



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 68, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 12 January 2022

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Covid-19 Recovery, and then Net, Zero, Energy and Transport were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Care Services: The Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care (Kevin Stewart) moved S6M-02747—That the Parliament recognises the importance of improving capability and capacity for mental health assessment, care and support within primary care settings as Scotland recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic; further recognises the progress that has already been made to boost capacity in GP settings through funding from Action 15 of the 2017 Mental Health Strategy and Primary Care Improvement Plans; welcomes the commitment to further expand mental health and wellbeing primary care services, initially supported by the £120 million Mental Health Recovery and Renewal Fund; considers that this collaborative model will create 1,000 additional roles within primary care settings across a range of disciplines, establish and embed links between primary care and community assets, and increase the use of social prescribing and community link workers to improve mental health and wellbeing, and supports the development and implementation of those multi-disciplinary mental health and wellbeing teams in primary care services to ensure better and more timely access to support and treatment for people for mental health, distress or wellbeing issues.

Craig Hoy moved amendment S6M-02747.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02747 in the name of Kevin Stewart (Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Care Services), leave out from “further

recognises” to “increase the” and insert “notes the impact of ongoing pressures on frontline mental health services; expresses concern about workforce planning failures, which are likely to result in an ongoing capacity shortfall in primary care settings across a range of disciplines; supports increased”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 34, Against 89, Abstentions 0).

Carol Mochan moved amendment S6M-02747.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02747 in the name of Kevin Stewart (Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Care Services), leave out from “further recognises” to end and insert “regrets the Scottish Government’s continued failure to remedy existing problems facing NHS mental health services; notes that the 18-week waiting time targets for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) has never been met and there are currently almost 2,000 children and young people on the waiting list who have waited over a year to begin treatment; considers that, with over 1,000 vacancies for mental health nurses and almost 100 consultant psychiatrist vacancies, staff shortages are undermining efforts to improve services; notes that the Scottish Government is on track to miss its target to recruit 800 mental health workers; believes that every GP practice should have access to a mental health professional to support patients close to home and reduce pressure on GPs; agrees that investment in mental health must be increased, including in community-based services, and calls for mental health spending to be increased to at least 11% of the NHS budget.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 55, Against 68, Abstentions 0).

Alex Cole-Hamilton moved amendment S6M-02747.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02747 in the name of Kevin Stewart (Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Care Services), insert at end “; notes the warnings from frontline professionals, and the organisations that represent them, that those working in primary care settings have seen an impact on their own mental health and wellbeing due to the work they have provided during the COVID-19 pandemic; believes that retention is as important as recruitment in ensuring greater capacity for mental health services, and considers, therefore, that the introduction of an urgent Burnout Prevention Strategy could assist in easing the pressure on staff and reducing the long waiting times experienced by patients.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 54, Against 69, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68, Against 55, Abstentions 0).

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02757—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 18 January 2022

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by First Minister's Statement: COVID-19 Update

followed by Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee Debate: Retrofitting of Properties for Net-Zero

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Judicial Review - UK Legislation

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 January 2022

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Health and Social Care; Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 January 2022

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Coronavirus (Discretionary Compensation for Self-isolation) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 25 January 2022

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by First Minister's Statement: COVID-19 Update

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Transvaginal Mesh Removal (Cost Reimbursement) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 26 January 2022

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Justice and Veterans; Finance and Economy

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: Committees Budget Scrutiny

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 27 January 2022

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Budget 2022-23

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 17 January 2022, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the

Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-02758—That the Parliament agrees that the Public Health (Coronavirus) (International Travel and Operator Liability) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 13) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/470) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2 and 4 as noted above.

6. Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service: The Parliament debated S6M-02635 in the name of Fulton MacGregor—That the Parliament recognises the work of the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS); understands that the SNBTS, which had its beginnings in the 1930s, is the specialist provider of safe high quality blood, tissues and cells products and services in Scotland; notes that its cornerstone policy is to ensure that NHS Scotland has enough blood to meet the transfusion needs of patients in Scotland; praises the SNBTS for what it considers diligent work during the COVID-19 pandemic in continuing to provide a lifesaving service, despite the hardships brought on by the pandemic; notes with concern reports that Scotland has fewer registered blood donors than at any other point this century, with the number of people donating blood supplies having dropped by 13,000 over the past year; believes that estimates suggest SNBTS would need to welcome 3,300 donors per week to ensure that blood supplies remain at safe levels; supports the SNBTS Amazing Stories campaign, which highlighted personal stories of those who have received lifesaving blood donations, and notes, therefore, the calls encouraging people across the country, including in Coatbridge and Chryston, to sign up to become blood donors if they are able.

The meeting closed at 6.00 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
12 January 2022

Appendix

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

Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 12 January 2022 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Workplace Parking Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/4)
laid under section 128(5) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 12 January 2022 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Administration of Scottish income tax 2020-21 SG/2022/12 laid under section 80HA of the Scotland Act 1998 as amended by the Finance Act 2014

Freedom of Information during and after the Covid-19 pandemic SG/2022/3 laid under section 46(3) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

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