



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 62, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 20 December 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands and then NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.
- 2. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition (Mairi McAllan) made a statement and answered questions on A9 Dualling Programme.
- 3. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Response to the Section 35 Order Judicial Review.
- 4. Trusts and Succession (Scotland) Bill- Stage 3:** The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22.

- 5. Trusts and Succession (Scotland) Bill:** The Minister for Victims and Community Safety (Siobhian Brown) moved S6M-11699—That the Parliament agrees that the Trusts and Succession (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 120, Against 0, Abstentions 0).

**6. Standing Order Rule Changes - Proxy Voting:** Martin Whitfield, on behalf of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, moved S6M-11616—That the Parliament notes the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 12th Report, 2023 (Session 6), Standing Order Rule changes - Proxy Voting (SP Paper 489), and agrees that the rule changes to Standing Orders set out in the annexe of the report be made with effect from 22 December 2023.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**7. Revision to Business Programme:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-11737— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 21 December 2023—

after

12.45 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

insert

*followed by* Appointments of the Chair and Commissioners of the Scottish Land Commission

delete

1.10 pm Decision Time

and insert

1.30 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

**8. Business Programme:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-11723—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—  
Tuesday 9 January 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee Debate:  
How Devolution is Changing Post-EU

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 10 January 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture; Justice and Home Affairs

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: The Impact of UK Government Asylum Policy and Legislation in Scotland

*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 11 January 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: Education and Skills

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Scotland's Public Service Values

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 16 January 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Financial Resolution: Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 17 January 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy; Finance and Parliamentary Business

*followed by* Scottish Labour Party Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 18 January 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: Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition

*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 8 January 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.

**9. Stage 1 Extension:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-11724—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be extended to 8 March 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

**10. Approval of SSI:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-11725—That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security Information-sharing (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**11. Committee Meeting Times:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-11726—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Criminal Justice Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between 1.00 pm and 2.30 pm on 11 January 2024.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**12. 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 5.21 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

**13. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on item 5, 6, 10 and 11 as noted above.

**14. Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Awareness Month:** The Parliament debated S6M-10702 in the name of Clare Adamson—That the Parliament marks Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS) Awareness Month; understands that CRPS is a debilitating chronic disorder, mostly affecting the limbs, which is characterised by severe pain, pathological changes of bones, joints and skin, swelling, temperature and colour changes, and motor dysfunction, which can cause a person to experience persistent, severe and debilitating pain; further understands that the condition may develop after an injury, surgery, stroke or heart attack, and that the pain can be out of proportion with the severity of the initial injury; notes that the 25th CRPS Awareness Month will be held during November 2023, a month where the chronic pain community and their families and supporters around the world come together to help raise awareness of the condition, and that, as part of the initiative, "Colour the World Orange Day" sees businesses, town halls and landmarks change their lights to orange in support of people living with CRPS; commends the volunteers and organisers at CRPS UK and Burning Nights CRPS Support for their efforts to raise awareness of what it sees as this poorly-understood condition; acknowledges that CRPS UK and Burning Nights are registered charities, with, it believes, the shared goals of raising awareness of CRPS symptoms, providing invaluable support to people with the condition, and advocating for more research development into it, and wishes all of the organisers, volunteers, and the wider CRPS community, including those in the Motherwell and Wishaw constituency, every success in their efforts to increase public awareness of this debilitating condition and to support people affected by CRPS.

The meeting closed at 6.07 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
20 December 2023



## Appendix

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

### Committee Reports

The following report was published on 20 December 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 77th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 501)

The following report will be published on 21 December 2023—

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 10th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 502)

### Subordinate Legislation

#### Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 20 December 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**National Records of Scotland: Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011 - Report by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland 2022-2023 (SG/2023/262)** laid under Section 12 of the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011

**NHS Pension Scheme (Scotland) Annual Report and Accounts 2022/23 (SG/2023/234)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scottish Teachers' Pension Scheme Annual Report and Accounts 2022/23 (SG/2023/235)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scottish Rail Holdings Limited Annual Report and Accounts for the period from 1 November 2021 to 31 March 2023 (SG/2023/288)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018: Scottish Ministers' Report to Parliament 2023 (SG/2023/323)** laid under Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018: Scottish Ministers' Report to Parliament 2023

**Annual Report and Accounts to 31 March 2023 - Crown Estate Scotland (SG/2023/312)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium Report of Discontinued Investigations - Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for December 2023 (SPSO/2023/12)**

Volume 1 of 3

Volume 2 of 3 Annex:

Report of Discontinued Investigations

Volume 3 of 3 Annex:

Report of Discontinued Investigations (INWO)

laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

**The 2022/23 Audit of the Water Industry Commission for Scotland**

**(SG/2023/276)** laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Water Industry Commission for Scotland - Annual Report and Accounts 2022-**

**23 (SG/2023/298)** laid under Section 5(4) of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Joint Nature Conservation Committee and JNCC Support Co - Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023 (SG/2023/324)**

laid under Paragraph 18(3) of Schedule 4 to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and Article 6(2)(b) of the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Non-profit-making Companies) Order 2009



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