



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 4, No. 20, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 26 June 2024

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, then on Justice and Home Affairs, and then on Education and Skills were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.
- 2. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on European Structural and Investment Funds.
- 3. Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency:** The Minister for Climate Action (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-13759—That the Parliament reaffirms its unwavering commitment to tackling the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss through a just and fair transition; believes firmly in, and accepts, climate science and expert advice and its importance in reaching net zero, and rejects, therefore, climate science denial.

Douglas Lumsden moved amendment S6M-13759.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-13759 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency), insert at end “; urges the Scottish Government, in light of this, to reverse its anti-science approach to new nuclear technology; notes that the Scottish Government has missed nine of the past 13 climate change targets, and that its decision to scrap the 2030 target reflected concerns raised by the Climate Change Committee that the Scottish Government’s approach to climate change was no longer feasible and

had no clear delivery plan; urges the Scottish Government to be transparent with its approach to climate change and to publish the Climate Change Plan as soon as possible, and recognises that the proposed new Climate Change Bill should be appropriately scrutinised and contain realistic targets to help Scotland reach net zero.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-13759.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-13759 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency), insert at end “; notes that the Scottish Government is still to legislate after announcing that the Scottish Ministers planned to scrap Scotland's legal climate targets, and regrets that Scotland's ambitious legal targets were not backed up by ambitious action from the Scottish Government, despite consistent cross-party support in the Parliament and the Climate Change Committee's belief that reaching the targets was previously achievable.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 58 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 59 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Patrick Harvie moved amendment S6M-13759.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-13759 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency), after “transition” insert “; recognises that this is currently not happening at the pace required by climate science, and that Scotland's emission cuts since targets were first set have been inadequate; believes that significant policy change is required to achieve emission cuts, especially in transport, land use and heating; agrees with the UN Secretary General's description of fossil fuel companies as 'the godfathers of climate chaos'; further agrees that investment in new fossil fuel production and infrastructure cannot be justified”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 8, Against 108 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Climate Action (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-13757—That the Parliament agrees that the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 116 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13780—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 3 September 2024

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 4 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

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 5 September 2024

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: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 10 September 2024

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 11 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

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 12 September 2024

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: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

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 2 September 2024, 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.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13792—That the Parliament agrees

that the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) Amendment Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 0, Abstentions 46 (including 1 proxy vote)).

7. Approval of Proposed Revised Social Security Charter: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13781—That the Parliament agrees that the Proposed Revised Social Security Charter (SG/2024/96) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13782—That the Parliament agrees that Patrick Harvie be appointed to replace Mark Ruskell as a member of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee. The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13783—That the Parliament agrees that—

Jackie Dunbar be appointed to replace Kevin Stewart as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee;

Elena Whitham be appointed to replace Fulton MacGregor as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee;

Collette Stevenson be appointed to replace Colin Beattie as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, and

Rona Mackay be appointed to replace Alasdair Allan as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13784—That the Parliament agrees that—

Gillian Mackay be appointed to replace Ross Greer as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee;

Lorna Slater be appointed to replace Mark Ruskell as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee;

Lorna Slater be appointed to replace Maggie Chapman as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, and

Patrick Harvie be appointed to replace Maggie Chapman as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Committee Remits: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M- 13795— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the remits of committees—

Name of Committee: Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

- (a) the Scottish Government's EU and external affairs policy;
- (b) policy in relation to the UK's exit from the EU;
- (c) the international activities of the Scottish Administration, including international development; and
- (d) any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and any matter relating to intergovernmental relations within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.
- (e) matters falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Independence.

New Remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

- (a) the Scottish Government's EU and external affairs policy;
- (b) policy in relation to the UK's exit from the EU;
- (c) the international activities of the Scottish Administration, including international development; and
- (d) any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and any matter relating to intergovernmental relations within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

Name of Committee: Economy and Fair Work Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to net zero and energy.

