



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 61, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 10 January 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Susan Henderson, Inverclyde United Reformed Churches, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revised Business Motion: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-07455—

That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 10 January 2023—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: NHS Winter Pressures

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

6.00 pm Decision Time

Sandesh Gulhane moved amendment S6M-07455.2

As an amendment to motion S6M-07455 in the name of George Adam (Revision to Business Programme), leave out from “5.00 pm” to end and insert “followed by Scottish Government Debate: People’s Right to Choose - Respecting Scotland’s Democratic Mandate”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 30, Against 94 (including 1 proxy vote) Abstentions 0).

Neil Bibby moved amendment S6M-07455.1

As an amendment to motion S6M-07455 in the name of George Adam (Revision to Business Programme), after “NHS Winter Pressures” insert—

“delete

followed by Scottish Government Debate: People’s Right to Choose - Respecting Scotland’s Democratic Mandate

and insert

followed by Scottish Government Debate: A New NHS Recovery Plan”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 55, Against 69 (including 1 proxy vote) Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 99 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 25, Abstentions 0).

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Humza Yousaf) made a statement and answered questions on NHS Winter Pressures.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport (Michael Matheson) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland’s Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan.

6. People’s Right to Choose - Respecting Scotland’s Democratic Mandate: The Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) moved S6M-07429—That the Parliament acknowledges the decision of the UK Supreme Court in the reference by the Lord Advocate of devolution issues under paragraph 34 of schedule 6 to the Scotland Act 1998; reaffirms its belief that people in Scotland have the sovereign right to determine the form of government best suited to their needs; believes that the United Kingdom should be a voluntary association of nations and that it should be open to any of its parts to choose by democratic means to withdraw from the union, and calls on the UK Government to respect the right of people in Scotland to choose their constitutional future.

Donald Cameron moved amendment S6M-07429.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-07429 in the name of Angus Robertson (People's Right to Choose - Respecting Scotland's Democratic Mandate), leave out from “reaffirms its belief” to end and insert “recognises that the people of Scotland voted decisively to remain within the United Kingdom in 2014; agrees that another divisive referendum should not be a priority during the ongoing cost of living crisis, and believes that it should focus its time on addressing the pressing issues that the country faces, including the current issues facing the NHS.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 30, Against 94 (including 1 proxy vote) Abstentions 0).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-07429.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-07429 in the name of Angus Robertson (People's Right to Choose - Respecting Scotland's Democratic Mandate), leave out from “United Kingdom” to end and insert “people of Scotland are frustrated with two governments that are more focused on division and their own priorities, rather than the people's priorities; considers that they should be focusing their time, energy and resources on addressing the cost of living crisis, and the NHS crisis, which is costing lives, and calls on the Scottish Government to focus on delivering the recovery that the NHS urgently needs, as committed to in the Scottish National Party's 2021 manifesto.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 24, Against 100 (including 1 proxy vote) Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 70 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 54, Abstentions 0).

7. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its urgent response is to the reported announcement regarding the closure of the Amazon Gourock site, was answered by Minister for Business, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise (Ivan McKee).

8. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights (Patrick Harvie) made a statement and answered questions on Proposed Domestic Building Environmental Standards (Scotland) Bill.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 6 as noted above.

10. Programme Promoting the Benefits of Shared Parenting: The Parliament debated S6M-06610 in the name of Fulton MacGregor—That the Parliament notes what it sees as the importance of the involvement of both parents when bringing up a child; asserts that every child of separated parents deserves the love and support of both of their parents; believes in the need for parents to co-operate where appropriate; understands that research has shown that there is a lack of support for children of

separated parents; considers that parents, including in the Coatbridge and Chryston constituency, may need help to make important decisions about sharing the care of their children; acknowledges the view that there is a need for public policy to recognise these challenges; praises Shared Parenting Scotland for piloting the New Ways for Families programme; recognises that the online programme focuses on the key skills of emotion management, flexible thinking and behaviour moderation; applauds the ethos of the programme, which, it considers, puts children first, as well as focusing on improving co-parenting and making decisions together out of court; notes reports that a similar programme introduced in Canada saw a significant increase in parenting co-operation upon completion, and congratulates Shared Parenting Scotland for securing £16,500 worth of funding from the Scottish Government, The National Lottery, and an anonymous trust in order to deliver the programme.

The meeting closed at 7.39 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
10 January 2023

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 4 January 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 1st Report, 2023 (Session 6):
Disabled Children and Young People (Transitions to Adulthood) (Scotland) Bill
at Stage 1 (SP Paper 290)

The following reports were published on 10 January 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 2nd Report, 2023 (Session
6): Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 291)

Criminal Justice Committee, 1st Report, 2023 (Session 6): Report on the
Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy
and Reconciliation) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (SP Paper 292)

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 10 January 2023 and
are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 – Interim Reporting Requirement
(SG/2023/8)** laid under Section 14 of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018

Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan (SG/2023/013) laid at the request
of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

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