



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 16, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 20 June 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Tetiana Balanova, Community Coordinator, Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (AUGB) in Edinburgh, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-09618—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 20 June 2023—

after

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scottish Innovation Strategy

insert

followed by Motion of No Confidence

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 21 June 2023—

delete

7.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

and insert

9.50 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy (Elena Whitham) made a statement and answered questions on Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards Implementation.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition (Mairi McAllan) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2021.

6. Scottish Innovation Strategy: The Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism and Trade (Richard Lochhead) moved S6M-09594—That the Parliament welcomes the publication of Scotland's National Innovation Strategy; recognises its vision for Scotland to become one of the most innovative small nations in the world over the next decade as a key part of delivering a greener, fairer, wellbeing economy; recognises Scotland's potential to become a world leader in four key areas of the economy, which are energy to address the climate emergency, health and life sciences, advanced manufacturing, and data and digital technologies; welcomes the strategy's four programmes, which are a national network of clusters in key sectors, a renewed investment and support offer for businesses, a new framework for realising the commercial and community benefits of research, and a new programme focused on supporting businesses to become active in innovation and improve their productivity; recognises that the Scottish Government will measure and evaluate Scotland's innovation performance and compare this to similar nations on an annual basis; welcomes the extensive engagement, consultation and joint working with industry, academia, entrepreneurs, investors and the public sector that helped develop the strategy; notes the successful examples of innovation taking place across the country; recognises the important role of enhanced employee engagement and alternative ownership models in fostering innovation, and understands the significant opportunities for Scotland, and its businesses, entrepreneurs, workers, communities and universities, to grow and scale its excellence in innovation and technology to become recognised globally as a world-leading innovation nation.

Jamie Halcro Johnston moved amendment S6M-09594.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-09594 in the name of Richard Lochhead (Scottish Innovation Strategy), leave out from first "welcomes" to end and insert "recognises the importance of driving innovation in Scotland, both within the

public and private sectors, but believes that the current direction of the Scottish Government is creating barriers to growth and inhibiting innovation; further recognises that high taxes on individuals and businesses risk impacting on growth; regrets the reduction in the 2023-24 budget settlement to the enterprise agencies, which will reduce their ability to support Scottish businesses; acknowledges the challenges faced in the university sector for Scottish students due to high levels of competition and the resulting impact that has on the ability to train, in the numbers required, sufficiently skilled workers to drive and support innovation; believes that leaving the United Kingdom would severely damage Scotland's ability to succeed by creating a border across the vital UK single market, creating significant challenges for businesses to trade and operate across the United Kingdom, and would cost the Scottish economy billions of pounds, reducing the ability to foster a strong, vibrant and innovative economy, and believes that Scotland's success lies in cooperation across the United Kingdom, economic policies which provide Scotland with a competitive advantage, proper investment in infrastructure to benefit businesses and communities, and a Scottish Government with a firm grasp on public finances to build business confidence and drive innovation."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 32, Against 69, Abstentions 21).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-09594.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-09594 in the name of Richard Lochhead (Scottish Innovation Strategy), insert at end “; recognises that ambition alone will not be enough to realise the potential of Scotland's people, businesses and communities; believes that a genuine coordinated industrial strategy, built on investment, skills and infrastructure, will be central to driving innovation; welcomes the identification of the energy sector as a sector with high potential, and believes that the best chance of realising the potential in Scotland's energy sector is through the Labour Party's plan to create a new publicly-owned energy company, which will be headquartered in Scotland and will deliver lower bills, energy security and good jobs for Scotland.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 20, Against 97, Abstentions 3).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Motion of No Confidence: Liam Kerr moved S6M-09607—That the Parliament has no confidence in the Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity, in light of the failure of the proposed Scottish Deposit Return Scheme.

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

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6 and 7 as noted above.

9. Ensuring a Just Transition for Rural Communities: The Parliament debated S6M-09435 in the name of Alexander Burnett— That the Parliament believes that what it sees as the Scottish Government's failure to listen to local communities has resulted in an unjust transition to net zero taking place in rural communities across Scotland, including those in the Aberdeenshire West constituency; recognises what it sees as the vital importance of an energy strategy that uses a mix of energy sources to achieve a just transition and protect the livelihood and character of rural communities; acknowledges what it sees as the significant concerns of local communities and local authorities, which, it believes, have overwhelmingly opposed industrial sized onshore windfarm proposals, but have then been overruled by the Energy Consents Unit * *; notes the view that the Scottish Government should ensure that local community objections to renewable energy developments are a key factor in considering when approval should be granted; further notes the calls for the Scottish Government to introduce legislation for a mandatory minimum megawatt-hour community benefit contribution rate from renewable energy developments, which would increase in line with inflation; recognises the role that it believes that community benefit should play in ensuring that communities receive fair compensation as part of a real just transition in areas where renewable energy developments are being considered, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to implement the recommendations of the joint review by the UK and Scottish governments of ETSU-R-97 on all new onshore windfarm developments, in particular, the recommendation that controlling values for noise during the night should not be higher for night-time than during the day.

10. Motion without Notice: Alexander Burnett 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 6.38 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
20 June 2023

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 20 June 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 41st Report, 2023 (Session 6): Delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Electronic Trade Documents Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (SP Paper 407)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 16 June 2023 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Green Freeports Relief) (Scotland) Order 2023 [draft]

laid under section 68(2)(c) of the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Scotland) Act 2013

Laid Only Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 16 June 2023 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 7) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/182 (C.18))

laid under section 30 of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/183 (C. 19))

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Legislative Consent Memorandums

The following memorandum was lodged on 16 June 2023—

Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs:
Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-27a)

The following memorandum was lodged on 19 June 2023—

Shona Robison, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance:
Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Economic Crime
and Corporate Transparency Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-35a)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 19 June 2023 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Civil Justice Council Annual Report 2022/2023 and Annual Programme 2023/2024 (SCJC/2023/01) laid under section 5(4) of the Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Act 2013

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 20 June 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scotland's response to the Climate Change Committee's (CCC) Annual Progress Report 2022 Recommendations (SG/2023/121) laid under Section 9 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Scottish Greenhouse Gas Statistics 2021 (SG/2023/123) laid under Section 33 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Published by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

All documents are available on
the Scottish Parliament website at:

www.parliament.scot/documents

For information on the Scottish Parliament contact
Public Information on:

Telephone: 0131 348 5000 or 0800 092 7500

Email: sp.info@parliament.scot

Live chat on parliament.scot

You can write to us in any language or contact us
using the Text Relay service or in British Sign

Language through contactScotland-BSL.

© Parliamentary copyright. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

The Scottish Parliament's copyright policy can be found on the website -
www.parliament.scot or by contacting Public Information.