



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Official Report

HEALTH AND SPORT COMMITTEE

Wednesday 21 April 2010

Session 3

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HEALTH AND SPORT COMMITTEE

13th Meeting 2010, Session 3

CONVENER

*Christine Grahame (South of Scotland) (SNP)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Ross Finnie (West of Scotland) (LD)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Helen Eadie (Dunfermline East) (Lab)

*Rhoda Grant (Highlands and Islands) (Lab)

*Michael Matheson (Falkirk West) (SNP)

*Ian McKee (Lothians) (SNP)

*Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con)

*Dr Richard Simpson (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Lab)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTES

Joe FitzPatrick (Dundee West) (SNP)

Mr Frank McAveety (Glasgow Shettleston) (Lab)

Jamie McGrigor (Highlands and Islands) (Con)

Jamie Stone (Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross) (LD)

*attended

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Douglas Wands

LOCATION

Committee Room 4

Scottish Parliament

Health and Sport Committee

Wednesday 21 April 2010

[The Convener *opened the meeting at 10:00*]

Decision on Taking Business in Private

The Convener (Christine Grahame): Good morning. Welcome to the 13th meeting of the Health and Sport Committee in 2010. I remind members to turn off all mobile phones and other electronic equipment.

Item 1 on the agenda is to decide whether to consider item 4, on our budget strategy for 2010-11, in private. Do we agree so to do?

Members *indicated agreement.*

Subordinate Legislation

10:00

The Convener: The next item of business concerns the consideration of five negative Scottish statutory instruments. Members have a copy of each instrument with a cover note from the clerk that summarises each instrument and highlights any comments that the Subordinate Legislation Committee wished to draw to our attention.

National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/86)

The Convener: The regulations amend the National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2006, which make provisions as to the arrangements for the provision of general ophthalmic services under the national health service in Scotland.

The Subordinate Legislation Committee reported a minor drafting error in the regulations. It is set out in more detail in the cover paper.

Do members have any comments on the regulations?

Ross Finnie (West of Scotland) (LD): Usually, when the Subordinate Legislation Committee points out even a minor defect, it also indicates the nature of the exchange of correspondence between itself and the Government and says whether the Government has told it to get lost or, as is more usual, has undertaken to correct the error. However, there is no indication in the papers before us that any response was received.

The Convener: I have a note that says that further amendments to the 2006 regulations will be made later in the year and that the Government intends to amend the error at that stage.

Rhoda Grant (Highlands and Islands) (Lab): That is what I was going to ask about.

The Convener: I take it that members are satisfied with that explanation. Do we agree that we have no recommendation to make on the regulations?

Members *indicated agreement.*

Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/89)

The Convener: The regulations amend the Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled

Drinking Water (Scotland) (No 2) Regulations 2007 to provide for the enforcement of the European Commission regulation on activated alumina and fluoride in natural mineral waters and spring water, and to implement European Council directives relating to the quality of water that is intended for human consumption.

The Subordinate Legislation Committee reported several drafting errors in the regulations—they are outlined in the cover paper—and noted the Scottish Government's commitment to lodge a corrective instrument to resolve the errors prior to the regulations coming into force.

Do members have any comments on the instrument?

Ross Finnie: I suspect that a certain bottled water's advertising will cease to refer to its "volcanicity".

The Convener: That is on the record. Please, no more jokes about volcanoes.

Are members content not to make any recommendation on the regulations?

Members indicated agreement.

Fish Labelling (Scotland) Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/90)

The Convener: The regulations provide for the execution and enforcement of European Council regulations laying down detailed rules on the application of regulations informing consumers about fishery and aquaculture products. The Subordinate Legislation Committee had no comments to make on the regulations.

Are members content not to make any recommendation on the regulations?

Members indicated agreement.

National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts, Primary Medical Services Section 17C Agreements and Primary Medical Services Performers Lists) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/93)

The Convener: The regulations amend the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Scotland) Regulations 2004, the National Health Service (Primary Medical Services Section 17C Agreements) (Scotland) Regulations 2004 and the National Health Service (Primary Medical Services Performers Lists) (Scotland) Regulations 2004. The Subordinate Legislation Committee had no comments to make on the regulations.

Are members content not to make any recommendation on the regulations?

Members indicated agreement.

National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/94)

The Convener: The regulations amend the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) (No 2) Regulations 2003. The Subordinate Legislation Committee had no comments to make on the regulations.

Are members content not to make any recommendation on the regulations?

Members indicated agreement.

The Convener: As agreed, we move into private session.

10:05

Meeting continued in private until 11:04.

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