



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 43, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 15 November 2022

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Time for Reflection:** Lucy McKee, Membership Ambassador for ENABLE, led Time for Reflection.
- 2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.
- 3. The Future of Gaelic and Scots:** The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-06763—That the Scottish Government recognises the value of Gaelic and Scots and welcomes efforts of public bodies, stakeholders and the communities in supporting their growth and development; welcomes the progress that has been made in recent years with support for Gaelic in community initiatives, guidance and legislation, national structures and a wide range of projects and educational resources; further welcomes Scottish Government commitments to build on this progress, including the introduction of a Scottish Languages Bill in this parliamentary session, the establishment of a new strategic approach to Gaelic Medium Education, the development of a Gàidhealtachd, and reviewing the structure and functions of Bòrd na Gàidhlig, and calls on all MSPs to promote the Scottish Government's ongoing consultation on these commitments, to encourage people across Scotland to play their part in supporting a vibrant future for Gaelic and Scots.

Donald Cameron moved amendment S6M-06763.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-06763 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (The Future of Gaelic and Scots), insert at end "; acknowledges that challenges exist in the promotion of Gaelic, in particular, the difficulties facing local authorities in filling Gaelic Medium Education teacher vacancies at primary and secondary level, with a consequential impact on subject choice in schools, and urges MSPs to unite collectively to address these issues so that all of Scotland's languages can flourish."

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

Michael Marra moved amendment S6M-06763.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-06763 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (The Future of Gaelic and Scots), insert at end "; highlights the importance of protecting Gaelic and halting its decline in its heartlands in recent decades, by ensuring the increase of Gaelic speakers and protecting current Gaelic speaking communities by providing good quality jobs and housing to arrest depopulation in these areas, and by addressing current issues around regional economic inequality, connectivity and transport infrastructure as a matter of urgency; recognises the diversity of learners and speakers of Gaelic and Scots, and believes that more must be done to bring the promotion of these languages closer to communities across Scotland, and understands that cultural and social infrastructure across the country plays a key role in promoting local histories and languages that must be protected and enhanced."

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

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

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Scottish Government recognises the value of Gaelic and Scots and welcomes efforts of public bodies, stakeholders and the communities in supporting their growth and development; welcomes the progress that has been made in recent years with support for Gaelic in community initiatives, guidance and legislation, national structures and a wide range of projects and educational resources; further welcomes Scottish Government commitments to build on this progress, including the introduction of a Scottish Languages Bill in this parliamentary session, the establishment of a new strategic approach to Gaelic Medium Education, the development of a Gàidhealtachd, and reviewing the structure and functions of Bòrd na Gàidhlig; calls on all MSPs to promote the Scottish Government's ongoing consultation on these commitments, to encourage people across Scotland to play their part in supporting a vibrant future for Gaelic and Scots; acknowledges that challenges exist in the promotion of Gaelic, in particular, the difficulties facing local authorities in filling Gaelic Medium Education teacher vacancies at primary and secondary level, with a consequential impact on subject choice in schools; urges MSPs to unite collectively to address these issues so that all of Scotland's languages can flourish; highlights the importance of protecting Gaelic and halting its decline in its heartlands in recent decades, by ensuring the increase of Gaelic speakers and protecting current Gaelic speaking communities by providing good quality jobs and housing to arrest depopulation in these areas, and by

addressing current issues around regional economic inequality, connectivity and transport infrastructure as a matter of urgency; recognises the diversity of learners and speakers of Gaelic and Scots, and believes that more must be done to bring the promotion of these languages closer to communities across Scotland, and understands that cultural and social infrastructure across the country plays a key role in promoting local histories and languages that must be protected and enhanced.

**4. Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

**5. Improving Outcomes for People with Neurological Conditions:** The Parliament debated S6M-06230 in the name of Alexander Burnett—That the Parliament welcomes the publication of the *Together for the One in Six* report from the Neurological Alliance of Scotland; understands that the report draws its conclusions and recommendations from a survey of over 800 people living in Scotland with a neurological condition; notes that the report found there were delays in the diagnosis of and treatment for neurological conditions; considers that these findings are the result of pre-existing structural problems, exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; further considers that the Scottish Government's plan to implement the Strategic Framework for Action on Neurological Care and Support has been delayed, and is unlikely to have achieved its objectives by its end point in 2025; highlights the view that services for children and young people with neurological conditions should be included in future strategic work; understands that the report concluded that there was a lack of data around the wider prevalence of neurological conditions, and notes the view that the Scottish Government must now address this and begin work to develop a comprehensive plan that ensures Scotland, including Aberdeenshire West, has the workforce and resources to support people with neurological conditions now and deliver better outcomes for them in the future.

The meeting closed at 5.43 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
15 November 2022

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

**Committee Reports**

The following report was published on 11 November 2022—

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 12th Report, 2022 (Session 6):  
Subordinate Legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security  
Committee on 3 November 2022 (SP Paper 256)

The following reports were published on 14 November 2022—

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 12th Report, 2022 (Session 6):  
Environmental Standards Scotland's draft Strategic Plan (SP Paper 258)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 57th Report, 2022 (Session  
6): Work of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee 2021-22 (SP  
Paper 259)

The following report was published on 15 November 2022—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 58th Report, 2022 (Session  
6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland  
in the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill (SP Paper  
261)

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Affirmative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 14 November 2022 and  
is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland)  
Regulations 2023 [draft]  
laid under section 37(2) of the Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986

**Negative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 11 November 2022 and  
is subject to the negative procedure—

Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Amendment (Scotland)  
Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/330)  
laid under section 50(4) of the Environment Act 2021

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 14 November 2022 and  
is subject to the negative procedure—

National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/335)  
laid under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

### **Laid Only Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 11 November 2022 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 6) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/332 (C.19))  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 14 November 2022 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Tuberculosis (Scotland) Amendment Order 2022 (SSI 2022/334)  
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 November 2022 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland: HM Chief Inspector's Annual Report 2021-22 (SG/2022/218)** laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power.

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 14 November 2022 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Forestry and Land Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2021-2022 (SG/2022/160)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Annual Report and Financial Statements 2021-22 (SG/2022/249)** laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**TS Prestwick Holdco Ltd Annual Report and Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 March 2022 (SG/2022/224)** laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

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