



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 104, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 1 May 2024

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy and then Finance, Deputy First Minister Responsibilities and Parliamentary Business were answered by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Ministers.

2. Motion of No Confidence: Anas Sarwar moved S6M-13005—That the Parliament has no confidence in the Scottish Government.

The motion was disagreed to (by division: For 58, Against 70, Abstentions 0).

3. WASPI: Women Against State Pension Inequality: The First Minister (Humza Yousaf) moved S6M-13041—That the Parliament welcomes the report from the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman into the pension injustices on women born in the 1950s; agrees that the UK Government must now urgently deliver on the ombudsman's recommendations to pay compensation in full to those women without delay; echoes the Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) campaign's calls for a higher level of compensation to properly reflect the financial harm; notes the report's conclusions on the UK Government's failings of communication and maladministration; congratulates the WASPI women on this milestone in their campaign, and highlights cross-party commitments to delivering justice for them all.

Douglas Ross moved amendment S6M-13041.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-13041 in the name of Humza Yousaf (WASPI: Women Against State Pension Inequality), leave out from “the UK Government” to end and insert “this is a substantial report, which specifically considered the communication of changes about the state pension age for women by the Department for Work and Pensions; calls on the UK Government to respond in full to the substantial report by the ombudsman and recommendations contained within it as quickly as possible, including the recommendation to pay compensation to those affected, and congratulates the WASPI women and campaigners for their individual and collective campaigns on this issue over many years.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 31, Against 74, Abstentions 21).

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-13041.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-13041 in the name of Humza Yousaf (WASPI: Women Against State Pension Inequality), insert at end “; notes the work of UK Parliament Select Committees to scrutinise the UK Government in response to the report; reiterates calls for the UK Government to publish its response to the findings of the report without delay; acknowledges the current dire state of the UK Government's finances, due to the unfunded spending commitments of Liz Truss; notes the lack of action by the UK Government regarding compensation that is still owed to individuals as a result of other scandals, such as the infected blood and Windrush scandals; believes that there must be clarity on how any compensation scheme would operate; acknowledges the need for any credible government to only make spending promises that it knows it can deliver and pay for, in order to maintain wider economic stability; endorses the Labour Party's calls for a clear system for notifications about any future changes to pensions, and supports the commitments from any incoming UK Labour administration to give pensioners greater security and stability through committing to the pension triple lock.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21, Against 95, Abstentions 11).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 75, Against 0, Abstentions 52).

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13042—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 7 May 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Welfare of Dogs (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 8 May 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

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 9 May 2024

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: Social Justice

followed by Ministerial Statement: 2024-25 Finance Update Following UK Government Spring Budget

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Appointments of the Chair and Commissioners of the Poverty and Inequality Commission

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 14 May 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

6.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 15 May 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Labour 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 16 May 2024

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: Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 6 May 2024, 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.

5. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13044—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 24 May 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13044—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 24 May 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Parliamentary Recess Dates: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13045—That the Parliament agrees the following parliamentary recess dates under Rule 2.3.1: 8 to 16 February 2025 (inclusive), 5 to 20 April 2025 (inclusive), 28 June to 31 August 2025 (inclusive), 11 to 26 October 2025 (inclusive), 20 December 2025 to 4 January 2026 (inclusive).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3 and 7 as noted above.

9. Celebrating Workers and Trade Unions on May Day: The Parliament debated S6M-12695 in the name of Maggie Chapman—That the Parliament recognises 1 May 2024 as International Workers' Memorial Day, also known as May Day, which is an annual observance that commemorates what it sees as the historic struggles of and gains made by workers and the trade union movement; further recognises 4 May as International Firefighters' Day, which is an annual observance that honours the service and sacrifices made by firefighters worldwide; acknowledges what it considers to be the vital role that workers and trade unions play in Scotland's economy and communities, from caring for and educating people, to building infrastructure and keeping people safe; notes the belief that the principles of fair work, including that of effective voice and trade union recognition, should be central to all workplaces; recognises the campaigning work done by trade unions to achieve what it considers to be positive policy changes across the Scottish economy, especially those related to taxation, fair pay, health and safety, transport and energy; understands that the Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC), the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) and other trade unions will mark May Day with events in Aberdeen and Dundee in the north east and many other places across Scotland; notes the encouragement for all interested to attend an event in their area, and further notes the calls to support the trade union movement both now and in the future.

The meeting closed at 5.49 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
1 May 2024

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 1 May 2024—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 31st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 30th April 2024 (SP Paper 570)

Legislative Consent Memorandum

The following memorandum was lodged on 1 May 2024—

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Renters (Reform) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-46)

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