



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 4, No. 51, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 21 November 2024

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

- 1. General Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.
- 2. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).
- 3. Increasing Stroke Awareness:** The Parliament debated S6M-15065 in the name of Roz McCall—That the Parliament notes reports that nearly 11,000 people in Scotland have a stroke every year, including in the Mid Scotland and Fife region; further notes the belief that raising public awareness of stroke signs and the need for immediate action is essential to improving health outcomes for stroke survivors; understands that the FAST (Face, Arms, Speech, Time) stroke awareness campaign undertaken by Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland, which launched on World Stroke Day on 29 October 2024, is aimed at increasing awareness among the public of the need for urgent medical attention for stroke; further understands the importance of repetition in any public health campaign; regrets that there has been no sustained government-backed campaign in Scotland, it understands, since before the COVID-19 pandemic; notes the calls from campaign groups to review public health messaging surrounding awareness of stroke symptoms, including the work of the BE-FAST (Balance, Eyes, Face, Arms, Speech, Time) campaign, which some academic research suggests detects 95.6% of strokes and is the acronym currently favoured by Harvard Medical School and Yale School of Medicine; notes the calls on the Scottish Government to work with Public Health Scotland and NHS boards to trial BE-FAST, in order to assess its effectiveness using data, which, it considers, would

allow for informed decisions to be taken regarding the efficacy of current public health messaging, and further notes the hope that all stroke awareness campaigns can continue to increase awareness of the need for urgent medical attention should a patient present with any symptoms associated with stroke.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport (Maree Todd) made a statement and answered questions on National Care Service.

6. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-15531—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 69 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 3).

7. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-15551—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 92 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 30, Abstentions 0).

8. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.10 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
21 November 2024

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 21 November 2024—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 68th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 19 November 2024 (SP Paper 689)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 69th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Renters' Rights Bill (SP Paper 691)

Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 21 November 2024 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Sports Grounds and Sporting Events (Designation) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 (SSI 2024/352)
laid under Section 18(3) of the Criminal Law (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 1995

Legislative Consent Memorandum

The following memorandum was lodged on 21 November 2024—

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Tobacco and Vapes Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-51)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 21 November 2024 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Financial sustainability and reform in Scotland: A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2024/7) laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

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