



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

COVID-19 COMMITTEE

MINUTES

10th Meeting, 2021 (Session 5)

Thursday 11 March 2021

Present:

Donald Cameron (Convener)	Willie Coffey
Maurice Corry	Annabelle Ewing
Monica Lennon (Deputy Convener)	John Mason
Stuart McMillan	Mark Ruskell
Beatrice Wishart	

The meeting opened at 10.32 am.

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Coronavirus (Scotland) Acts (Amendment of Expiry Dates) Regulations 2021 [draft]; the Coronavirus (Scotland) Acts (Early Expiry and Suspension of Provisions) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/93); the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 16) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/86); and The Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 17) Regulations 2021 [draft] from—

Michael Russell, Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, Europe and External Affairs, Professor Jason Leitch, National Clinical Director, and Emma Lopinska, Policy Manager, Coronavirus Legislation Co-ordination Reporting Team, Scottish Government.

Annabelle Ewing declared an interest, as a member of the Law Society of Scotland, holding a current practising certificate for the year to 31 October 2021, in connection with the evidence given by Michael Clancy, Director of Law Reform, Law Society of Scotland, in relation to the Coronavirus (Scotland) Acts (Amendment of Expiry Dates) Regulations 2021 [draft] at the Committee's meeting on 4 March 2021.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** Michael Russell, Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, Europe and External Affairs moved—

S5M-24235—That the COVID-19 Committee recommends that the Coronavirus (Scotland) Acts (Amendment of Expiry Dates) Regulations 2021 [draft] be approved.

After debate, the motion was agreed to (by division: For 7, Against 2, Abstentions 0).

3. **Subordinate legislation:** Michael Russell, Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, Europe and External Affairs moved—

S5M-24188—That the COVID-19 Committee recommends that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 16) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/86) be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative instrument—

The Coronavirus (Scotland) Acts (Early Expiry and Suspension of Provisions) Regulations 2021 (SSI 2021/93).

The Committee agreed to make no recommendations in relation to the instrument.

5. **Annual report:** The Committee considered a draft annual report for the parliamentary year from 12 May 2020 to 4 May 2021. Changes were agreed to. The Committee delegated to the Convener responsibility for finalising the draft report for publication.
6. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed that consideration of its legacy report should be taken in private at future meetings.

The meeting closed at 11.40 am.

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