



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 12, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 15 June 2021

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Time for Reflection:** Rev Andy Philip, Chaplain, St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh, led Time for Reflection.
- 2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.
- 3. Ministerial Statement:** The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon) made a statement and answered questions on COVID-19 Update.
- 4. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport (Michael Matheson) made a statement and answered questions on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Statistics (2019).
- 5. Women's Health:** The Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport (Maree Todd) moved S6M-00369—That the Parliament welcomes that the Scottish Government will publish a Women's Health Plan within the first 100 days of the current parliamentary session; notes that the plan will seek to improve support and services for the health and wellbeing needs of women and girls at every stage of their lives; believes that it is vital that health and care services for menopause, endometriosis and heart healthcare need to substantially improve; recognises that the causes of many healthcare issues facing women and girls are rooted in health and income inequalities, and that actions to address these are needed alongside the enhancement of services, and believes that, if a broad consensus on women's health can be realised, Scotland has the opportunity to become a global leader in this field.

Annie Wells moved amendment S6M-00369.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-00369 in the name of Maree Todd (Women's Health), insert at end “; notes that women face significant barriers to good mental and physical health, including unreasonably long waiting times for a diagnosis of conditions such as endometriosis, where the average waiting time is eight and a half years in Scotland; believes that women from the most deprived areas of Scotland are less likely to attend breast screening appointments, and, with breast cancer referrals declining during the COVID-19 pandemic, calls on the Scottish Government to bring treatment times under control by having a separate, clinician-led fund to tackle the NHS backlog.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 33, Against 90, Abstentions 0).

Carol Mochan moved amendment S6M-00369.4—

As an amendment to motion S6M-00369 in the name of Maree Todd (Women's Health), insert at end “; acknowledges that, historically, the health concerns of women have been too easily ignored or dismissed; deeply regrets the life-changing damage to women as the result of transvaginal mesh surgery; commends the Scottish Mesh Survivors group, which has determinedly fought to raise awareness of the dangers of mesh and prevent further women being injured by its use, and supports the asks of its Charter for Mesh Care, which is calling for funding to be immediately made available to cover the costs of mesh removal for women having to undergo private surgery.”

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

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

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—That the Parliament welcomes that the Scottish Government will publish a Women's Health Plan within the first 100 days of the current parliamentary session; notes that the plan will seek to improve support and services for the health and wellbeing needs of women and girls at every stage of their lives; believes that it is vital that health and care services for menopause, endometriosis and heart healthcare need to substantially improve; recognises that the causes of many healthcare issues facing women and girls are rooted in health and income inequalities, and that actions to address these are needed alongside the enhancement of services, and believes that, if a broad consensus on women's health can be realised, Scotland has the opportunity to become a global leader in this field; acknowledges that, historically, the health concerns of women have been too easily ignored or dismissed; deeply regrets the life-changing damage to women as the result of transvaginal mesh surgery; commends the Scottish Mesh Survivors group, which has determinedly fought to raise awareness of the dangers of mesh and prevent further women being injured by its use, and supports the asks of its Charter for Mesh Care, which is calling for funding to be immediately made available to cover the costs of mesh removal for women having to undergo private surgery.

6. Suspension of Standing Orders: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-00395—That the Parliament agrees that—

(a) for the purposes of consideration of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 24) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/211) and the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 11) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/212) rules 10.1.3(a) and 10.3.3 of Standing Orders be suspended;

(b) the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 24) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/211) and the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 11) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/212) be considered by the Parliament; and

(c) for the purposes of consideration of the Meat Preparations (Import Conditions) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/161), the Milk and Healthy Snack Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 206/2021), UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Act 2020 (Championship Period and Transitory Provision etc.) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/207), the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (Modification) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/210), the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 (Early Expiry of Provisions) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/214), the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Prescribed Police Stations) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/220), the Welfare Foods (Best Start Foods) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/221), the Homeless Persons (Unsuitable Accommodation) (Scotland) (Modification and Revocation) (Coronavirus) Amendment Order 2021 (SSI 2021/222), Act of Sederunt (Fees of Messengers-at-Arms and Sheriff Officers) (Amendment) 2021 (SSI 2021/225), the Scottish Parliament Elections (Returning Officer Fees and Charges) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/155), the Specified Diseases (Notification and Slaughter) Amendment (Scotland) Order 2021 (SSI 2021/160) and the Elections (Returning Officer Fees and Charges) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/165), Rule 10.3.2 of Standing Orders be suspended.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Standing Orders Temporary Rule Change: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-00392—That the Parliament agrees, with effect from 15 June 2021, the following temporary rule under rule 17.1A—

Temporary Rule 4: Change to Mandatory Committee Remit and Name

1. This rule applies to the committee mentioned in Rule 6.8. It ceases to apply when the Parliament has taken a decision to amend rule 6.8 in accordance with Rule 17.1 or on 31 December 2021, whichever is the earlier.

2. Where provisions contained in this temporary rule are in conflict with other standing order provisions, those in the temporary rule have precedence.

Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

3. There shall be a committee, the remit of which is to consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

(a) the Scottish Government's EU and external affairs policy;

(b) policy in relation to the UK's exit from the EU;

(c) the international activities of the Scottish Administration, including international development; and

(d) any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and any matter relating to inter-governmental relations within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Establishment of Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-00393—That the Parliament shall establish committees of the Parliament as follows—

Name of Committee: Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Remit: Set out in Rule 6.4

Number of members:5

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

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Finance Committee

Remit: Set out in Rule 6.6

Number of members: 7

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

Name of Committee: Public Audit Committee

Remit: Set out in Rule 6.7

Number of members: 5

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish Labour Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Remit: Set out in Temporary Rule 4

Number of members: 7

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Equalities and Human Rights Committee

Remit: Set out in Rule 6.9

Number of members: 7

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

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Public Petitions Committee

Remit: Set out in Rule 6.10

Number of members: 5

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

Remit: Set out in Rule 6.11

Number of members: 5

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

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: COVID-19 Recovery Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to COVID-19 falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for COVID Recovery and other Scottish Ministers where relevant, including—

(a) Cross government coordination of COVID-19 recovery policies and strategic review;

(b) the operation of powers under the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act, the Coronavirus Act and any other legislation in relation to the response to COVID-19;

(c) any secondary legislation arising from the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act; and

(d) and any other legislation or policy in relation to the response to COVID-19.

Number of members: 6

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care and matters relating to drugs policy

Number of members: 10

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

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Education, Children and Young People Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills and matters relating to the Historical Abuse Inquiry within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister

Number of members: 10

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport

Number of members: 7

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Criminal Justice Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to criminal justice falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans, and functions of the Lord Advocate other than as head of the systems of criminal prosecution and investigation of deaths in Scotland

Number of members: 8

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Social Justice and Social Security Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government, excluding matters relating to local government, housing and planning.

Number of members: 8

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

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to local government, housing and planning falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government and the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy, and matters relating to the Local Government Boundary Commission and local governance review and democratic renewal within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

Number of members: 7

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

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands.

Number of members: 9

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party and the Deputy Convener will be a member of the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament

Name of Committee: Economy and Fair Work Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to the economy falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy

Number of members: 9

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

Duration: For the whole session of the Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Names and Remits of Mandatory Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-00394—That the Parliament agrees, under Rule 6.1, that the names and remits of the following mandatory committees be amended—

Name of Committee: Finance Committee

New name: Finance and Public Administration Committee

Remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.6 shall be added—

Matters relating to public service reform and the National Performance Framework within the responsibilities of the Deputy First Minister and public administration

Name of Committee: Equalities and Human Rights Committee

New name: Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.9 shall be added—

Matters relating to civil justice within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans

Name of Committee: Public Petitions Committee

New name: Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee

Remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.10 shall be added—

To consider and report on public policy or undertake post-legislative scrutiny through the use of deliberative democracy, Citizen's Assemblies or other forms of participative engagement

Name of Committee: Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Remit: To the remit set out in Rule 6.4 shall be added—

Matters relating to local government elections, Scottish general elections, implementation of the Referendums (Scotland Act) 2020 and Freedom of Information and open government falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Parliamentary Business

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5, 7, 8 and 9 as noted above.

11. The Campaign to Restore the Consultant-led Maternity Unit at Dr Gray's, Elgin: The Parliament debated S6M-00251 in the name of Douglas Ross—That the Parliament understands with concern that, following a decision in July 2018 to downgrade the consultant-led maternity unit at Dr Gray's in Elgin, many local expectant mums have to travel out of Moray to give birth; praises the efforts of midwives and all the staff who provide an outstanding service for those who can give birth there, but believes that too many women are made to travel outwith Moray to give birth; understands that the Scottish Government has commissioned an independent review of maternity services at Dr Gray's to consider how best to restore the consultant-led service; commends the Keep MUM group and the local campaigners who are fighting hard to have the service restored; understands that the community was originally told that the downgrade would be temporary for up to a year, but notes that, almost three years on, the service has still not been restored, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government and NHS Grampian to urgently seek a resolution to this issue and to provide families in Moray with the locally-based maternity services that they deserve.

The meeting closed at 18:31 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
15 June 2021

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

Subordinate Legislation

Made Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 11 June 2021 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 27) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/238)
laid under paragraph 6(3) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 11 June 2021 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 (Register of Child Interview Rights Practitioners) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/233)
laid under section 82(2) of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 June 2021 and is subject to the negative procedure—

National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) (No. 2) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/241)
laid under section 105 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 11 June 2021 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/234 (C. 13))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 June 2021 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (Commencement) (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/239 (C. 14))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 11 June 2021 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Audit Scotland Annual report and accounts 2020/21 year ended 31 March 2021 and independent auditor's report SP Paper 1 laid under section 25(6) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 15 June 2021 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2019 SG/2021/136 laid under Section 33 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

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