



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 45 Session 4

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 5 November 2015

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. StepChange Debt Charity's Action Plan on Problem Debt:** The Parliament debated S4M-13952 in the name of James Dornan—That the Parliament congratulates StepChange Debt Charity on its report, *An Action Plan on Problem Debt*, understands that this looks at ways to assist people to adjust to the shocks and challenges that can arise from debt without falling into further difficulty and takes a positive approach to dealing with what it considers can be the devastating consequences for people and their families, the wider economy and the public services; notes that the charity provides debt advice to anyone with a debt problem, and notes the view that people in Glasgow Cathcart and across the country who find themselves in this position should approach such organisations as soon as possible in order to resolve their problems.

**4. Carers (Scotland) Bill:** The Minister for Sport, Health Improvement and Mental Health (Jamie Hepburn) moved S4M-14702—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Carers (Scotland) Bill.

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

**5. Carers (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution:** The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy (John Swinney) moved S4M-12890—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Carers (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3(b) of the Parliament’s Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**6. Committee Membership:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-14731—That the Parliament agrees that—

George Adam be appointed to replace Clare Adamson as a member of the Local Government and Regeneration Committee;

Clare Adamson be appointed to replace James Dornan as a member of the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee; and

Fiona McLeod be appointed to replace George Adam as a member of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**7. Substitution on Committees:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-14732—That the Parliament agrees that—

Graeme Dey be appointed to replace Michael Russell as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Justice Committee;

Michael Russell be appointed to replace Graeme Dey as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Health and Sport Committee;

James Dornan be appointed to replace Linda Fabiani as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee; and

Linda Fabiani be appointed to replace James Dornan as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**8. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 4, 5, 6, and 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.01 pm.

**P E Grice**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
5 November 2015

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

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Affirmative instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 5 November 2015 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Budget (Scotland) Act 2015 Amendment Regulations 2015 [draft]  
laid under section 7(2) of the Budget (Scotland) Act 2015

**Negative instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 5 November 2015 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Designation of Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (Scotland) Regulations 2015  
(SSI 2015/376)  
laid under section 2(4) of, and paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to, the  
European Communities Act 1972

Snares (Training) (Scotland) Order 2015 (SSI 2015/377)  
laid under section 26(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

**Other Documents**

The following document was laid before the Parliament on the 30 October 2015 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Scotland's Budget Documents: The 2015-16 Autumn Budget Revision to the  
Budget (Scotland) Act for the year ending 31 March 2016 (SG/2015/161)  
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not  
under any laying power

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