



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Restricted – policy

PB/S6/21/MINS/03

Minute of Parliamentary Bureau meeting 25 May 2021 at 12.00 pm (MS Teams)

Present:

- Alison Johnstone (chair)
- Annabelle Ewing
- George Adam
- Stephen Kerr
- Neil Bibby
- Patrick Harvie

Also attended:

- Gordon MacDonald

Apologies

- Liam McArthur

Officials present:

- David McGill
- Tracey White
- Catherine Fergusson
- Neil Stewart
- Polly Davidson
- Rebecca Carradice
- Emma Cameron
- Jason Lloyd
- Tim Ferguson
- Joanne McNaughton
- Jennifer Bell
- Steven Bell
- Callum Thomson
- Irene Fleming

Future business programme

1. The Bureau agreed a programme of business for the weeks commencing 24 and 31 May, and 7 June 2021.

Approval of SSIs

2. The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Parliament that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 17) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/136) be considered by the Parliament, with an accompanying suspension of Standing Orders to remove any requirement for scrutiny by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee which has yet to be established for Session 6.

Business in the Chamber

3. The Bureau considered a paper on Business in the Chamber. The Bureau agreed to an allocation of non-government business up to May 2022, but agreed to revisit these allocations should time for additional non-government business become available. The Bureau further agreed the criteria for selection of motions for Members Business debates, the allocation of Members Business debates and dates on which the first Portfolio questions can be held. The Bureau agreed to return to the scheduling of General Questions at a future meeting.

Establishment of Committees

4. The Bureau considered a paper on the Establishment of Committees. After discussion, the Bureau agreed that George Adam would return to a future meeting with proposals for committee establishment.

Parliamentary Calendar

5. The Bureau agreed to lodge a motion recommending to the Parliament the dates of the Parliamentary recesses beyond 1 June 2021.

Parliamentary Calendar: Office of the Clerk

6. The Bureau agreed to lodge a motion recommending to the Parliament the following dates in relation to sitting days and Office of the Clerk days beyond 1 June 2021—
 - From 1 June 2021 to 31 January 2022, the Office of the Clerk will be open on all days except: Saturdays and Sundays, 17 September, 26 November, 24 December (pm), 27 and 28 December 2021, and 3 and 4 January 2022.

Time for Reflection

7. The Bureau considered an approach to Time for Reflection and agreed—

- that the Presiding Officer should determine the programme of contributors for the period up to summer recess;
- that Time for Reflection be continued to be delivered remotely up to and (if appropriate) beyond summer recess;
- that the Bureau reviews the position in relation to remote contributions at a future meeting, and
- that the Parliamentary Business Team, on behalf of the Presiding Officer, should write to all Members seeking nominations for future contributors to Time for Reflection, and that such nominations should reflect a diverse spectrum of faith and non-faith perspectives, as well as gender balance.

Publication scheme

8. It was agreed that all papers considered at the meeting should be published.

Catherine Fergusson
Clerk to the Parliamentary Bureau
25 May 2021