



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 99, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 27 April 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. Community-led Housing Supporting a Sustainable Future:** The Parliament debated S6M-08476 in the name of Ariane Burgess—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the vital role of community-led housing in tackling what it considers is the rural and island housing crisis, and in supporting those communities towards a sustainable future; believes that there are diverse and significant challenges facing rural and island communities in providing housing and the varied implications this has for sustaining the rural population; recognises what it considers as the enabling role of community housing trusts and organisations, such as South of Scotland Community Housing, Communities Housing Trust and Rural Housing Scotland, which support communities through what it understands can be a burdensome and long process; notes the belief that more can be done to facilitate community-led housing and remove barriers to locally-based projects; further notes the view that there is a need to support community-led affordable housing as a priority, and that the upcoming Land Reform and Community Wealth Building bills have the potential to do so; congratulates those organisations that have accomplished community housing projects and utilised available funds, such as the Rural and Island Housing Fund; considers that there is a need to learn from these organisations and continually improve, and congratulates what it sees as trailblazing

projects that are testing alternative models, such as rented cohousing in the Hope CoHousing project in Orkney, and creating place-based communities through models such as Stòras Uibhist and Rural Housing Scotland's Smart Clachan project.

**4. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

**5. Opportunities for the Space Sector in Scotland:** The Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (Richard Lochhead) moved S6M-08713—That the Parliament welcomes the continued growth of the Scottish space sector; recognises that the sector accounts for 18% of all jobs in the UK space industry; notes that the sector has been identified as a key economic opportunity through the National Strategy for Economic Transformation and that, in October 2021, industry, academia and government set out their collective ambition for Scotland to become a leading European space nation through the Scottish Space Strategy; welcomes the major investment by Mangata Networks in building its new hub in Scotland, which will support up to 575 highly-skilled jobs; recognises the strengths of the space sector in Scotland and the role of space data in tackling climate change; acknowledges the importance of strict environmental and safety regulations to this industry, given its wider impact, and understands the significant opportunities for Scotland in becoming the home of space launches in Europe through the development of spaceports for civilian, science and technology programmes.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

Jamie Halcro Johnston moved amendment S6M-08713.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08713 in the name of Richard Lochhead (Opportunities for the Space Sector in Scotland), insert at end “, and welcomes the UK Government's commitment to support the space sector in the UK, including the recent £6.5 million of funding from the UK Space Agency, which benefitted UK-wide projects such as providing £373,000 for Space Scotland to strengthen the Scottish space ecosystem.”

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

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-08713.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-08713 in the name of Richard Lochhead (Opportunities for the Space Sector in Scotland), insert at end “; further understands that ensuring that employers in the space sector have access to the skills and expertise they need in the workforce is essential to long-term success in the sector, and recognises that this will require improving delivery of STEM subjects in schools and revitalising skills delivery so that it is flexible, aligned to industry, and capable of reskilling and upskilling; emphasises the requirement for physical space for advanced manufacturing to be set up affordably and in proximity to supply chains to deliver effective clustering effects for the space sector; acknowledges the importance of cooperation and pooling, such as at the National Manufacturing Institute Scotland, to enable the development of advanced manufacturing in the space industry, and

highlights the importance of a supportive regulatory regime and of the Scottish Government engaging collaboratively to ensure that this is delivered.”

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

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament welcomes the continued growth of the Scottish space sector; recognises that the sector accounts for 18% of all jobs in the UK space industry; notes that the sector has been identified as a key economic opportunity through the National Strategy for Economic Transformation and that, in October 2021, industry, academia and government set out their collective ambition for Scotland to become a leading European space nation through the Scottish Space Strategy; welcomes the major investment by Mangata Networks in building its new hub in Scotland, which will support up to 575 highly-skilled jobs; recognises the strengths of the space sector in Scotland and the role of space data in tackling climate change; acknowledges the importance of strict environmental and safety regulations to this industry, given its wider impact; understands the significant opportunities for Scotland in becoming the home of space launches in Europe through the development of spaceports for civilian, science and technology programmes; welcomes the UK Government's commitment to support the space sector in the UK, including the recent £6.5 million of funding from the UK Space Agency, which benefitted UK-wide projects such as providing £373,000 for Space Scotland to strengthen the Scottish space ecosystem; further understands that ensuring that employers in the space sector have access to the skills and expertise they need in the workforce is essential to long-term success in the sector, and recognises that this will require improving delivery of STEM subjects in schools and revitalising skills delivery so that it is flexible, aligned to industry, and capable of reskilling and upskilling; emphasises the requirement for physical space for advanced manufacturing to be set up affordably and in proximity to supply chains to deliver effective clustering effects for the space sector; acknowledges the importance of cooperation and pooling, such as at the National Manufacturing Institute Scotland, to enable the development of advanced manufacturing in the space industry, and highlights the importance of a supportive regulatory regime and of the Scottish Government engaging collaboratively to ensure that this is delivered.

**5. Motion Without Notice:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.39 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

**6. Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.40 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
27 April 2023

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

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Negative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 27 April 2023 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Discontinuance of Cornton Vale Prison (Scotland) Order 2023 (SSI 2023/132)  
laid under section 42 of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989

**Laid Only Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 27 April 2023 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/131 (C.12))  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

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