



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 67, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 11 January 2022

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Time for Reflection:** Rev Mairi Perkins, Minister, Ardoch linked with Blackford Parish Church, Perthshire, led Time for Reflection.
- 2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 3. First Minister Statement:** The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon) made a statement and answered questions on COVID-19 Update.
- 4. Addressing the Impacts of Labour Shortages on Scotland's Economy:** The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-02740— That the Parliament recognises the resilience and innovation that employers and workers across many sectors of the economy have demonstrated throughout the last year in response to the continuation of workforce challenges associated with the pandemic, combined with reduced workforce availability as a result of the UK's exit from the EU; believes that the Scottish Government and its agencies are committed to working with employers, business organisations and trade unions, to resolve and understand labour shortages, skills gaps and future requirements, and address recruitment and retention challenges through interventions and institutions designed to help more people into work, implementing a range of upskilling and retraining opportunities, and promoting the benefits of fair work, and calls on the UK Government to make immediate changes to its economically damaging migration policies in order to protect the provision of services and the delivery of goods through Scotland's supply chains.

Liz Smith moved amendment S6M-02740.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02740 in the name of Kate Forbes (Addressing the Impacts of Labour Shortages on Scotland's Economy), leave out from "reduced workforce" to end and insert "global supply chain issues and shortages of workers in some key sectors of the economy, and further recognises that there are serious and long-term structural issues within the Scottish economy, as shown by recent evidence presented by economic forecast groups, and that these must be addressed with more focussed Scottish Government policies targeted at reducing the skills gap, at improving productivity and stimulating economic growth."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 30, Against 93, Abstentions 0).

Paul Sweeney moved amendment S6M-02740.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02740 in the name of Kate Forbes (Addressing the Impacts of Labour Shortages on Scotland's Economy), leave out from "believes" to "fair work" and insert "notes the finding from the Scottish Fiscal Commission that Scotland's economy is lagging behind the rest of the UK, partly due to factors that predate the COVID-19 pandemic, such as declining labour market participation, weak investment in productivity and insufficient flexibility in skills development; considers that building a more sustainable and resilient economy will require an industrial strategy that addresses regional inequalities, low pay and poor conditions, and the skills gaps across Scotland; believes that the Scottish Government and its agencies must do more work with employers, business organisations, trade unions, colleges and universities to address recruitment and retention, promote fair work and offer more flexibility in reskilling opportunities for workers".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 25, Against 98, Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68, Against 55, Abstentions 0).

5. Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill - UK Legislation: The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved S6M-02739—That the Parliament agrees that the relevant provisions of the Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 8 June 2021, relating to animal welfare, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02755—That the

Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 13 January 2022—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs and Islands

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs and Islands

followed by Ministerial Statement: Reducing Scotland's Car Travel by 20% by 2030

The motion was agreed to.

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

8. Endometriosis: The Parliament debated S6M-01569 in the name of Rachael Hamilton—That the Parliament notes the view that there is a need to raise awareness of the widespread nature of endometriosis; understands that this painful disorder affects an estimated 10% of women worldwide and is the second most common gynaecological condition in the UK; believes that, despite its widespread nature, healthcare professionals still find it difficult to diagnose and treat the condition and that this situation has affected women in the Scottish Borders and across the country; recognises the Scottish Government's commitment to reduce the average time taken to diagnose endometriosis from eight years to less than 12 months during the current parliamentary session, as outlined in the Women's Health Plan; acknowledges the work done by the UK Parliament's All-Party Parliamentary Group on Endometriosis in highlighting the key areas that need to be addressed in order to see a reduction in the time to make a diagnosis, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to present MSPs with a detailed plan and timeframe for achieving this target.

9. Motion without Notice: Gillian Mackay moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.12 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
11 January 2022

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 10 January 2022—

Criminal Justice Committee, 1st Report, 2022 (Session 6): Judged on Progress: The need for urgent delivery on Scottish justice sector reforms (SP Paper 75)

The following report will be published on 12 January 2022—

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 1st Report, 2022 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation on Short-term lets considered by the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee on 21 December 2022 (SP Paper 77)

Subordinate Legislation

Made Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 29 December 2021 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 8) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/498)
laid under paragraph 6(2) and (3) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 7 January 2022 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/2)
laid under section 122(6) and (7) of the Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008 and paragraph 6(2) and (3) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 7 January 2022 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Aquaculture and Fisheries etc. (Scheme for Financial Assistance) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 [draft]
laid under section 51(4)(b) and paragraph 1(8) of schedule 6 of the Fisheries Act 2020

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 6 January 2022 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Annual Report of the Investigatory Powers Commissioner 2020 - Statement by the Prime Minister SG/2022/2 laid under section 234(8) of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016

Annual Report of the Investigatory Powers Commissioner 2020 SG/2022/1 laid under section 234(8) of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016

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