



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 99, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 18 April 2024

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. Prison Officers Association Campaign, 68 is Too Late:** The Parliament debated S6M-12265 in the name of Pauline McNeill—That the Parliament notes the Prison Officers Association campaign, 68 is too late; understands that the campaign seeks to end what it sees as the injustice of prison officers being required to work until they are 68, compared with other uniformed services, such as the police force, fire service and the Armed Forces, which, it understands, have a normal retirement age of 60; notes the view that expecting prison officers to work until almost their seventh decade, at a time when, it understands, the prisoner population is rising, the average age of a prisoner is 36, violence is increasing and the influence of organised crime is expanding, is both dangerous and unrealistic; further notes the belief that a retirement age of 68 risks the safety of prisoners, prison officers and the public, including in the Glasgow region; considers that, for successful rehabilitation, prisoners rely on well-trained, motivated and confident officers working in safe and fully-staffed establishments, and notes the calls on the Scottish and UK governments to enter talks with the Prison Officers Association to discuss how to bring about changes to the retirement rules to provide an option to access their pension at 60 with no financial detriment.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy (Màiri McAllan) made a statement and answered questions on Climate Change Committee Scotland Report: Next Steps.

6. Scottish Employment Injuries Advisory Council Bill: Mark Griffin moved S6M-12882—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Scottish Employment Injuries Advisory Council Bill.

The motion was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 20, Against 95, Abstentions 0).

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

The meeting closed at 5.05 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
18 April 2024

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

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 18 April 2024 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Equality Act 2010 (Specification of Public Authorities) (Scotland) Order 2024 [draft]
laid under section 210(2) of the Equality Act 2010

Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 210(2) of the Equality Act 2010

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 18 April 2024 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Charities (References in Documents) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland)
Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/111)
laid under Section 103(4) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland)
Act 2005

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 18 April 2024 and is not any parliamentary procedure—

Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland Act 2023 (Commencement) Regulations
2024 (SSI 224/110 (C.9))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform
(Scotland) Act 2010

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