



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 4, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 23 May 2023

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Time for Reflection:** Time for Reflection: Pastor Joe C. Ochei, Jesus House, City of God (Pastoral Team), RCCG UK Region 1 Ecumenical Officer, led Time for Reflection.
- 2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 3. Scottish Connections Framework:** The Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) moved S6M-09107—That the Parliament cherishes Scotland's global diaspora, which it considers to be an extension of Scotland itself; welcomes the publication of the Scottish Connections Framework, which seeks to build a more vibrant, visible and connected Scottish community around the world; affirms a broad and inclusive definition of “diaspora”, embracing those of Scottish heritage, lived diaspora, alumni of Scottish educational institutions, and anyone who has an affinity with Scotland; recognises the importance of including historically marginalised communities, including minority ethnic Scots, women, young people and the LGBTQ community, and of facing uncomfortable chapters in Scotland's history; celebrates the efforts of Scottish community organisations around the world for maintaining and promoting Scotland's culture and language, including through marking St Andrew's Day and Burns events; applauds the Scottish Government and Scottish Development International's international network of offices for their efforts to increase Scotland's global connections, the valuable contribution of trade and investment envoys, and the 1,200-strong GlobalScot network; stresses the importance of connecting with alumni of Scotland's world-class educational institutions, and

expresses its hope that the Scottish Connections Framework will encourage many more people to consider Scotland as a destination in which to work, live, study, do business, or simply visit.

Maurice Golden moved amendment S6M-09107.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-09107 in the name of Angus Robertson (Scottish Connections Framework), insert at end “; recognises the importance of engaging with the Scottish diaspora within the terms of the devolved settlement, and calls on the Scottish Government to provide more details regarding the metrics upon which the delivery of the Scottish Connections Framework will be measured and how its impact will be monitored, measured and reported.”

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

Neil Bibby moved amendment S6M-09107.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-09107 in the name of Angus Robertson (Scottish Connections Framework), insert at end “; recognises the importance of good international air links and believes that Scottish airports should be supported to develop frequent and accessible air routes to key international destinations and economic hubs; believes that there is more that could be achieved if the Scottish and UK governments worked together to promote Scotland internationally and calls for both governments to develop a plan to better use the Scotland Office and global network of UK embassies to celebrate Scottish culture and support trade envoys; regrets that Scottish students still do not have access to a proper replacement for the Erasmus programme, and calls on the Scottish Ministers to follow the example of the Welsh Government and establish an international educational exchange programme by the end of 2023.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 49, Against 64, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament cherishes Scotland’s global diaspora, which it considers to be an extension of Scotland itself; welcomes the publication of the Scottish Connections Framework, which seeks to build a more vibrant, visible and connected Scottish community around the world; affirms a broad and inclusive definition of "diaspora", embracing those of Scottish heritage, lived diaspora, alumni of Scottish educational institutions, and anyone who has an affinity with Scotland; recognises the importance of including historically marginalised communities, including minority ethnic Scots, women, young people and the LGBTQ community, and of facing uncomfortable chapters in Scotland's history; celebrates the efforts of Scottish community organisations around the world for maintaining and promoting Scotland’s culture and language, including through marking St Andrew’s Day and Burns events; applauds the Scottish Government and Scottish Development International’s international network

of offices for their efforts to increase Scotland's global connections, the valuable contribution of trade and investment envoys, and the 1,200-strong GlobalScot network; stresses the importance of connecting with alumni of Scotland's world-class educational institutions; expresses its hope that the Scottish Connections Framework will encourage many more people to consider Scotland as a destination in which to work, live, study, do business, or simply visit; recognises the importance of engaging with the Scottish diaspora within the terms of the devolved settlement, and calls on the Scottish Government to provide more details regarding the metrics upon which the delivery of the Scottish Connections Framework will be measured and how its impact will be monitored, measured and reported.

4. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, S6M-09138—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Wednesday 24 May 2023—

after

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Debate: Ending Violence in Scottish Schools

insert

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Powers of Attorney Bill - UK Legislation

The motion was agreed to.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 4 as noted above.

6. East Renfrewshire Good Causes: The Parliament debated S6M-07928 in the name of Jackson Carlaw—That the Parliament acknowledges what it sees as the incredible and transformative work of charities in the Eastwood constituency and across Scotland; welcomes the ongoing contribution of East Renfrewshire Good Causes in providing what it considers outstanding support to vulnerable members of local communities; understands that, in the period since the charity was established and first started to offer much-needed support in August 2007 and up to September 2022, East Renfrewshire Good Causes has provided £1.6 million in goods and services and helped 5,400 individuals; acknowledges that examples of support that the charity has funded, either in full or in part, include wet floor shower adaptations for disabled pensioners, help with travel costs for cancer patients on low incomes to attend hospital for treatment, and play spaces and equipment for young people with additional support needs; considers that the set-up of the charity means that it can respond very quickly to emerging circumstances and is able to undertake essential tasks in a short timescale, such as assisting with practical home support improvements needed to allow older people to be discharged from hospital to free up beds for incoming patients; recognises that all referrals to the charity are made by frontline professionals, including teachers, housing officials and health and social care staff, from both the public and third sector; understands that the operations of East Renfrewshire Good Causes have expanded over the years and that the charity is also now active in Glasgow, South Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire and East Ayrshire;

congratulates the founder and project coordinator of East Renfrewshire Good Causes, Russell MacMillan, for what it sees as the remarkable and selfless efforts that he has made for more than 15 years in driving the Eastwood-based charity forward and ensuring that vital support has been provided to people in need, and considers that East Renfrewshire Good Causes has demonstrated a strong track record of delivery and established an operating model that has the potential to be replicated in all local authority areas across Scotland.

The meeting closed at 5.38 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
23 May 2023

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 19 May 2023—

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 3rd Report, 2023 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Economy and Fair Work Committee 2022-23 (SP Paper 371)

The following report was published on 23 May 2023—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 32nd Report, 2023 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill (SP Paper 374)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 22 May 2023 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Local Taxation Chamber and Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Composition and Procedure) (Miscellaneous Amendment) Regulations 2023 [draft]
laid under section 79(2)(c) of the Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 22 May 2023 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid (Amendment and Suspension) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/150)
laid under section 6(4) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

Seed (Fees) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/151)
laid under section 16(6) of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 18 May 2023 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: Disability Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SCoSS/2023/02) laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 22 May 2023 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

General Pharmaceutical Council - Strategic plan 2020-25: year four (SG/2023/101) laid under Paragraph 8 of Schedule 1 of the Pharmacy Order 2010

Scottish Government: Seventh Annual Report on the Implementation of the Scotland Act 2016 (SG/2023/38) laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

UK Government's Seventh Annual Report on the Implementation of the Scotland Act 2016 (SG/2023/37) at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

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