



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 58, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 12 December 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Time for Reflection:** Chibuzor Tina Amadi, UK Parliamentary Liaison for CSW, led Time for Reflection.
- 2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.
- 3. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) made a statement and answered questions on Literacy and Numeracy.
- 4. Asylum Seekers in Scotland:** Kaukab Stewart, on behalf of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, moved S6M-11608—That the Parliament notes the conclusions set out in the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee's 8th Report, 2023 (Session 6), *The Human Rights of Asylum Seekers in Scotland* (SP Paper 455).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

- 5. Motion Without Notice:** The Minister for 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 4.57 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

- 6. Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

**7. 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:** The Parliament debated S6M-10961 in the name of Kaukab Stewart— That the Parliament notes that 10 December 2023 is annual Human Rights Day, and marks the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights being proclaimed by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in Paris on 10 December 1948; recognises what it sees as the vital role of human rights frameworks in expanding, promoting, and defending human rights across the globe; understands that the Declaration has been translated into over 500 different languages, and has paved the way for more than 70 human rights treaties to date; notes the belief that politicians of all parties must work together to ensure that human rights are championed and have a maximum effect in practice; recognises Amnesty International’s campaign “Human Rights: Now Available in Human”, which, it understands, aims to engage as many people as possible in the legislative process for Scotland’s proposed new Human Rights Bill; further recognises the work of civil society organisations, including the Human Rights Consortium Scotland, JustRight Scotland and Making Rights Real, in helping to protect and advance human rights in Scotland; notes that 2023 also marks 25 years since the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders; affirms its support for human rights defenders working on the front line of what it sees as rights abuses and injustice, and notes the belief that their voices should be integral to law and policy development in Scotland and across the world.

The meeting closed at 5.40 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
12 December 2023

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

**Committee Reports**

The following reports were published on 12 December 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 73rd Report, 2023 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 12 December 2023 (SP Paper 491)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 74th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Delegated powers provisions in the Trusts and Succession (Scotland) Bill after Stage 2 (SP Paper 492)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 75th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 493)

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Negative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 8 December 2023 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/369)

laid under section 24(2) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

Bovine Semen (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/370)

laid under section 11(4) of the Animal Health and Welfare Act 1984

Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/372)

laid under section 68(1) and (2) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003

**Other Documents**

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 8 December 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Delivering for Scotland 2020-2023 National Transport Strategy Report to Parliament (SG/2023/192)** laid under Section 5(1)(b) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

**Food Standards Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2022-2023 (SG/2023/73)** laid under Section 19(4) of the Public Finance and Accountability Scotland Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 11 December 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Competition and Markets Authority Annual Plan consultation 2024/25 (CMA/2023/03)** laid under Schedule 4 s13(2)(b) of the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013.

**Crofting Commission Annual Report and Accounts 2022/23 (SG/2023/166)** laid under Section 2B and Schedule 1, paragraph 19 of the Crofters (Scotland) Act 1993

**The King's Printer for Scotland Report covering the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (SG/2023/316)** laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power.

**Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission 2022-23 Annual Report and Accounts (SG/2023/245)** laid under Schedule 9A of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

**Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission 2022-23 Annual Report (SG/2023/246)** laid under Schedule 9A of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 12 December 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Annual Audit Report Scottish Commission on Social Security 2022/23 (SG/2023/318)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Creative Scotland Group Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2023 (SG/2023/295)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Creative Scotland National Lottery Distribution Fund Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2023 (SG/2023/296)** laid under Section 34 of the National Lottery etc. Act 1993 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**The 2022/23 audit of Scottish Prison Service (SG/2023/314)** laid under Section 22(5a) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scottish Commission on Social Security Annual Report and Accounts 2022 - 2023 (SG/2023/292)** laid under Section 12(1) of Schedule 1 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 & Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scottish Legal Complaints Commission Annual Report 2022-23 (SG/2023/274)** laid under Section 16 (4), Schedule 1 of the Legal Profession and Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 2007

**Scottish Legal Complaints Commission Annual Report and Financial Statements Year ended 30 June 2023 (SG/2023/275)** laid under Section 16 (4), Schedule 1 of the Legal Profession and Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 2007

**Scottish Prison Service Annual Report & Accounts 2022-23 (SG/2023/313)** laid under Section 5 of the Prison (Scotland) Act 1989 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

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