



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 12, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 8 June 2023

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 Minister.

**2. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (Humza Yousaf).

**3. Ensuring that Lothian Late-diagnosed Deaf Children Get the Support That They Need:** The Parliament debated S6M-08219 in the name of Jeremy Balfour— That the Parliament notes the belief that every child affected by the failings identified in the 2021 audit of NHS Lothian's paediatric audiology service, carried out by the British Academy of Audiology (BAA), must get the support that they need to thrive and to overcome any additional barriers that they face due to the failings identified in the report; understands that the audit did not include children seen later than 2018, which, it considers, means that there were further years until any failings were addressed by an action plan, and that there may be many more children who were not diagnosed in a timely manner; recognises that the key stages for fluent first language development are birth to three years old; understands that the BAA report found that the average age of identification of deafness was 4.5 years for children in the NHS Lothian area, which, it understands, is far longer than comparable figures in the rest of the UK; considers that the failings identified in NHS Lothian's paediatric audiology service will mean that many of the affected children were diagnosed after this critical period and are therefore likely to experience a significant adverse impact on their language and communications development, potentially leaving such children with more complex needs that may need to be addressed though co-

ordinated support from health, education, social work and other agencies; understands that the families of affected children have come together to form Families Failed by Lothian Audiology Action Group (FLAAG); further understands that the parents involved in FLAAG have identified a number of areas where their children are not getting the support that they need; understands that the families involved in FLAAG report that they have experienced a lack of access to BSL tutors, speech and language therapy and appropriately qualified professionals to support their deaf children and help remediate any damage caused by the failures of the audiology service, and notes the calls on all public and voluntary sector bodies that are supporting the late-diagnosed deaf children in the Lothians and beyond to work together to ensure that they always get the support that they need.

**4. Motion without Notice:** Jeremy Balfour moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

**5. Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill – UK Legislation:** The Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) moved S6M-09375—That the Parliament agrees that the UK Government amendments to the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill, tabled in the House of Lords on 10 May 2023, do nothing to alter the view expressed in the Scottish Parliament in its vote on 29 November 2022 calling for the Bill to be withdrawn, or its vote on 23 February 2023 that concluded that the Scottish Parliament should withhold consent for the Bill, and considers that no amendment to this Bill can be viewed in isolation from the risks of the overall Bill, or will be sufficient in removing the dangers attached to it.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 79, Against 27, Abstentions 0).

**6. New Vessels for the Clyde and the Hebrides: Arrangements to Deliver Vessels 801 and 802:** Richard Leonard, on behalf of the Public Audit Committee, moved S6M-09327—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Public Audit Committee's 1st Report, 2023 (Session 6), New Vessels for the Clyde and Hebrides: Arrangements to deliver vessels 801 and 802 (SP Paper 344).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**7. Mandatory Committee Remits:** The Minister for Cabinet and Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-09371—That the Parliament agrees, under Rule 6.1—

(a) that the remit of the following mandatory committee be amended—

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

Remit: To the remit set out in Temporary Rule 4 shall be added the following additional matter—

Matters falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Independence

(b) that, further to motion S6M-00394, the additional matters added to the remits of the following mandatory committees be varied as follows—

Name of Committee: Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.9 shall be added—

Matters relating to civil justice within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans.

New remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.9 shall be added—

Matters relating to civil justice falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs.

Name of Committee: Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.4 shall be added—

Matters relating to local government elections, Scottish general elections, implementation of the Referendums (Scotland) Act 2020 and Freedom of Information and open government falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Parliamentary Business.

New remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.4 shall be added—

Matters falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Parliamentary Business.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**8. Committee Remits:** The Minister for Cabinet and Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-09372—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the remits of committees—

Name of Committee: Criminal Justice Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to criminal justice falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans, and functions of the Lord Advocate other than as head of the systems of criminal prosecution and investigation of deaths in Scotland.

New remit: To consider and report on matters relating to criminal justice falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, and functions of the Lord Advocate other than as head of the systems of criminal prosecution and investigation of deaths in Scotland.

Name of Committee: Economy and Fair Work Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to the economy falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy.

New remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy with the exception

of matters relating to energy; and on matters relating to just transition within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and 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 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 and redress falling within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

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 Health and Social Care and matters relating to drugs policy.

New 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.

Name of Committee: Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to local government, housing and planning falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government and the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy, 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 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.

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 Net Zero, Energy and Transport, with the exception of matters relating to rural land use, wildlife crime and animal welfare.

New remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition, with the exception of matters relating to just transition; 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; and on matters relating to energy within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy.

Name of Committee: Rural Affairs and Islands Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands; and on matters relating to rural land use, wildlife crime and animal welfare falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport.

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

Name of Committee: Social Justice and Social Security Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government, excluding matters relating to local government, housing and planning.

New remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice excluding matters relating to housing and tenants' rights.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**9. Motion without Notice:** The Minister for Cabinet and 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 4.58pm.

The motion was agreed to.

**10. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 5, 6, 7 and 8 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.04 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
8 June 2023

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

**Committee Reports**

The following reports were published on 8 June 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 37th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 6 June 2023 (SP Paper 393)

Criminal Justice Committee, 11th Report, 2023 (Session 6): The Police Negotiating Board for Scotland (Constitution, Arbitration and Qualifying Cases) Regulations 2023 [draft] (SP Paper 396)

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Negative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 8 June 2023 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Building (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/177)  
laid under section 54(5) of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003

Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 3) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/178)  
laid under section 37(1) of the Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986

**Laid Only Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 8 June 2023 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022 (Commencement No. 3) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/176 (C.17))  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

**Other Documents**

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 8 June 2023 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: the Carer's Assistance (Carer Support Payment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SCoSS/2023/03)** laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

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