



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Vol. 3, No. 80 Session 4

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 20 February 2014

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 (Alex Salmond).

3. Promoting Family Recovery Across Scotland: The Parliament debated S4M-08604 in the name of John Mason—That the Parliament notes the success of the Promoting Family Recovery Across Scotland event held in the Parliament on 21 November 2013 by Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs; notes the briefing paper on promoting family recovery that was presented at the event; reckons that every substance user is part of a family involving at least five members and that if families are dealt with as a whole then much more can be done for the user in recovery; considers that good examples of this type of work are being taken forward across Scotland, especially in Grampian and East Dunbartonshire, and gives its full support to ensuring that all family members affected by the problematic substance use of a loved-one receive support in their own right.

4. Support for Syrian Refugees: The Parliament debated S4M-08845 in the name of Patricia Ferguson—That the Parliament expresses solidarity with the children, women and men of Syria who are enduring the country's near-three-year civil war; understands that an estimated 6.5 million have been displaced internally and a further 2.4 million have sought refugee status in neighbouring countries, with many now in camps in Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Turkey; expresses particular

concern for the people who have survived torture and sexual violence, the many who have lost loved ones and for the unaccompanied children and young people; commends the concern, voluntary endeavours and generosity of the public in the UK who, it understands, have donated over £23 million to the Disasters Emergency Committee's Syria Crisis Appeal; welcomes what it sees as the substantial financial commitments of the UK and Scottish governments and the wide support from across the political spectrum to the principles of refugee resettlement, humanitarian admission and family reunion; notes the calls for these principles to be implemented by the UK, with Scotland playing its part, in helping to resettle refugees in order to transform and enhance their lives; further notes calls for Scotland and the rest of the UK to join in the efforts of other western countries by offering protection to Syrians, and believes that, as demonstrated by the participation of West Lothian, Edinburgh, North Berwick, Glasgow and Renfrewshire in the evacuation and resettlement of refugees from Bosnia and Kosovo, this would continue Scotland's proud tradition of welcoming and helping to resettle people fleeing conflict.

5. Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities moved S4M-09051—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill.

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

6. Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth (John Swinney) moved S4M-08677—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3(b) of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

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

The meeting closed at 5.01 pm.

P E Grice
Clerk of the Parliament
20 February 2014

Appendix

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

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 20 February 2014 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Home Energy Assistance Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2014
(SSI 2014/40)

laid under section 15 of the Social Security Act 1990

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 18 February 2014 and are not subject to Parliamentary procedure—

The Queen's Printer for Scotland Report Covering the Period 1 April 2012 to
31 March 2013 (SG/2014/04)

laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the
Scottish Government and not under any laying power.

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