



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 65, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 18 January 2023

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, and then on Finance and the Economy, were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

**2. Addressing the Crisis in the NHS and Social Care:** Jackie Baillie moved S6M-07538—That the Parliament is deeply concerned about the experiences of patients and staff across Scotland’s NHS; notes that in recent weeks A&E has recorded the worst ever performance against the 4-hour target, levels of delayed discharge have reached their highest ever and record numbers of people are waiting for appointments, tests and treatment; considers that this has not been caused by short-term problems, but is the result of 15 years of the Scottish Government failing to tackle systemic issues in Scotland’s health and social care system, and believes that, instead of sticking plaster solutions, Scotland needs an NHS Recovery Plan that is community care-led, focuses on preventative healthcare, properly values social care and delivers £15 per hour for social care staff, and has a fully-funded and sustainable workforce plan for health and care services so that Scotland’s NHS is fit for the 21st century.

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Humza Yousaf) moved amendment S6M-07538.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-07538 in the name of Jackie Baillie (Addressing the Crisis in the NHS and Social Care), leave out from “is deeply” to end and insert “recognises the unprecedented pressure that NHS and care

staff have faced over the winter and thanks them for all their efforts in caring for the people of Scotland at this challenging time; notes that these are challenges that are being faced across the UK and beyond; recognises that the triple impact of Brexit, the COVID-19 pandemic and the UK Government's cost of living crisis has exacerbated the pressures faced by the health service; believes that freedom of movement within Europe would be beneficial to help addressing recruitment challenges, and that the only route to securing that is membership of the European Union; welcomes that constructive industrial relations in Scotland's health service mean that Scotland is the only part of the UK not experiencing strike action from health staff this winter; notes the ongoing £1 billion NHS Recovery Plan, which is supporting new ways of delivering care that are creating additional capacity for inpatients, day case patients and outpatients, including investment to support the four National Treatment Centres (NTC) due to open over 2023; recognises that the expanded NTC network will provide additional capacity of eight additional orthopaedic theatres, an additional inpatient/day case ward, five endoscopy rooms and two general theatres, initially providing over 12,250 additional procedures, dependent on workforce; welcomes the Scottish Government's draft Budget, which included additional investment to increase adult social care wages, and believes that, through the creation of the National Care Service, there is a real opportunity for underpinning fair work in social care and delivering national sectoral bargaining for social care workers."

Sandesh Gulhane moved amendment S6M-07538.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-07538 in the name of Jackie Baillie (Addressing the Crisis in the NHS and Social Care), leave out from “, and believes” to end and insert “; recognises in evidence of this fact that the 62-day cancer treatment target has not been met in a decade, and that the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services target has never been met since its introduction in 2014, and calls on the Scottish Government to take action by introducing new crisis maximum waiting times, increasing GP capacity by introducing a full electronic repeat prescription system, introducing an NHS care app to allow patients to see live hospital waiting times, introducing prehab for those awaiting treatment, and expanding rehabilitation and assessment in the community and home (ReACH) teams across all health boards to prevent older individuals from having to return to hospital.”

After debate, amendment S6M-07538.2 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 55, Abstentions 0). As a result, amendment S6M-07538.1 was pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 54, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament recognises the unprecedented pressure that NHS and care staff have faced over the winter and thanks them for all their efforts in caring for the people of Scotland at this challenging time; notes that these are challenges that are

being faced across the UK and beyond; recognises that the triple impact of Brexit, the COVID-19 pandemic and the UK Government's cost of living crisis has exacerbated the pressures faced by the health service; believes that freedom of movement within Europe would be beneficial to help addressing recruitment challenges, and that the only route to securing that is membership of the European Union; welcomes that constructive industrial relations in Scotland's health service mean that Scotland is the only part of the UK not experiencing strike action from health staff this winter; notes the ongoing £1 billion NHS Recovery Plan, which is supporting new ways of delivering care that are creating additional capacity for inpatients, day case patients and outpatients, including investment to support the four National Treatment Centres (NTC) due to open over 2023; recognises that the expanded NTC network will provide additional capacity of eight additional orthopaedic theatres, an additional inpatient/day case ward, five endoscopy rooms and two general theatres, initially providing over 12,250 additional procedures, dependent on workforce; welcomes the Scottish Government's draft Budget, which included additional investment to increase adult social care wages, and believes that, through the creation of the National Care Service, there is a real opportunity for underpinning fair work in social care and delivering national sectoral bargaining for social care workers.

**3. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish and UK Government Selection of Green Freeports.

**4. Business Programme:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-07557—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 24 January 2023

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Stage 3 Proceedings: Hunting with Dogs (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

7.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 25 January 2023

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs and Islands; Health and Social Care

*followed by* Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 26 January 2023

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

*followed by* Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Strategic Transport Projects Review 2

*followed by* Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: Scottish Budget 2023-24

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.30 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 31 January 2023

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 1 February 2023

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture; Justice and Veterans

*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 2 February 2023

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* Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Budget 2023-24

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 23 January 2023, 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.

**5. Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 2 as noted above.

**6. Developing an Economy Driven by New Robotic Technology at Heriot-Watt University:** The Parliament debated S6M-07286 in the name of Gordon MacDonald— That the Parliament commends the ongoing research at the newly opened National Robotarium, based at the Heriot-Watt University campus in Edinburgh and developed in partnership with the University of Edinburgh; understands that the centre is the largest and most advanced applied research facility for robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) in the UK; further understands that the National Robotarium is supported through the £1.3 billion Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal; considers that the National Robotarium has unrivalled technology and facilities, central to the development and testing of robotics and AI solutions across the three distinct areas of robotics and autonomous systems, human and robot interaction, and high-precision manufacturing; understands that the centre leverages existing research and industry expertise to address global challenges in areas such as hazardous environments, offshore energy, manufacturing, construction, healthcare, human-robot interaction, assisted living, and agritech; applauds what it sees as the ability of the National Robotarium to move innovative products and services rapidly from laboratory to market, to develop new prototypes, and support early stage product development within an incubator environment that drives productivity; thanks staff and researchers at the centre for promoting what it considers Scotland's role as a world-leading international hub for

robotics, autonomous systems and AI, and notes the view that Scotland will need to develop a manufacturing base and train a qualified workforce in order to embrace new opportunities in a future economy driven by modern robotic technology.

The meeting closed at 6.37 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
18 January 2023

## **Appendix**

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

### **Subordinate Legislation**

#### **Affirmative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 18 January 2023 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) (Amendment) Order 2023 [draft]

laid under Sections 3A(3), and 44(3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982

#### **Other Documents**

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 18 January 2023 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for January 2023 (SPSO/2023/1)** laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

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