



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 6, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 25 May 2023

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

- 1. General Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.
- 2. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (Humza Yousaf).
- 3. Justice for Fornethy House Survivors:** The Parliament debated S6M-06729 in the name of Colin Smyth—That the Parliament recognises what it considers as the inspirational women who have bravely come forward to highlight the plight of the reported hundreds of survivors of physical, mental and sexual abuse at Fornethy House Residential School, in Angus, when they attended to convalesce or for short breaks between 1960 and the 1990s; notes reports that over 200 women have revealed the appalling abuse that they suffered at Fornethy House when they were young girls; commends these women for what it sees as their determined and admirable campaign for justice; recognises the reported challenges that survivors of Fornethy House have experienced in qualifying for Scotland's Redress Scheme due to the eligibility criteria excluding those abused in short-term respite care; notes the reported difficulties that the survivors have had in obtaining personal records that were held by the owners of Fornethy House at the time, which were Glasgow Corporation and Strathclyde Regional Council; further notes the ongoing Police Scotland investigation, but regrets that, to date, none of the alleged perpetrators of the abuse have been brought to justice, and notes the view that these women deserve both justice and recognition for the appalling abuse that they suffered at Fornethy House Residential School.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Just Transition were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Deputy First Minister & Cabinet Secretary for Finance (Shona Robison) made a statement and answered questions on Medium Term Financial Strategy.

6. Future Agriculture Policy in Scotland: Finlay Carson, on behalf of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, moved S6M-09146—That the Parliament recognises the need for Scotland to develop its own agriculture policy and support post-EU exit; notes the Scottish Government's Vision for Agriculture, which was published in March 2022, and its intention to introduce an agriculture bill in the next parliamentary year, and welcomes the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee's evidence taking in order to fully understand the broad range of policy areas that are fundamental to a successful future agriculture policy and to ensure that the agriculture sector is a thriving part of the economy, which helps to tackle climate change, protects biodiversity and, most importantly, puts food on plates.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.58 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.59 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
25 May 2023

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 25 May 2023—

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 9th Report, 2023 (Session 6):
Annual Report of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee 2022-23 (SP
Paper 373)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 6th Report, 2023 (Session 6):
Annual Report of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee 2022-23
(SP Paper 379)

Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 25 May 2023 and are
subject to the negative procedure—

Packaging Waste (Data Reporting) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 (SSI
2023/160)

laid under section 58(5) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Food (Scotland) Act 2015 (Compliance Notices) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/161)

laid under section 60 of the Food (Scotland) Act 2015

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 25 May 2023 and is not
subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scotland's Fiscal and Economic Forecasts – May 2022 (SFC/2022/2) laid under
section 5(2) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

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