



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 34, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 3 October 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Time for Reflection:** Rev Tina Kemp, Church of Scotland, led Time for Reflection.
- 2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 3. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland's Prison Population.
- 4. Protection of Scottish Parliament Powers:** The Minister for Independence (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-10703—That the Parliament notes that both the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Parliament refused to give consent to the Internal Market Act because of concerns over its potential to undermine democratic decisions of the devolved legislatures; agrees that those fears have been realised to the detriment of the people of Scotland, and that the devolution settlement has been fundamentally rolled back by the Act, and calls for the repeal of the Internal Market Act and for the UK Government to stop taking back control to the UK Parliament of policy decisions that should be made in Scotland.

Donald Cameron moved amendment S6M-10703.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-10703 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Protection of Scottish Parliament Powers), leave out from “notes” to end and

insert “recognises that the UK Government is investing directly in Scotland and is working with local authorities and other partners to enable people across Scotland to benefit from this investment; urges the Scottish National Party administration in cooperation with the Scottish Green Party to work collaboratively and constructively with the UK Government, as demonstrated by positive joint working on programmes, such as growing the Scottish economy through the City and Growth Deals and Green Freeports, and believes that the Scottish Parliament should focus its time on addressing the issues that matter most to people in Scotland in their day-to-day lives.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 83, Abstentions 0).

Neil Bibby moved amendment S6M-10703.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-10703 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Protection of Scottish Parliament Powers), insert at end “; agrees that the people of Scotland are best served by both the UK and Scottish governments working together cooperatively, and calls on the UK Government to develop a more consensual means of preserving common standards and safeguards across the UK that does not undermine devolution in any part of the UK.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83, Against 29, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83, Against 29, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament notes that both the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Parliament refused to give consent to the Internal Market Act because of concerns over its potential to undermine democratic decisions of the devolved legislatures; agrees that those fears have been realised to the detriment of the people of Scotland, and that the devolution settlement has been fundamentally rolled back by the Act; calls for the repeal of the Internal Market Act and for the UK Government to stop taking back control to the UK Parliament of policy decisions that should be made in Scotland; agrees that the people of Scotland are best served by both the UK and Scottish governments working together cooperatively, and calls on the UK Government to develop a more consensual means of preserving common standards and safeguards across the UK that does not undermine devolution in any part of the UK.

5. Committee Announcement: Claire Baker, on behalf of the Economy and Fair Work Committee, made an announcement on its inquiry into a just transition for the North East and Moray.

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

7. Our Kids Won't Wait Campaign: The Parliament debated S6M-10476 in the name of Claire Baker—That the Parliament recognises the #OurKidsWontWait campaign to improve funding for disabled children in Scotland, and the importance of organisations such as The Yard that provide vital support for children with disabilities and their parents; understands that demand for the wide range of services offered by organisations such as The Yard is growing but that funding for The Yard, in real terms, has declined over the last seven years; believes that more could be done to help these organisations grow and expand services so that more children with disabilities and their families can get the support that they need; commends the efforts of four-year-old Eilish Cowan, who was born with a rare genetic condition, and her family in their campaign work with The Yard to improve funding for services for disabled children in the Mid Scotland and Fife region and across Scotland, and understands that the Scottish Government's decision to roll forward the Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention Fund grant has a major impact on the ability of charities such as The Yard to meet demand to help some of Scotland's most vulnerable children.

The meeting closed at 5.48 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
3 October 2023

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

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 2 October 2023 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Parking Prohibitions (Enforcement and Accounts) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 [draft]
laid under section 128(3) of the Transport Scotland Act 2019

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 2 October 2023 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Title Conditions (Scotland) Act 2003 (Conservation Bodies and Rural Housing Bodies) (Miscellaneous Amendment) Order 2023 (SSI 2023/278)
laid under section 127(1) of the Title Conditions (S) Act 2003

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 29 September 2023 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Act of Adjournal (Criminal Procedure Rules 1996 Amendment) (Witness Citations in Solemn Proceedings) 2023 (SSI 276/2023)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 29 September 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

The Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009 – Annual Report on Local Authorities' Functions: 2022 – 2023 (SG/2023/205) laid under section 12(1)(c) of the Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009

Fiscal Framework Outturn Report: September 2023 (SG/2023/178) laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Scottish Housing Regulator - Annual Performance Report and Accounts 2022/23 (SG/2023/177) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 3 October 2023 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

HMICS Assurance review of vetting policy and procedures within Police Scotland (HMICS/2023/05) laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

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