



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 4, No. 61, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 17 December 2024

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Dr Alexander Leslie Milton, Minister, St. Andrew's High Parish Church, Musselburgh, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15917—

That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 17 December 2024—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government Response to the Martins Review on the Use of Mobile Messaging Apps and Non-corporate Technology

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.40 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Response to the Martins Review on the Use of Mobile Messaging Apps and Non-corporate Technology.

5. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15884—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits 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 and 2: 1 hour 10 minutes

Groups 3 and 4: 1 hour 25 minutes

Groups 5 to 7: 1 hour 45 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 34, 35, 36, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33.

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 7.

The following amendments were not moved: 3, 37, 9 and 8.

The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved a motion without notice under Rule 9.8.5A to move the first time limit by up to 30 minutes. The motion was agreed to.

7. Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-15875—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 111 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

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

6. Celebrating 10 Years of Same-sex Marriage in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-15775 in the name of Emma Roddick—That the Parliament celebrates 10 years since the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014 came into force, legalising same-sex marriage in Scotland; welcomes what it sees as the decade of love, respect and freedom of choice that has followed the implementation of the Act on 16 December 2014; understands that over 9,300 same-sex marriages have been recorded by National Records of Scotland to date; recognises what it sees as the bravery and tenacity of LGBTQI+ and equalities campaigners who brought about the conditions for change, and who, it considers, continue to advance the rights of minorities; further recognises what it sees as the ongoing international struggle for marriage equality, with, it understands, same-sex marriage being legal in only 36 states across the globe; considers that Scotland is one of the most LGBTQI+ friendly nations in Europe, with strong LGBTQI+ legal equality and the world's first LGBT-inclusive curriculum, and notes the calls on the Scottish Parliament to stay determined in its defence of the rights and wellbeing of LGBTQI+ people in Scotland, including in the Highlands and Islands region, and to act as a progressive global exemplar in the face of what it sees as reactionary political currents.

The meeting closed at 6.31 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
17 December 2024

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 17 December 2024—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 78th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 17 December 2024 (SP Paper 709)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 16 December 2024 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023 Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 118(2) and (3) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

Registers of Scotland (Fees and Plain Copies) Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 116(3)(k) and (l) of the Land Registration etc. (Scotland) Act 2012

Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 2(3) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 17 December 2024 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 10(1) of the International Organisations Act 1968

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 13 December 2024 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Prescribed Police Stations) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/377)
laid under section 138(3) of the Sexual Offences Act 2003

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 16 December 2024 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Moveable Transactions (Forms) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/379)
laid under section 118(4) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

Moveable Transactions (Register of Assignations and Register of Statutory Pledges Rules) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/381)
laid under section 118(3) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 16 December 2024 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023 (Commencement) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/378 (C. 27))
laid under section 121(2) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 13 December 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Architecture & Design Scotland Annual Report and Accounts For the Year Ending 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/307) laid under Section 19(4) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

National Records of Scotland: Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011 - Report by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland 2023-2024 (SG/2024/261) laid under Section 12 of the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 16 December 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Children Hearing's Scotland: 'The Feedback Loop' - A Report by the National Convener on the implementation of Compulsory Supervision Orders (under section 181 of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011) for 2023-24 (SG/2024/313) laid under Section 181 of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Committee on Climate Change: Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/287) laid under Paragraph 22(2)(b) of Schedule 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008

Crown Estate Scotland Annual Report and Accounts to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/58) laid under Section 22(5a) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Social Services Council Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/258) laid under Schedule 2, Section 10(1) of the

Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

VisitScotland Group Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/295) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 17 December 2024 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

The 2023/24 Audit of Ferguson Marine Port Glasgow (Holdings) Limited (SG/2024/315) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Care Inspectorate Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/78) laid under Schedule 11 Section 15(2) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Creative Scotland Group Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/292) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Creative Scotland National Lottery Distribution Fund Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/293) laid under Section 34 of the National Lottery etc. Act 1993 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Holdings Limited Annual Report and Financial Statements 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/314) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Land Commission, Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/312) laid under Section 20(2)(c) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/291) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scotland's Census 2022: General Report December 2024 (SG/2024/296) laid under Section 4 (1) of the Census Act 1920

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