

# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 4, No. 22, Session 6

## Meeting of the Parliament

### Tuesday 3 September 2024

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

**1. Time for Reflection:** Ruth Donaldson, Church Relationships Team Leader UK, CSW, led Time for Reflection.

**2. Revision to Business**: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14246—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 3 September 2024-

delete

followed by Scottish Government Business

and insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Community Cohesion

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government Pre-Budget Fiscal Update

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Gender Identity Healthcare for Young People – Update and New National Standards

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Clyde and Hebrides Ferries - Provision, Service and Harbours Update

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Mobile Phones and Behaviour and Relationships in School

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.05 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 4 September 2024-

delete

followed by Scottish Government Business

and insert

followed by First Minister's Statement: Programme for Government 2024-25

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government 2024-25

(c) Thursday 5 September 2024-

delete

followed by Scottish Government Business

and insert

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government - Eradicating Child Poverty

The motion was agreed to.

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

**4. Ministerial Statement:** The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Community Cohesion.

**5. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Pre-Budget Fiscal Update.

**6. Ministerial Statement:** The Minister for Public Health and Women's Health (Jenni Minto) made a statement and answered questions on Gender Identity Healthcare for Young People – Update and New National Standards.

**7. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) made a statement and answered questions on Clyde and Hebrides Ferries - Provision, Service and Harbours Update.

**8. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) made a statement and answered questions on Mobile Phones and Behaviour and Relationships in School.

**9. Decision Time:** There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

**10. A New Winchburgh Train Station:** The Parliament debated S6M-14125 in the name of Sue Webber— That the Parliament notes the view that there is a need for a new train station at Winchburgh; further notes the belief that a new station is essential

because Winchburgh people need a sustainable, low-carbon alternative to the car to access jobs and services in Edinburgh, especially in light of 4,000 extra homes reportedly being built as part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal; understands that a study from transport consultants, Systra, estimates that a station would remove just short of 420,000 car journeys a year, which will help the Scottish Government and local authorities to achieve their net zero goals; further understands that passengers would save £2.4 million per year, and that there will be £3.5 million of decongestion benefits per year; notes that Winchburgh Developments has already spent over £50 million on transport improvements for the town, including a new junction on the M9, and welcomes its ambition and work towards bringing what is considered to be this vital transport link to Winchburgh.

The meeting closed at 6.06 pm.

David McGill Clerk of the Parliament 3 September 2024

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

#### **Committee Reports**

The following report was published on 2 July 2024-

Criminal Justice Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill Stage 1 Report (SP Paper 633)

The following report was published on 24 July 2024-

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 5th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Scottish Languages Bill - Stage 1 Report (SP Paper 634) (Please note that this report has also been published in Gaelic - SP Paper 634 (Gaelic) – and in Scots – SP Paper 634 (Scots))

#### **Subordinate Legislation**

#### Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 3 September 2024 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (Amendment) Order 2024 [draft] laid under paragraph 11 of schedule 3 of the Climate Change Act 2008

#### **Negative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 29 August 2024 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/216)

laid under section 37(1) of the Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986

Charges for Residues Surveillance Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/218)

laid under section 48(3) of the Food Safety Act 1990

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 30 August 2024 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (Permitted Disclosure of Information) Order 2024 (SSI 2024/220)

laid under section 194K(5) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

Personal Injuries (NHS Charges) (Amounts) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/225)

laid under section 195(8) of the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 2 September 2024 and is subject to the negative procedure —

Academic Awards and Distinctions (SRUC) (Scotland) Order of Council 2024 (SSI 2024/219)

laid under section 60(1) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992

#### Laid Only Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 28 June 2024 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994 and Sheriff Appeal Court Rules 2021 Amendment) (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024) 2024 (SSI 2024/195)

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

Act of Sederunt (Proceedings for Determination of Compatibility Questions Rules) 2024 (SSI 2024/196)

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

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994 Amendment) (Protective Expenses Orders) 2024 (SSI 2024/197)

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

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 August 2024 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1 and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/211 (C. 17)) laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

#### **Legislative Consent Memorandums**

The following memorandum was lodged on 1 August 2024—

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Transport: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-47)

The following memorandum was lodged on 8 August 2024—

Gillian Martin, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-48)

#### **Other Documents**

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 28 June 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Transport Scotland - Section 70 Grant Payments In accordance with: Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 Section 70(4) Financial Year 2023-24 (SG/2024/80) laid under Section 70(4) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 1 July 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

General Pharmaceutical Council: Annual report, Annual fitness to practise report and Annual accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/134) laid under Paragraph 7 and 8 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmacy Order 2010

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 5 July 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Cass Review – Implications for Scotland (SG/2024/132)** laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 18 July 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Climate Change Committee: Progress in reducing emissions – 2024 Report to Parliament (SG/2024/150) laid under section 36(1) of the Climate Change Act 2008

General Dental Council Annual Report and Accounts 2023 (SG/2024/20) laid under section 2B and section 2C of the Dentists Act 1984

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 19 July 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

UK Statistics Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (UKSA/2024/01) laid under section 27(2) of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 22 July 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Proposal by Scottish Ministers for a National Park in Galloway (July 2024) (SG/2024/138) laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: the Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SCoSS/2024/05) laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 23 July 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority Annual Report & Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/133) laid under Section 6 of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1995

