



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 19, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 29 June 2022

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, Net Zero, Energy and Transport, and Rural Affairs and Islands were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government (Shona Robison) made a statement and answered questions on Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan – Fourth Year Progress Report (2021-22).

3. Social Security (Special Rules for End of Life) Bill - UK Legislation: The Minister for Social Security and Local Government (Ben Macpherson) moved S6M-05222—That the Parliament agrees that the provisions of the Social Security (Special Rules for End of Life) Bill, introduced in the House of Lords on 11 May 2022, relating to Special Rules for Terminal Illness for accessing disability benefits, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Northern Ireland Protocol Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) moved S6M-05235—That the Parliament agrees that it is fundamentally unacceptable for the UK Government to unilaterally disapply key parts of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement, the signing of which the Prime Minister hailed as a “fantastic moment”; further agrees that by proposing this course of action the UK Government is risking a disastrous trade

dispute with the European Union, with damaging consequences for Scotland in the midst of a cost of living crisis and at a time when the UK is in danger of falling into recession, and calls, therefore, on the UK Government to withdraw the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill and restart negotiations with the EU immediately.

Donald Cameron moved amendment S6M-05235.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-05235 in the name of Angus Robertson (Northern Ireland Protocol Bill), leave out from “it is fundamentally unacceptable” to end and insert “the Northern Ireland protocol is not working as intended, and calls on both the UK Government and the EU to come to a negotiated settlement so that these problems can be resolved and thereby protect both the integrity of the UK and the EU Single Market, and at the same time ensure that a stable settlement is delivered that safeguards peace in Northern Ireland and allows a return to power-sharing government in the Northern Ireland Executive.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 25, Against 85, Abstentions 0).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-05235.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-05235 in the name of Angus Robertson (Northern Ireland Protocol Bill), after “recession” insert “; condemns that the Bill breaks international law and risks the integrity of the Good Friday Agreement”.

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 85, Against 25, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament agrees that it is fundamentally unacceptable for the UK Government to unilaterally disapply key parts of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement, the signing of which the Prime Minister hailed as a “fantastic moment”; further agrees that by proposing this course of action the UK Government is risking a disastrous trade dispute with the European Union, with damaging consequences for Scotland in the midst of a cost of living crisis and at a time when the UK is in danger of falling into recession; condemns that the Bill breaks international law and risks the integrity of the Good Friday Agreement, and calls, therefore, on the UK Government to withdraw the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill and restart negotiations with the EU immediately.

5. Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Community Safety (Ash Regan) moved S6M-05154—That the Parliament agrees that the Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 84, Against 0, Abstentions 25).

6. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-05254—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 6 September 2022

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 7 September 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 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 8 September 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 Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 13 September 2022

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 14 September 2022

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Justice and Veterans; Finance and Economy

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 15 September 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: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 5 September 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.

Stephen Kerr moved amendment S6M-05254.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-05254 in the name of George Adam (Business Programme), after “That the Parliament agrees—” insert—

“(za) the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 30 June 2022—

after

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

insert

followed by Statement by the Lord Advocate on Independence Referendum Legal Considerations”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 47, Against 63, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 63, Against 47, Abstentions 0).

7. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-05255—That the Parliament agrees that the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee be designated as the lead committee, and that the Education, Children and Young People Committee and Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee be designated as secondary committees, in consideration of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 5, and 7 as noted above.

9. Scotland's Companies: The Parliament debated S6M-03994 in the name of John Mason—That the Parliament notes the reported probable loss of independent control and headquarter function of two major Scottish companies, namely Stagecoach and John Menzies; understands that Stagecoach, which was founded in 1980, agreed a merger with National Express late in 2021 but that a fund managed by Germany's DWS, which is part of Deutsche Bank, presented a near £600 million offer to take over the company; further understands that John Menzies, which was founded in 1883, has reached an agreement on a £571 million bid from Kuwait-based National Aviation Services; recognises what it sees as a further erosion of large thriving Scottish companies leaving the stock market, which it believes is detrimental to the nation's standing in the corporate world; further recognises what it sees as similar high-profile examples such as McVities in the Glasgow Shettleston constituency; notes the view that Scotland needs to do all that it can to encourage large Scottish companies to keep their independence, and further notes the hope that more Scottish companies see the value of keeping control of their operations in Scotland.

The meeting closed at 7.19 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
29 June 2022

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 29 June 2022—

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 10th Report, 2022 (Session 6): The Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Act 2016 (Supplementary Provision) Regulations 2022 [draft] (SP Paper 209)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 40th Report, 2022 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 28 June 2022 (SP Paper 210)

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 29 June 2022 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Climate Change Committee: Progress in reducing emissions, 2022 Report to Parliament SG/2022/128 laid under Section 36(1) of the UK Climate Change Act 2008

Professional Standards Authority Business Plan 2022/23 (incorporating the Strategic Plan 2021-2024) SG/2022/107 laid under Paragraph 16(1B) of Schedule 7 to the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002

Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care Annual Report and Accounts 2021/2022 SG/2022/106 laid under Paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 7 to the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002

Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan Fourth year progress report 2021-22 SG/2022/127 laid under section 10(7)(a) of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017

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