



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 69, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 13 January 2022

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 (Nicola Sturgeon).
- 3. Championing the Right to Holistic Family Support:** The Parliament debated S6M-01840 in the name of Martin Whitfield—That the Parliament notes the belief that all families across Scotland that need additional support should be able to get help when and where they need it; considers that article 18 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child establishes the right of families to help and support; believes that delivering accessible holistic family support is central to Scotland's commitment to Keep The Promise for children and families, and notes the finding from Change Programme ONE, that work in this area is underway, but not yet sufficient; notes the calls for a shift in public investment towards prevention; believes that many families were already struggling to access support services prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and that vulnerable children, young people and families in Scotland have been the most affected by the impact of successive lockdowns; welcomes the commitment by the Scottish Government to deliver a Whole Family Wellbeing Fund of £500 million over the course of the current parliamentary session, and notes the calls for an urgent action plan to outline how the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund will be invested to implement the Family Support Delivery Group blueprint and route map, thereby making the right to whole family holistic support a practical and accessible reality for

families, which would be consistently available across the country, including the South Scotland region.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs and Islands were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Transport (Graeme Dey) made a statement and answered questions on Reducing Scotland's Car Travel by 20% by 2030.

6. Tackling Drug Related Deaths Through the First Year of the National Mission: The Minister for Drugs Policy (Angela Constance) moved S6M-02761—That the Parliament believes that drug deaths are tragic, preventable and an unacceptable loss of life; supports the national mission that seeks to galvanise an all-Scotland response to this public health emergency, and recognises that no single intervention will be enough on its own; notes the need to continue to build on the work of the Drug Deaths Taskforce and other expert groups to implement evidence-led interventions that reduce deaths and improve lives; further notes that this includes increasing capacity of rehabilitation beds by 50% and providing more than a 300% increase in publicly-funded placements; welcomes the new Medication-Assisted Treatment Standards, including the implementation of same-day treatment and increasing the range of treatment options available across the country, to help save lives; commends further consideration of measures to make rights real and to implement in practice a human-rights approach through person-centred care; considers that safer consumption facilities are an important public health measure that could save lives, and supports all options within the existing legal framework being explored to enable the delivery of these facilities.

Sue Webber moved amendment S6M-02761.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02761 in the name of Angela Constance (Tackling Drug Related Deaths Through the First Year of the National Mission), insert at end “; acknowledges the valiant efforts of the third sector in ensuring that targeted funds successfully reach frontline service users; believes that it is vital that a right to recovery is legislated for, in order to safeguard the future of funding and focus beyond the current parliamentary session, and calls for the next phase to also include preventative policies that ensure those who are helped with their recovery are not replaced by more people who fall into the cycle of addiction.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 34, Against 70, Abstentions 19).

Claire Baker moved amendment S6M-02761.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-02761 in the name of Angela Constance (Tackling Drug Related Deaths Through the First Year of the National Mission), after “loss of life;” insert “calls on the Scottish Government to provide clarity on the future of the Drug Deaths Taskforce, its leadership and viability of the timescale for completing its final report, as well as provide an update on progress

in implementing the recommendations made so far; believes that safer drug consumption facilities, heroin-assisted treatment and drug checking facilities should be urgently progressed as part of harm reduction measures to address Scotland's drug deaths crisis; further believes that there needs to be swifter action to progress these measures, which can save lives, improve health outcomes and act as a gateway for vulnerable drug addicts to access drug treatment services and other forms of support; acknowledges that the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) standards, developed with direction from those with lived experience, have the potential to make a positive difference to people affected by drug use, but agrees that there must be enough investment in services to turn these into reality and ensure that they are sustained in future years; agrees that the expansion of the Police Recording Warning scheme should act as an enabler for vulnerable drug users to access treatment and support services, and that resources should be put in place to ensure that this happens; believes that expansion of residential rehabilitation must address the needs of those areas in Scotland where there is limited service access, that barriers to provision must be identified and removed, and that action must be taken to ensure that all age groups, including young people, can access these services; agrees that there must be a fully independent review to examine the extent to which measures announced by the Scottish Government, including those that were recommended by the Drug Deaths Taskforce, are making the most effective interventions and are tackling the drug deaths crisis;”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 23, Against 100, Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to (DT).

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

The meeting closed at 5.12 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
13 January 2022

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 13 January 2022—

COVID-19 Recovery Committee, 1st Report, 2022 (Session 6): Stage 1
Report on The Coronavirus (Discretionary Compensation for Self-isolation)
(Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 78)

Subordinate Legislation

Made Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before Parliament on 13 January 2022 and is subject to the made affirmative procedure—

Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/6)
laid under paragraph 1(1) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 13 January 2022 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Sea Fish (Prohibition on Fishing) (Firth of Clyde) Order 2022 (SSI 2022/5)
laid under section 20(5) of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967

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