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 23 July 2024 and is subject to parliamentary procedure—

**BBC Group Annual Report & Accounts 2023/24** laid before the Scottish Parliament by the BBC under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Government, the BBC and the UK Government

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 24 July 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium Investigations Reports and Report of Discontinued Investigations (SPSO/2024/07) laid before the Scottish Parliament by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for July 2024

Volume 1 of 3: Report of Discontinued Investigations PSC

Volume 2 of 3: Case ref: 202106175, Western Isles NHS Board

Volume 3 of 3: Report of Discontinued Investigations INWO

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 25 July 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Professional Standards Authority (PSA) Business Plan 2024/25 (SG/2024/109)** laid under Paragraph 16(1B) of Schedule 7 to the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002

Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care Annual Report and Accounts 2023/2024 (SG/2024/108) laid under Paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 7 to the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002

Transport Focus Annual report and accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/147) laid under section 19 and schedule 5 of the Railways Act 2005

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 29 July 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Competition and Markets Authority Annual Report and Accounts for 2023/24** (CMA/2024/07) laid under the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013, sch4 s14(3)(a) (as amended by the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, s40(3)) **National Heritage Memorial Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2023–2024 (SG/2024/144)** laid under Section 7(1) of the National Heritage Act 1980, and accounts presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 7(3) of the National Heritage Act 1980

**Electoral Commission Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (ELC/2024/01)** laid under Paragraph 20 A (1) of Schedule 1 to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

**The National Lottery Heritage Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/143)** laid under section 34 (3) of the National Lottery etc Act 1993 (as amended by the National Lottery Act 2006), and accounts presented to Parliament pursuant to section 35 (5) of the National Lottery etc Act 1993

Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Annual Report and Accounts (ARA) for 2023-24 (SG/2024/116) laid under Article 13(8) of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008

#### BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE FUND Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/146) laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 30 July 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

The National Lottery Community Fund Annual report and accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/113) laid under Section 34 and paragraph 21 of Schedule 4A of the National Lottery etc Act 1993

Ofcom Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/129) laid under paragraph 12(4) of Schedule 1 to the Office of Communications Act 2002

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 1 August 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scotland's Census 2022: Demography and Migration (SG/2024/153) laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 2 August 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Education Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/83) laid under section 19(4) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Water Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24: Performance and Prospects (SG/2024/149) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Report on the Scottish Ministers' duties under section 23(1) (funding for alternative dispute resolution) and section 24(1) (pilot scheme for mandatory alternative dispute resolution meetings) of the Children (Scotland) Act 2020 - August 2024 (SG/2024/151) laid under Sections 23(7) and 24(4) of the Children (Scotland) Act 2020

**Guidance on whether an inquiry should be established (SG/2024/119)** laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

**Guidance for sponsor teams (SG/2024/120)** laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Guidance for inquiry teams (SG /2024/121) laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 6 August 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**HM Chief Inspector's Annual Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/148)** laid under Section 7(5) of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 8 August 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Standards Commission for Scotland Annual Report and Accounts Year Ending 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/159) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 12 August 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/165) laid under Chapter 1, Section 2 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005

Risk Management Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/136) laid under Section 12(2) of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 14 August 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SCTS/2024/01) laid under section 67 of the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008 and section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 15 August 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Annual Report: Inspectors of Burial, Cremation and Funeral Directors 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024 (SG/2024/174) laid under Section 93(6) of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

Redress for survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Applications Etc. With (Unspent) Convictions for Serious Offences - Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/173) laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Assessment Framework – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/168) laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Evidential Requirements and Determinations by Redress Scotland – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/169) laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Pausing, Withdrawing and Making More Than One Application – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/170) laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Waiver, Contributions and Other Routes to Redress – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/171) laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Annual Report on Wider Redress Actions – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/172) laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Scotland's Land Use Strategy: Annual Progress Report – 2023/2024 (SG/2024/152) laid under section 37A of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 16 August 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

National Crime Agency – Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/141) laid under Paragraph 8(3) of Schedule 2 to the Crime and Courts Act 2013

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 20 August 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

The Scottish National Investment Bank plc Annual Report and Accounts 2024 (SG/2024/177) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 21 August 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for August 2024 (SPSO/2024/08) laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Tackling digital exclusion: A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2024/4) laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 22 August 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/157)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scotland's Census 2022: Housing (SG/2024/154) laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 27 August 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Forecast Evaluation Report - August 2024 (SFC/2024/3) laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

**Fiscal Update – May 2024 (SFC/2024/4)** laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 29 August 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

National Report on the Scottish Social Housing Charter Headline Findings 2023/2024 (SG/2024/156) laid under Section 41 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2010

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 30 August 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

South of Scotland Enterprise Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/160) laid under section 16 of the Scottish Enterprise Act 2019

Scottish Enterprise Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/142) laid before the Scottish Parliament by a member of the Scottish Government under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 2 September 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Report on Fatal Accident Inquiries that concluded in the Financial year 2023/2024 (SG/2024/140)** laid under section 29 of the Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Act 2016

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 3 September 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

British Tourist Authority trading as VisitBritain and VisitEngland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/126) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Government Improvement Plan - Response to Environmental Standards Scotland Investigation - Climate Change Delivery Improvement Report (IESS.21.012) (SG/2024/86) laid under Section 30 of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

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