



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 34, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 30 September 2021

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

- 1. General Questions:** Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.
- 2. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon).
- 3. Community Wealth and the Emergence of "Green Lairds":** The Parliament debated S6M-00875 in the name of Rhoda Grant—That the Parliament notes emerging developments in the market for land, with what it sees as a growing emphasis on the purchase of land for climate-related reasons; notes recent commentary referring to new owners of such land as "green lairds"; understands that Scotland has a pattern of highly-concentrated, private land ownership by international standards; believes that the operation of the Scottish land market is largely unregulated and that the purchase of substantial areas of land serves wealthy, private buyers in particular; understands that ownership of land in Scotland provides access to substantial public funding and tax arrangements, which support the building of private wealth; regrets what it sees as the commodification and financialisation of the climate emergency through the market for land; notes what it sees as the Scottish Government's commitment to community wealth building, to a just transition through the climate emergency, and to the progressive realisation of people's economic, social and cultural human rights; considers that securing more community ownership of land would be a key means to deliver greater community wealth, a more just transition through the climate emergency and progress toward the realisation of social, economic and cultural rights, including in the Highlands and

Islands region, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to consider land-market regulation and public expenditure controls to achieve greater equity and benefit-sharing from public policy, and to make significantly greater ownership of land and built assets by local communities a strategic priority in building community wealth and empowering communities in responding to the climate emergency.

**4. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

**5. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary (Humza Yousaf) made a statement and answered questions on Autumn and Winter Vaccine Programme.

**6. Urgent Question:** An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the publication of the *Sixth Case Study Findings* by the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry, in which the chair Lady Smith criticised the Scottish Government for a “woeful and wholly avoidable” delay in setting up an inquiry into accusations of historic child abuse in Scotland, was answered by the Deputy First Minister (John Swinney).

**7. Impact of Brexit on Scotland’s Supply Chain and Labour Market:** The Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) moved S6M-01444—That the Parliament believes that the UK Government's chaotic hard Brexit policy is damaging recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; deplores the decision of the UK Government to ignore detailed evidence from the Scottish Government and others about the harm that would be caused by removing Scotland and the UK from the European single market and customs union in the middle of the public health crisis; calls on the UK Government to immediately introduce a Temporary Worker Route, extended to 24 months, to alleviate some of the damage that it has caused, as part of a replacement immigration system that will both reduce the harm of Brexit and treat people with dignity and respect; recognises that the UK Government's failure to introduce such a scheme has led directly to serious levels of vacancies in hospitality, distribution, social care, construction, food production, agriculture and tourism, among other sectors; further recognises that this will only mitigate in part the negative consequence for Scotland of ending the benefits of EU membership, including freedom of movement; believes that the UK Government's actions and lack of action have led directly to serious petrol and diesel shortages on forecourts and to food supply shortages; further believes that these failures are felt across society and most acutely by the poorest, and agrees that, in a rich country like Scotland, the chaos of recent weeks and the deliberate targeting of the poorest in society make clear the heavy cost imposed on people in Scotland by a UK Government that they did not elect.

Donald Cameron moved amendment S6M-01444.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-01444 in the name of Angus Robertson (Impact of Brexit on Scotland's Supply Chain and Labour Market), leave out from "believes that the UK Government's chaotic" to end and insert "recognises that the UK Government respected the result of the EU referendum and delivered a deal with the EU, which allows the UK to trade freely with other states to the benefit of Scottish goods and services; welcomes the UK

Government's response to the Europe-wide shortage of HGV drivers by issuing 5,000 temporary visas for drivers to come to the UK; further welcomes the UK Government's positive engagement with the food and drink sector resulting in 5,500 temporary visas being issued to enable the poultry industry to prepare for Christmas, and believes that the Scottish Government should work constructively with the UK Government to ensure the success of the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 27, Against 93, Abstentions 0).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-01444.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-01444 in the name of Angus Robertson (Impact of Brexit on Scotland's Supply Chain and Labour Market), leave out "by a UK Government that they did not elect." and insert "; recognises that breaking up economic and political unions has deeply damaging consequences, and creating borders has costs; believes that people have been let down by a lack of planning and joint working by both the Scottish and UK governments, and calls on the Scottish and UK governments to act together to resolve the shortage of workers in key sectors of the economy and ensure that people have access to employment opportunities, training and financial support as Scotland comes through the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuilds its communities."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 26, Against 94, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 67, Against 54, Abstentions 0).

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

The meeting closed at 5.32 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
30 September 2021

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

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Made Affirmative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 30 September 2021 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/349)  
laid under paragraph 6(3) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020

**Affirmative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 30 September 2021 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 [draft]  
laid under section 210(2) and (6) of the Equality Act 2010

Equality Act 2010 (Specification of Public Authorities) (Scotland) Order 2021 [draft]  
laid under section 210(2) and (6) of the Equality Act 2010

**Other Documents**

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 30 September 2021 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**The Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009 Annual Report on Local Authorities' Functions: 2020-2021 SG/2021/250** laid under Section 12(1)(c) of the Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009

**Scottish Government: Fiscal Framework Outturn Report - September 2021 SG/2021/223** laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

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