the use of Section 28 - to take a child under 12 to a place of safety (SG/2024/84)** laid under section 32 of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019

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