



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 2, No. 92, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 29 March 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.30 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Covid-19 Recovery and Parliamentary Business, Finance and the Economy and then Net Zero, Energy and Transport were answered by Ministers.

2. Scotland's Courts Maintenance Backlog: The Parliament debated S6M-07327 in the name of Liam Kerr—That the Parliament notes reports that there is a £7.3 million maintenance backlog across Scotland's courts, including courts in the north east, such as in Forfar and Peterhead; recognises that repairs to Scotland's courts often require closures, which can add to the already large number of outstanding criminal trials, which, it understands, currently stands at 30,588 trials; acknowledges that the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service had its capital budget frozen in 2022-23; believes that this hindered its ability to tackle the backlog; welcomes the budget increase planned for the financial year 2023-24, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to work with the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service to outline how much of the current maintenance backlog will be tackled with the budget outlined for 2023-24, and how much will remain.

3. 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 4.28 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Decision Time: There were no decisions to take at Decision Time on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.28 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
29 March 2023

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 29 March 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 24th Report, 2023 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 21 March 2023 (SP Paper 348)

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 2nd Report, 2023 (Session 6): The Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2023 [draft] (SP Paper 349)

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 29 March 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

A Joint assurance review on the acquisition of biometric data from vulnerable persons in police custody requiring the support of an Appropriate Adult under The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 (Support for Vulnerable Persons) Regulations 2019 (SBC/2023/03) laid under Section 20(2) of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioners Act 2020

A Joint assurance review of the collection of biometric data from children arrested in Scotland. Reference (SBC/2023/02) laid under Section 20(2) of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioners Act 2020

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 29 March 2023 and is subject to parliamentary procedure—

Police Scotland Annual Police Plan 2023/24 (PSOS/2023/01) laid under Section 35(4)(b) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

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