



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Vol. 3, No. 59 Session 4

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 12 December 2013

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

**1. Business Motion:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-08587—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 12 December 2013—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Stage 3 Proceedings: Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Stage 3 Proceedings: Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill

The motion was agreed to.

**2. Business Motion:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-08586—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limit indicated, that time limit being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended

(other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4: 45 minutes,

Groups 5, 6, 7 and 8: 1 hour and 25 minutes,

Groups 9, 10, 11 and 12: 2 hours.

The motion was agreed to.

**3. General Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

**4. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (Alex Salmond).

**5. Financial Conduct Authority's Plans to Regulate the Payday Loan Industry:** The Parliament debated S4M-08036 in the name of Kezia Dugdale—That the Parliament supports the Financial Conduct Authority's latest plans to regulate the payday loans industry as set out in its initial report on consumer credit; welcomes stricter requirements for payday lenders, which include a mandatory affordability check on borrowers, limiting the number of loan roll-overs to two and tighter restrictions on what payday lenders can say in adverts; considers that the payday lending sector represents an increasingly problematic issue in the Lothians and throughout the rest of Scotland; is concerned that advisors at Scotland's Citizens Advice Bureaux (CAB) are seeing over a hundred people a week with payday loan related issues; notes that CAB provide advice to anyone who believes that they have been unfairly treated by a lender or who has problems with debt; considers it important that the lending industry is open and transparent and offers consumers a fair deal but also protects them from financial ruin, and believes that these proposals go some way toward beginning to address these issues.

**6. Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3:** The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18A, 18, 19, 20.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

- 25 (For 13, Against 90, Abstentions 0)
- 1 (For 49, Against 62, Abstentions 0)
- 2 (For 49, Against 62, Abstentions 0)
- 3 (For 49, Against 62, Abstentions 0)
- 4 (For 46, Against 63, Abstentions 0)
- 5 (For 47, Against 63, Abstentions 0)
- 6 (For 47, Against 63, Abstentions 0)
- 7 (For 48, Against 62, Abstentions 0)
- 28 (For 46, Against 63, Abstentions 0)

- 12 (For 49, Against 61, Abstentions 0)
- 29 (For 49, Against 61, Abstentions 0)
- 30 (For 48, Against 61, Abstentions 0)
- 31 (For 49, Against 61, Abstentions 0)
- 32 (For 35, Against 73, Abstentions 0)
- 33 (For 35, Against 72, Abstentions 0)
- 18B (For 48, Against 60, Abstentions 0)
- 34 (For 48, Against 57, Abstentions 0)
- 35 (For 47, Against 59, Abstentions 0)
- 21 (For 46, Against 61, Abstentions 0)
- 22 (For 46, Against 60, Abstentions 0)
- 23 (For 44, Against 63, Abstentions 0)
- 24 (For 44, Against 61, Abstentions 0)

Amendment 17 was moved and, with the agreement of the Parliament, withdrawn.

The following amendments were not moved: 26 and 27.

The Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer extended the time-limits under Rules 9.8.4A(a) and (c).

**7. Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill:** The Cabinet Secretary for Justice (Kenny MacAskill) moved S4M-08562—That the Parliament agrees that the Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill be passed.

After debate, the motion was agreed to (DT).

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

The meeting closed at 5.00 pm.

**P E Grice**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
12 December 2013

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

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Negative instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 12 December 2013 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Act of Sederunt (Fees of Sheriff Officers) 2013 (SSI 2013/345)  
laid under section 28(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform  
(Scotland) Act 2010

National Health Service (Variation of Areas of Health Boards) (Scotland)  
Order 2013 (SSI 2013/347)  
laid under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act  
1978

**Laid only instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 12 December 2013 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Act of Sederunt (Fees of Messengers-at-Arms) 2013 (SSI 2013/346)  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform  
(Scotland) Act 2010

Post-16 Education (Scotland) Act 2013 (Commencement No. 2) Order 2013  
(SSI 2013/348 (C.29))  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform  
(Scotland) Act 2010

**Other Documents**

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 11 December 2013 and are not subject to Parliamentary procedure—

British Wool Marketing Board Report on the British Wool Marketing Board  
Agricultural Marketing Scheme 2012-13 (SG/2013/286)  
laid under section 30 of the Agricultural Marketing Act 1958

VisitScotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013  
(SG/2013/272)  
laid under section 6(6) of the Development of Tourism Act 1969 &  
section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act  
2000

## **Committee Reports**

The following reports are being published on 13 December 2013—

Justice Committee, 19th Report, 2013 (Session 4): Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill (LCM(S4) 22.3) (SP Paper 443).

Local Government and Regeneration Committee 12th Report, 2013 (Session 4) – The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (Historical Periods) Order 2013 (SP Paper 441)

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