



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Vol. 3, No. 83 Session 4

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 27 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. Unite's Back Home Safe Campaign:** The Parliament debated S4M-08985 in the name of Richard Baker—That the Parliament welcomes the launch by Unite the Union of the campaign, Back Home Safe, which calls for immediate improvements to the safety of offshore flight; understands that, following the tragic fatal North Sea helicopter crash in August 2013, the union carried out an extensive consultation with its members in Aberdeen and across Scotland, and with others in the offshore workforce, the outcome of which suggested that over half of the workers are not confident in offshore helicopter flight safety; believes that workers on North Sea installations are taking an active role in supporting the campaign, which calls for improvements to be made in a number of areas, including increased investment to create a larger offshore fleet, changes to the internal seat configuration of the helicopters and the compulsory fitting of internal emergency lighting, and notes both the calls for the industry and Scottish Government to engage fully with the union to help ensure that these measures are implemented and for an independent commission to be set up to examine the issue of helicopter safety.

**4. Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill:** The Cabinet Secretary for Justice (Kenny MacAskill) moved S4M-09160—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill.

Margaret Mitchell moved amendment S4M-09160.1 to motion S4M-09160—

Insert at end—

“but, in so doing, calls on the Scottish Government to lodge an amendment at stage 2 to remove the provisions abolishing the general requirement for corroboration.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 61, Against 64, Abstentions 1).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 64, Against 5, Abstentions 57).

**5. Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution:** The Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth (John Swinney) moved S4M-09149—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Criminal Justice (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).

**6. Committee Membership:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-09065—That the Parliament agrees that Mary Scanlon be appointed to replace Liz Smith as a member of the Education and Culture Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**7. Substitution on Committees:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-09172—That the Parliament agrees that—

Patricia Ferguson be appointed to replace Neil Bibby as the Scottish Labour Party substitute on the European and External Relations Committee; and

Liz Smith be appointed to replace Mary Scanlon as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Education and Culture Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**8. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 4, 5, 6 and 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.03 pm.

**P E Grice**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
27 February 2014

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

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Negative instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 27 February 2014 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 (Register of Interests) Amendment Regulations 2014 (SSI 2014/50)

laid under section 7(5) of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000

Town and Country Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2014 (SSI 2014/51)

laid under section 39(3) of the Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Act 1997

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