



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 27, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 15 September 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 on Finance and Economy were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.
- 2. Ministerial Statement:** The Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport (Maree Todd) made a statement and answered questions on Update on Cervical Screening.
- 3. Future of North Sea Oil and Gas:** Liam Kerr moved S6M-01193—That the Parliament supports new oil and gas projects, including Cambo, because a strong North Sea sector supporting tens of thousands of Scottish jobs is preferable to increasing energy imports during the transition to net zero.

The Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport (Michael Matheson) moved amendment S6M-01193.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-01193 in the name of Liam Kerr (Future of North Sea Oil and Gas), leave out from “supports” to end and insert “recognises how important the oil and gas industry, infrastructure, highly-skilled workforce and supply chain are to Scotland; agrees that countries around the world cannot continue to maximise recovery of hydrocarbons if the aims of the Paris Agreement are to be met; believes that Scotland and the UK cannot ignore the concern that unlimited extraction of fossil fuels is simply incompatible with protecting the planet; understands that the Scottish Government will undertake analysis to understand Scotland’s energy requirements as the country transitions

to net-zero in line with the aims of the Paris Agreement; recognises the role that hydrogen, carbon capture, utilisation and storage can play in a just transition, so long as they are not used to justify unsustainable levels of fossil fuel extraction; welcomes the Scottish Government's commitment to working with communities and those most impacted across Scotland, including the highly-skilled oil and gas workforce, to co-design the Transition Plan for Energy, and to taking forward a 10-year £500 million Just Transition Fund for the North East and Moray, and calls on the UK Government to match this investment, as well as reassess all existing licences for undeveloped fossil fuel extraction in light of the climate emergency."

Monica Lennon moved amendment S6M-01193.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-01217 in the name of Liam Kerr (Future of North Sea Oil and Gas), leave out from "supports" to end and insert "believes that the development of the Cambo oil field would be at odds with Scotland's aim of being net zero by 2045 and should not go ahead; considers that it is crucial that the transition to green sources of energy is jobs- and worker-led to retain and increase skilled jobs in Scotland; notes that the number of people directly employed in the low-carbon economy in Scotland is currently at its lowest level since 2014, at only 21,400, according to the latest available figures, and calls on the Scottish Government to use its powers over procurement, offshore windfarm licence approval and the Scottish National Investment Bank to secure and grow domestic supply chains for renewables, creating high-skilled, well-paying jobs across Scotland."

Liam McArthur moved amendment S6M-01193.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-01193 in the name of Liam Kerr (Future of North Sea Oil and Gas), leave out from "supports" to end and insert "believes that, in the current circumstances, the licence for Cambo should not proceed; recognises that decisions taken over the next 10 years will either make the planet or break it; believes that every aspect of how people live needs to be sense checked in light of the climate emergency, and that this includes the oil and gas sector; notes the evidence that people in the industry would embrace new opportunities, but that both the Scottish and UK governments have failed to provide workers with the promised opportunities for green jobs, which are critical to their skills being redeployed as part of a just transition; notes the impact that this has had on communities connected to the oil and gas sector; recalls that the licence for Cambo was first considered in 2001, when the basic facts of global warming were still being regularly disputed, and believes that the climate checkpoint must be applied, given the understanding that now exists around the climate emergency and that the extraction of oil and gas cannot continue unabated."

After debate, amendment S6M-01193.3 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68, Against 55, Abstentions 0). As a result, amendments S6M-01193.1 and S6M-01193.2 were pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 66, Against 55, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved— That the Parliament recognises how important the oil and gas industry, infrastructure, highly-skilled workforce and supply chain are to Scotland; agrees that countries around the world cannot continue to maximise recovery of hydrocarbons if the aims of the Paris Agreement are to be met; believes that Scotland and the UK cannot ignore the concern that unlimited extraction of fossil fuels is simply incompatible with protecting the planet; understands that the Scottish Government will undertake analysis to understand Scotland’s energy requirements as the country transitions to net-zero in line with the aims of the Paris Agreement; recognises the role that hydrogen, carbon capture, utilisation and storage can play in a just transition, so long as they are not used to justify unsustainable levels of fossil fuel extraction; welcomes the Scottish Government’s commitment to working with communities and those most impacted across Scotland, including the highly-skilled oil and gas workforce, to co-design the Transition Plan for Energy, and to taking forward a 10-year £500 million Just Transition Fund for the North East and Moray, and calls on the UK Government to match this investment, as well as reassess all existing licences for undeveloped fossil fuel extraction in light of the climate emergency.

