Welfare Funds (Scotland) Bill

Groupings of Amendments for Stage 3

This document provides procedural information which will assist in preparing for and following proceedings on the above Bill. The information provided is as follows:

- the list of groupings (that is, the order in which amendments will be debated). Any procedural points relevant to each group are noted;
- the text of amendments to be debated during Stage 3 consideration, set out in the order in which they will be debated. THIS LIST DOES NOT REPLACE THE MARSHALLED LIST, WHICH SETS OUT THE AMENDMENTS IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY WILL BE DISPOSED OF.

Groupings of amendments

Note: The time limits indicated are those set out in the timetabling motion to be considered by the Parliament before the Stage 3 proceedings begin. If that motion is agreed to, debate on the groups above each line must be concluded by the time indicated, although the amendments in those groups may still be moved formally and disposed of later in the proceedings.

Group 1: Use of welfare funds: financial or other assistance
2, 3, 5

Group 2: Use of welfare funds: “qualifying individuals”
4

Group 3: Timescale for dealing with applications for assistance
6

Debate to end no later than 40 minutes after proceedings begin

Group 4: Needs and choices of applicants
7

Group 5: Annual reporting
8

Group 6: Minor and technical amendment
1

Debate to end no later than 1 hour 5 minutes after proceedings begin
Amendments in debating order

**Group 1: Use of welfare funds: financial or other assistance**

Ken Macintosh  
Supported by: Margaret McDougall  
2 In section 2, page 1, line 10, leave out <or other>

Ken Macintosh  
Supported by: Margaret McDougall  
3 In section 2, page 1, line 10, after <assistance> insert <or, in such circumstances as may be prescribed in regulations under subsection (3A), other assistance>

Ken Macintosh  
Supported by: Margaret McDougall  
5 In section 2, page 1, line 21, leave out subsection (3) and insert—

  *(3A)* The Scottish Ministers may, by regulations, make provision about the circumstances in which a local authority may—

  (a) provide goods or services to or in respect of an individual, or

  (b) make a payment to a third party with a view to the third party providing, or arranging the provision of, goods or services to or in respect of an individual.

  *(3B)* Regulations under subsection *(3A)* are subject to the affirmative procedure.>

**Group 2: Use of welfare funds: “qualifying individuals”**

Ken Macintosh  
Supported by: Margaret McDougall  
4 In section 2, page 1, line 15, after <individuals> insert <—

  (a) who are part of a family facing exceptional pressure, or

  (b)>  

**Group 3: Timescale for dealing with applications for assistance**

Ken Macintosh  
Supported by: Margaret McDougall  
6 In section 5, page 2, line 39, at end insert—

  *( )* Regulations making provision of a type described in subsection *(2)(b)* must provide that a local authority is to make its decision on an application for assistance in pursuance of section *(2)(1)(a)*—

  (a) immediately after the authority has received all information allowing a decision to be made, and

  (b) in any event, no later than the end of the next working day.>
Group 4: Needs and choices of applicants
Margaret McDougall
Supported by: Ken Macintosh
7 In section 5A, page 3, line 9, at end insert—

<that the particular needs and choices of applicants are to be considered, and>

Group 5: Annual reporting
Margaret McDougall
Supported by: Ken Macintosh
8 Before section 6F, insert—

<Delivery of welfare funds: annual reporting

(1) The Scottish Ministers must prepare an initial report giving information about the delivery of welfare funds.

(2) The initial report is to be laid before the Scottish Parliament on or before 30 June 2016.

(3) The Scottish Ministers must prepare an annual report giving information about the delivery of welfare funds.

(4) An annual report is—

(a) starting with 2017, required each year,

(b) to be laid before the Scottish Parliament on or before 30 June in the year concerned.

(5) The initial report and an annual report must include information about—

(a) the amount paid out of the welfare funds,

(b) the number of applications for assistance in pursuance of section 2 that have been received,

(c) the number of applications—

(i) in respect of which financial assistance was provided,

(ii) in respect of which other assistance was provided,

(iii) that were rejected.

(6) The initial report or an annual report may include such additional information as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate.>

Group 6: Minor and technical amendment
Margaret Burgess
1 In section 6G, page 6, leave out lines 30 and 31