



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 4, No. 57, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 5 December 2024

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 (John Swinney).

3. Publication of the Marie Curie Report, Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-15411 in the name of Paul Sweeney—That the Parliament welcomes the publication of the Marie Curie report, Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024; understands that the report is taken from research carried out by Marie Curie and Loughborough University; notes that the report has found that one in four working age people and one in six pension age people in Scotland face poverty at the end of life; understands that terminal illness exacerbates existing inequality; notes the report's findings that symptoms of terminal illness can result in higher energy costs, costs for housing adaptations and force people to leave the labour market and rely on social security support; considers that these challenges are not confined to the dying person, but also affect family and unpaid carers who, it believes, are too often left to carry out the bulk of caring duties due to what it sees as inadequate support; notes the belief that more must be done to target support to those who are facing dying, death and bereavement, and further notes the calls for governments to consider the report and work with Marie Curie to prevent people in Scotland, including those in the Glasgow region, from dying in poverty.

4. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business

(Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15709—

That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 5 December 2024—

after

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Empowering Young People’s Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

insert

followed by Financial Resolution: Scottish Languages Bill

The motion was agreed to.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

6. Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces Community in Scotland: The Minister for Higher and Further Education; and Minister for Veterans (Graeme Dey) moved S6M-15734—That the Parliament recognises and acknowledges the importance of Scotland’s veterans and Armed Forces community and greatly values the significant contribution that it continues to make to society; further recognises that the contribution of veterans and their families continues and grows as they move back into the communities that they served, with their experiences positively enriching society and providing a valuable talent pool for employers, and agrees that the Scottish Government, cognisant of the important ongoing work of the Scottish Veterans Commissioner, should continue to work with partners across the public, private and third sectors to ensure that the veterans and Armed Forces community receives the best possible support and access to services.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Empowering Young People’s Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls: The Minister for Equalities (Kaukab Stewart) moved S6M-15735—That the Parliament recognises the international 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign 2024; further recognises the vital contribution that the sector has made this year to tackle violence against women and girls, in particular the role that it has played in supporting children and young people who have experienced violence, abuse and exploitation; welcomes this year’s debate at the Scottish Youth Parliament, which challenged politicians to ensure that the youth voice is central to action to address gender-based violence; recognises the importance of working with young people to ensure that their experience and expertise are harnessed to build a future that is equally safe; further recognises and champions the importance of education as an early and ongoing strand of prevention; condemns misogyny and all forms of violence against women and girls, and acknowledges the significant harm that they cause to individuals and wider society.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Scottish Languages Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-15752— That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Scottish Languages Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament’s Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Establishment of a Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15753—

That the Parliament shall establish a committee of the Parliament as follows:

Name of Committee: SPCB Supported Bodies Landscape Review Committee

Remit: To consider, review and report on the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) supported bodies landscape in accordance with the Parliament’s resolution of 31 October 2024 and develop a clear strategic framework to underpin and provide coherence and structure to the SPCB supported bodies landscape by the end of June 2025, including—

- (a) creating effective accountability and scrutiny mechanisms;
- (b) formalising strengthened criteria for creating new supported bodies; and
- (c) identifying and addressing any barriers to sharing services and offices.

Duration: Until 30 September 2025.

Number of members: 5.

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party.

Membership: Murdo Fraser, Richard Leonard, Ben Macpherson, Ash Regan, Lorna Slater.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6, 7, 8 and 9 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.03 pm.

David McGill

Clerk of the Parliament
5 December 2024

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 5 December 2024—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 74th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill (SP Paper 704)

Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 5 December 2024 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications) (Scotland) Amendment (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/369)
laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

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