New remit: To consider and report on matters within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic, with the exception of Gaelic; and on matters relating to just transition.

Name of Committee: Education, Children and Young People Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills and matters relating to the Historical Abuse Inquiry and redress falling within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

New Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills and matters relating to the Historical Abuse Inquiry, redress and languages falling within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

Name of Committee: Finance and Public Administration Committee

Remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

- (a) any report or other document containing proposals for, or budgets of, public revenue or expenditure or proposals for the making of a Scottish rate resolution, taking into account any report or recommendations concerning such documents made by any other committee with power to consider such documents or any part of them;
- (b) any report made by a committee setting out proposals concerning public revenue or expenditure;
- (c) Budget Bills; and
- (d) any other matter relating to or affecting the revenue or expenditure of the Scottish Administration or other monies payable into or expenditure payable out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund.
- (e) matters relating to public service reform and the National Performance Framework within the responsibilities of the Deputy First Minister and public administration.

New remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

- (a) any report or other document containing proposals for, or budgets of, public revenue or expenditure or proposals for the making of a Scottish rate resolution, taking into account any report or recommendations concerning such documents made by any other committee with power to consider such documents or any part of them;
- (b) any report made by a committee setting out proposals concerning public revenue or expenditure;
- (c) Budget Bills; and

(d) any other matter relating to or affecting the revenue or expenditure of the Scottish Administration or other monies payable into or expenditure payable out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund.

(e) matters relating to the National Performance Framework within the responsibilities of the Deputy First Minister, public service reform within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, and public administration.

Name of Committee: Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care and matters relating to drugs and alcohol policy.

New remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care.

Name of Committee: Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to local government and planning falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and matters relating to housing and tenants' rights within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice and matters relating to the Local Government Boundary Commission and local governance review and democratic renewal within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

New remit: To consider and report on matters relating to local government and planning falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, matters relating to housing and tenants' rights within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, and matters relating to local government boundaries, local governance review and democratic renewal.

Name of Committee: Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to wellbeing economy, and just transition; and on matters relating to land reform, natural resources and peatland, Scottish Land Commission; Crown Estate Scotland, and Royal Botanic Garden within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands.

New remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to just transition; and on matters relating to land reform, natural resources and peatland, Scottish Land Commission, Crown Estate Scotland and Royal Botanic Garden within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 as noted above.

13. Immediate Recognition of the State of Palestine: The Parliament debated S6M-13609 in the name of Humza Yousaf—That the Parliament notes calls urging the UK Government to join its European neighbours, Ireland, Spain and Norway, in immediately recognising the State of Palestine; understands that 144 member states of the United Nations recognise Palestine as a sovereign state; believes that a two-state solution is the only viable path for peace between Israel and Palestine, and that there can only be a two-state solution if a sovereign Palestinian state is immediately recognised and co-exists alongside Israel; further believes that Palestinian statehood is an inalienable right of the people of Palestine, not a privilege that can be vetoed by others; notes in horror the continued suffering of the people of Gaza; commends aid organisations, and community groups across Scotland, including in Glasgow Pollok, which are donating funds and sending aid to ease the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza; notes the calls urging the Government of Israel to allow unimpeded access to Gaza for humanitarian aid, and further notes the calls for an immediate ceasefire, an end to arms sales to Israel and the immediate release of all hostages.

14. Motion without Notice: Humza Yousaf 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 7.22 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
26 June 2024

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 26 June 2024—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 48th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Instruments considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee during the fourth quarter of the Parliamentary Year 2023-24 (SP Paper 630)

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 5th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) (Amendment) Order 2024 (SP Paper 631)

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 26 June 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Children and Young People’s Commissioner Scotland: annual report (CCYP/2024/03AR) laid under Section 10(1) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

Children and Young People’s Commissioner Scotland: annual report for children and young people (CCYP/2024/03CFAR) laid under Section 10(1) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

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