



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 54, Session 5

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 29 November 2018

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 a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon).

3. St Andrew's Day 2018, Make Someone's Day: The Parliament debated S5M-14747 in the name of Tom Arthur—That the Parliament welcomes the celebration of St Andrew's Day; understands that the theme in 2018 is, Make Someone's Day; notes the view that everyone should celebrate the national day; believes that it is an opportunity to promote Scotland to the world as an inclusive and outward looking nation; welcomes the launch of St Andrew's Fair Saturday, which will take place on 1 December; understands that this will be a celebration of arts and culture, and considers the celebrations to be an opportunity for people in Scotland across all faiths, beliefs, cultures and ethnic origins, and Scots internationally, to mark the contribution of Scotland at home and across the globe.

4. Ending Homelessness Together: The Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government (Aileen Campbell) moved S5M-14962—That the Parliament agrees that everyone should have a safe, warm, settled home; notes the Scottish Government's commitment to end homelessness and rough sleeping and transform temporary accommodation; welcomes the comprehensive work of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group and the Local Government and Communities Committee to set out recommendations and actions to achieve this shared ambition; supports the publication of the Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan, which

addresses these recommendations and sets out the steps that the Scottish Government will take in partnership with COSLA, local authorities, the third and public sectors and others across housing, and welcomes the role of the cross-sector Homelessness Prevention and Strategy Group in overseeing implementation of this action plan to deliver an end to homelessness and rough sleeping.

Graham Simpson moved amendment S5M-14962.1—

As an amendment to motion S5M-14962 in the name of Kevin Stewart (Ending Homelessness Together), insert at end “, and urges the Scottish Government to announce legislation in its next Programme for Government to limit the time that a person has to spend in unsuitable temporary accommodation to no more than seven days.”

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

Pauline McNeill moved amendment S5M-14962.3—

As an amendment to motion S5M-14962 in the name of Kevin Stewart (Ending Homelessness Together), insert at end “; agrees that there are complex reasons why people become homeless, including mental and physical health reasons, and welcomes the government’s commitment to embed homelessness as a priority for improving public health; recognises the gendered dynamics of homelessness and welcomes the work being done by Scottish Women’s Aid and the Chartered Institute of Housing on the needs of women and children fleeing domestic abuse, and recognises the key role that frontline staff in local authorities will play in the successful delivery of the action plan, but believes that they need additional resources to reflect this.”

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

Andy Wightman moved amendment S5M-14962.2—

As an amendment to motion S5M-14962 in the name of Kevin Stewart (Ending Homelessness Together), insert at end “, and calls on the Scottish Government to maintain its commitment to ensuring that homelessness is prevented in the first place by reviewing current private rented sector law, including Schedule 3 of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016, which currently provides landlords with 18 statutory eviction grounds to threaten and force tenants, through no fault of their own, into homelessness.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 20, Against 85, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—That the Parliament agrees that everyone should have a safe, warm, settled home; notes the Scottish Government’s commitment to end homelessness and rough sleeping and transform temporary accommodation; welcomes the comprehensive work of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group and the Local Government and Communities

Committee to set out recommendations and actions to achieve this shared ambition; supports the publication of the Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan, which addresses these recommendations and sets out the steps that the Scottish Government will take in partnership with COSLA, local authorities, the third and public sectors and others across housing, and welcomes the role of the cross-sector Homelessness Prevention and Strategy Group in overseeing implementation of this action plan to deliver an end to homelessness and rough sleeping; urges the Scottish Government to announce legislation in its next Programme for Government to limit the time that a person has to spend in unsuitable temporary accommodation to no more than seven days; agrees that there are complex reasons why people become homeless, including mental and physical health reasons, and welcomes the government's commitment to embed homelessness as a priority for improving public health; recognises the gendered dynamics of homelessness and welcomes the work being done by Scottish Women's Aid and the Chartered Institute of Housing on the needs of women and children fleeing domestic abuse, and recognises the key role that frontline staff in local authorities will play in the successful delivery of the action plan, but believes that they need additional resources to reflect this.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 4 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.03 pm.

P E Grice
Clerk of the Parliament
29 November 2018

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 3 December 2018—

Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee, 10th Report, 2018 (Session 5):
Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee: Stage 1 Report on Damages
(Investment Returns and Periodical Payments) (Scotland) Bill, (SP paper 435)

For further information on accessing committee reports, please contact the relevant clerk or webpage (see end of Bulletin for contact details or access general committee webpage)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 29 November 2018 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

HM Revenue & Customs: Administration of Scottish Income Tax 2017-18: Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General SG/2018/222 laid under section 80HA of the Scotland Act 1998 as amended by the Finance Act 2014

Published by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

All documents are available on
the Scottish Parliament website at:
www.scottish.parliament.uk/documents

For information on the Scottish Parliament contact
Public Information on:
Telephone: 0131 348 5000 or 0800 092 7500
Email: sp.info@parliament.scot
Live chat on parliament.scot
You can write to us in any language or contact us
using the Text Relay service or in British Sign
Language through contactScotland-BSL.

© Parliamentary copyright. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

The Scottish Parliament's copyright policy can be found on the website - www.parliament.scot or by
contacting Public Information.