



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 65, Session 5

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 9 January 2019

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

**1. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Finance, Economy and Fair Work were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

**2. Ministerial Statement:** The Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment (Mairi Gougeon) made a statement and answered questions on Improving Animal Welfare.

**3. Recognising the Life Sciences Sector in Scotland:** The Minister for Trade, Investment and Innovation (Ivan McKee) moved S5M-15261—That the Parliament recognises the importance of the life sciences sector to the Scottish economy; notes that February 2019 is the second anniversary of the publication of the industry-led Life Sciences Strategy; understands that the development of the strategy has seen the sector increase its turnover from £4 billion in 2015 to £5.2 billion in 2016 and that it is on track to meet its target to double sectoral turnover to £8 billion by 2025, and notes that this has been achieved through the strengthening of partnerships across industry, academia and with the NHS.

Dean Lockhart moved amendment S5M-15261.1—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15261 in the name of Ivan McKee (Recognising the Life Sciences Sector in Scotland), insert at end “; recognises the importance of the UK-wide domestic market to the life sciences sector in Scotland; notes the announcement that the UK Medicines Manufacturing Innovation Centre will be based in Renfrewshire and will receive £13 million from the UK Government’s Industrial Strategy Fund; further notes that the life

sciences sector is a key pillar of the UK Government’s Industrial Strategy, and welcomes the announcement of the UK Government’s long-term plan for the NHS, which will result in a £2 billion funding boost for the Scottish Government.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 92, Abstentions 0).

Richard Leonard moved amendment S5M-15261.2—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15261 in the name of Ivan McKee (Recognising the Life Sciences Sector in Scotland), insert at end “, and believes that future work across the sector must be in partnership with trades unions, as part of a wider industrial strategy.”

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

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

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—That the Parliament recognises the importance of the life sciences sector to the Scottish economy; notes that February 2019 is the second anniversary of the publication of the industry-led Life Sciences Strategy; understands that the development of the strategy has seen the sector increase its turnover from £4 billion in 2015 to £5.2 billion in 2016 and that it is on track to meet its target to double sectoral turnover to £8 billion by 2025; notes that this has been achieved through the strengthening of partnerships across industry, academia and with the NHS, and believes that future work across the sector must be in partnership with trades unions, as part of a wider industrial strategy.

**4. Business Motion:** Graeme Dey, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S5M-15280—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 15 January 2019

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Securing a Just Transition to a Carbon-neutral Economy

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 16 January 2019

1.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

1.30 pm Ministerial Statement: Protecting Scotland's Interests: Response to the Outcome of the Meaningful Vote in Westminster

*followed by* Portfolio Questions: Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform; Rural Economy

*followed by* Scottish Labour Party Business

*followed by* Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill – UK Legislation

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.15 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 17 January 2019

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 Scottish Government Debate: Celebrating the Role of Credit Unions in Scotland's Communities

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 22 January 2019

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 23 January 2019

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity; Justice and the Law Officers

*followed by* Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 24 January 2019

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 Finance and Constitution Committee Debate: Committees Budget Scrutiny

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, in relation to any debate on a business motion setting out a business programme taken on Wednesday 16 January 2019, the second sentence of rule

8.11.3 is suspended and replaced with “Any Member may speak on the motion at the discretion of the Presiding Officer”

and

(c) that, in relation to First Minister’s Questions on Thursday 17 January 2019, in rule 13.6.2, insert at end “and may provide an opportunity for Party Leaders or their representatives to question the First Minister”.

The motion was agreed to.

**5. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on item 3 as noted above.

**6. Rotary Club of Currie Balerno Recycling PCs:** The Parliament debated S5M-15094 in the name of Gordon MacDonald—That the Parliament thanks the Rotary Club of Currie Balerno, which has recycled and provided used computers for schools in Africa for over six years with its partners, the Turing Trust; recognises that over 4,000 PCs have been wiped, refurbished, installed with educational materials and shipped to schools in Ghana, Malawi and other African countries; considers that there are not only social benefits from reusing old PCs but also environmental benefits from the offsetting of 2,058 tonnes of CO2 emissions so far, which is the equivalent of planting 5,145 trees; acknowledges that many of the project volunteers learned IT refurbishment skills and that four trainees have used their training and work experience as an opportunity to end long-term unemployment and get full-time jobs; understands that the club’s most recent project, under the Scottish Government’s small grants programme, is to provide computers for classrooms in Malawi over a three-year period and that, to date, it has helped 41,067 students to gain vital digital literacy skills; encourages potential donors to provide old computers, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to give greater consideration to smaller charities such as these to develop their projects and expertise.

The meeting closed at 5.36 pm.

**P E Grice**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
9 January 2019

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