



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 45, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 9 November 2023

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 (Humza Yousaf).
- 3. Increase in Youth Antisocial Behaviour:** The Parliament debated S6M-10788 in the name of Daniel Johnson—That the Parliament acknowledges the reported concerning increase in youth antisocial behaviour, both in Scotland generally and locally in the Edinburgh Southern constituency; shares its concern with the reported experiences of local businesses in the Edinburgh Southern constituency and, in particular, local retail and entertainment venues around the New Market Road area, where, it understands, a supermarket chain's experience of antisocial behaviour is among the highest nationally; notes the reported impact that such an increase in youth antisocial behaviour is having on both the public's and retail workers' safety; praises the work done by the police to tackle this issue in light of the reported increasing workforce pressures that the force is facing, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to do all that it can to address this issue.
- 4. Motion Without Notice:** Daniel Johnson moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

6. Fair Work in a Wellbeing Economy: The Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy (Neil Gray) moved S6M-11161—That the Parliament agrees that the position of the UK Government on trade union legislation, industrial relations and employment law works against the ambitions to make Scotland a fair work nation; recognises that the current approach of the UK Government contributes to lower productivity and higher inequality than is the case in countries comparable to Scotland, and calls, therefore, for the devolution of employment powers to the Scottish Parliament, as supported by the Scottish Trades Union Congress.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-11161.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-11161 in the name of Neil Gray (Fair Work in a Wellbeing Economy), leave out from “agrees” to end and insert “acknowledges that the Scottish Government’s own economic record is characterised by sluggish growth and a lack of competitiveness; notes that progress in fair work and economic prosperity can only be achieved through a collaborative approach with the UK Government, rather than by advocating for further devolution of employment powers, which is not supported by the business community, and urges the Scottish Government to change tack and focus on effective, pro-market policies and measures to improve Scotland’s economic situation and job prospects, as outlined in the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party’s paper, Grasping the Thistle.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 91, Abstentions 0).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-11161.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-11161 in the name of Neil Gray (Fair Work in a Wellbeing Economy), leave out “, and calls, therefore, for” and insert “; endorses the Labour Party’s New Deal for Working People, which has been described by the Trades Union Congress as the biggest expansion of workers’ rights in decades and would ban zero-hours contracts, outlaw fire and rehire practices, deliver a genuine living wage, and enhance rights through parental leave and sick pay from day one; recognises that delivering the New Deal for Working People would immediately improve workers’ rights in Scotland and across the UK, and believes, therefore, that it should be prioritised by the UK Government, in order to create a UK-wide floor, before it explores how these rights can be entrenched through”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 19, Against 101, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 88, Against 33, Abstentions 0).

7. **Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.08 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament

9 November 2023

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 9 November 2023—

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 8th Report, 2023 (Session 6): The Mental Health (National Secure Adolescent Inpatient Service: Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SP Paper 468)

Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 9 November 2023 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Food (Scotland) Act 2015 (Compliance Notices) Amendment Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/337)

laid under section 60 of the Food (Scotland) Act 2015

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 9 November 2023 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Climate Change Committee: Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (SG/2023/232) laid under Section 22(2) Schedule 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008

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