**4. Return to Normal GP Services:** Annie Wells moved S6M-01217—That the Parliament recognises that patients have a right to treatment by GPs, and calls on the Scottish Government to set a target date for a return to normal activity in practices, including face-to-face consultations.

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Humza Yousaf) moved amendment S6M-01217.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-01217 in the name of Annie Wells (Return to Normal GP Services), leave out from “, and calls” to end and insert “and other appropriate primary care health professionals, such as dentists, nurses, optometrists and pharmacists; appreciates that GPs and primary care staff were asked to change the way that they worked in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic; thanks GPs and primary care staff for keeping practices open and their hard work during the pandemic; recognises that, for many patients, the choice of using ehealth and telehealth solutions to initially contact their GP has been convenient, but that it is not a solution that is appropriate for all; believes that face-to-face consultations will continue to be necessary and that they should be taken forward in line with clinical guidance and in a manner that is as safe as possible as quickly as possible, and welcomes the Scottish Government commitment to work with the Royal College of General Practitioners, British Medical Association, Royal College of Nursing and other stakeholders to deliver this.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 67, Against 56, Abstentions 0).

Jackie Baillie moved amendment S6M-01217.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-01217 in the name of Annie Wells (Return to Normal GP Services), insert at end “; recognises the important contribution that GPs have made throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, including stepping up to

support colleagues in acute care and administering vaccinations across the country, and regrets the Scottish Government's failure to remedy the alarming shortage of GPs and staff in the wider primary care team, with the current workforce feeling overworked and undervalued, all of which will severely undermine a sustainable future for primary care in Scotland.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 56, Against 65, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 89, Against 30, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved— That the Parliament recognises that patients have a right to treatment by GPs, and other appropriate primary care health professionals, such as dentists, nurses, optometrists and pharmacists; appreciates that GPs and primary care staff were asked to change the way that they worked in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic; thanks GPs and primary care staff for keeping practices open and their hard work during the pandemic; recognises that, for many patients, the choice of using ehealth and telehealth solutions to initially contact their GP has been convenient, but that it is not a solution that is appropriate for all; believes that face-to-face consultations will continue to be necessary and that they should be taken forward in line with clinical guidance and in a manner that is as safe as possible as quickly as possible, and welcomes the Scottish Government commitment to work with the Royal College of General Practitioners, British Medical Association, Royal College of Nursing and other stakeholders to deliver this.

**5. Revision to Business Programme:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01258—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 16 September 2021—

after

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: A Land of Opportunity - Supporting a Fairer and More Equal Society

insert

*followed by* Legislative Consent Motion

The motion was agreed to.

**6. Business Programme:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01231—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 21 September 2021

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: A Net Zero Nation

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 22 September 2021

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

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

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Diversion from Prosecution

*followed by* Scottish Labour Party Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.40 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 23 September 2021

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* Ministerial Statement: Decarbonising Scotland's Transport

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Carers Allowance Supplement (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Financial Resolution: Carers Allowance Supplement (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 28 September 2021

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 Business

*followed by* Environmental Standards Scotland: Appointment of the Chief Executive

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 29 September 2021

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

5.10 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 30 September 2021

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* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 28 September 2021, 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.

