



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 64, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 9 January 2024

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Professor Bob Akroyd, Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

3. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the administrators of Stewart Milne Group following the news that the firm, which employs over 200 people, has been placed into administration, was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy (Neil Gray).

4. How Devolution is Changing Post-EU: Clare Adamson, on behalf of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee, moved S6M-11698—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee's 5th Report, 2023 (Session 6): How Devolution is Changing Post-EU (SP Paper 453).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

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

6. Addressing the Availability of Changing Places Toilets: The Parliament debated S6M-10378 in the name of Jeremy Balfour—That the Parliament

recognises what it sees as the importance of providing Changing Places toilets in suitable locations across Scotland, including in the Lothian region, to ensure that the country is as accessible and inclusive as possible; notes that the Scottish Government, in its 2021-22 Programme for Government, set out to “invest £10 million to increase the number of Changing Places toilets across the country”, but notes with concern reports that no fund has yet been set up to allow this budget to be allocated; further notes that the UK Government made a similar commitment in its 2021 budget to invest £30.5 million in a Changing Places toilet fund and has already allocated the first round of funding, which amounted to £23.5 million, and is now in the process of allocating the further £7 million to complete its programme, on target, by the end of the financial year 2023-24; notes the comments made by the Scottish Government Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport in June 2023, in relation to the Petition PE2027, which is currently being considered by the Scottish Parliament, who stated that “funding for the construction of Changing Places Toilets has not yet been allocated and the timeframes for the distribution of this funding have not yet been announced”, and further notes the calls urging the Scottish Government to open this promised fund to ensure that Scotland is welcoming and accessible for all people with disabilities who require a Changing Places toilet.

The meeting closed at 5.45 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
9 January 2024

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 22 December 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 78th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Victims, Witnesses and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 498)

The following report was published on 9 January 2024—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 9 January 2024 (SP Paper 503)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 9 January 2024 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Consumer Scotland Act 2020 (Relevant Public Authorities) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 26(2)(b) of the Consumer Scotland Act 2020

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 22 December 2023 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Importation of Animals and Related Products (Miscellaneous Amendment and Revocation) (Scotland) Order 2023 (SSI 2023/391)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

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