**7. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01232—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) (No. 3) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/254) 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-01233—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 14) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/256) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**9. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01234—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) (No. 4) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/261) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**10. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01235—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) (No. 5) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/264) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**11. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01236—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) (No. 6) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/265) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**12. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01237—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 15) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/275) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**13. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01238—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) (No. 7) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/278) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**14. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01239—That the Parliament agrees that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 16) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/290) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**15. Recess Dates:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01240—That the Parliament agrees the following parliamentary recess dates under Rule 2.3.1: 12 to 20 February 2022 (inclusive), 2 to 17 April 2022 (inclusive), 2 July to 4 September 2022 (inclusive), 8 to 23 October 2022 (inclusive), 24 December 2022 to 8 January 2023 (inclusive).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**16. Suspension and Variation of Standing Orders:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-01242—That, subject to the Parliament's agreement to the general principles of the Carer's Allowance Supplement (Scotland) Bill, the Parliament agrees, for the purposes of further consideration of the Bill, that:

- (a) Rules 9.5.3A and 9.5.3B be suspended;
- (b) Rule 9.7.8A be varied to replace the word “fourth” with “third”, so that the deadline for lodging revised or supplementary Explanatory Notes will be the third sitting day before the day on which Stage 3 is due to start;
- (c) in Rule 9.7.8B, the words “whichever is the earlier of” be suspended;
- (d) Rule 9.7.8B(a) be varied to replace the word “tenth” with “second”, so that the deadline for lodging a revised Financial Memorandum will be the second sitting day after the day on which Stage 2 ends;
- (e) in Rule 9.7.9(a), the words “whichever is the earlier of” be suspended;
- (f) Rule 9.7.9(a)(i) be varied to replace the word “tenth” with “second”, so that the deadline for lodging a revised or supplementary Delegated Powers Memorandum will be the second sitting day after the day on which Stage 2 ends;
- (g) Rule 9.10.2 be varied, in so far as it applies to an amendment at Stage 2, to replace the word “fourth”, in both places it occurs, with “third”, so that the deadline for lodging a Stage 2 amendment will be the third sitting day in advance of proceedings; and
- (h) Rule 9.10.2A be varied to replace the word “fifth” with “third”, so that the deadline for lodging a Stage 3 amendment will be the third sitting day in advance of proceedings.”

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**17. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 as noted above.

**18. A Just Transition for Torry:** The Parliament debated S6M-01071 in the name of Maggie Chapman—That the Parliament notes the reported proposals to re-zone St Fittick’s Park in Torry, Aberdeen, currently designated urban green space, and Doonies Rare Breeds Farm, currently part of the green belt, to facilitate port expansion as part of a larger industrialisation plan to create an energy transition zone; recognises what it sees as the importance of transitioning away from fossil fuels, but also what it considers the negative impacts that over-industrialisation can have on resident communities, such as poor air quality, loss of greenspace and various forms of pollution, including noise; believes that community green spaces are positive for mental wellbeing and people’s right to a healthy environment; appreciates the value of having an award-winning, biodiverse area of woodland, wetland and recreational grassland in these areas, which it understands experience multiple social deprivation; acknowledges the reported opposition to the re-zoning by the community in Torry, including the Friends of St Fittick’s Park campaign, on environmental justice and community wellbeing grounds; notes the view that these sites are valuable to the people and worthy of protection, and further notes the belief that their re-zoning is inappropriate.

The meeting closed at 6.44 pm.



**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
15 September 2021

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

**New Subordinate Legislation**

**Made Affirmative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 September 2021 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 19) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/319)  
laid under section 122(6) and (7) of the Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008

**Negative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 15 September 2021 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Reimbursement of Costs and Expenses) (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/312)  
laid under section 91 & 107 of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Payment of Legal Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/313)  
laid under section 107(3) and (4) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021

Representation of the People (Absent Voting at Local Government Elections) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/317)  
laid under section 61(3) of the Local Electoral Administration and Registration Services (Scotland) Act 2006

Carbon Accounting Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/318)  
laid under section 96(5) & (7) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

**Laid Only Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 September 2021 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Coronavirus Act 2020 (Suspension: Children and Young Persons Social Care) (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/315)  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

## **Other Documents**

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 15 September 2021 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Care Inspectorate: Weekly Care Home deaths report – periods up to 12 September 2021 SG/2021/240** laid under Section 79A(3) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

**Care Inspectorate: Fortnightly report to the Scottish Parliament on Care Inspectorate inspections – Laid before Parliament 15 September 2021 SG/2021/239** laid under Section 53A of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

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