



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 66, Session 5

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 10 January 2019

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.
- 2. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon).
- 3. Marie Curie and Macmillan Cancer Support, Getting it right for carers supporting someone at the end of life:** The Parliament debated S5M-15009 in the name of Mark Griffin—That the Parliament welcomes the new report by Marie Curie and Macmillan Cancer Support, *Getting it right for carers supporting someone at the end of life*; notes that the report found that too many people caring for someone at the end of life are going unidentified and unsupported, carers supporting someone at the end of life without support are at risk of falling into crisis and a breakdown of care, the decline towards end of life and death can often be rapid, sometimes quicker than expected, and that the support needs of carers can be very high at this time; further notes that the report sets out that carers need to be identified early, need good care co-ordination and information to support them in their caring role, need respite and/or replacement care to give them a break, and that more needs to be done to identify those in caring roles, especially those caring for someone at the end of life and particularly by those in primary care roles, such as GPs and district nurses, and recognises the report's recommendation that all those caring for someone at end of life, including those in Central Scotland, should have their needs assessed quickly and a plan put in place to support them.
- 4. Motion Without Notice:** Mark Griffin moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes. The motion was agreed to.

**5. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs (Fiona Hyslop) made a statement and answered questions on Implications of the white paper on immigration and the population of Scotland.

**6. Future Rural Policy and Support in Scotland:** The Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy (Fergus Ewing) moved S5M-15279—That the Parliament acknowledges that future policy for Scotland’s rural economy should be founded on key principles, including sustainability, simplicity, innovation, inclusion, productivity and profitability; recognises that it should seek to maintain flourishing communities, enable farmers and crofters to continue to deliver high-quality goods and services through food production and stewardship of the countryside and Scotland’s natural assets, and encourage diverse land use; calls on the UK Government to deliver a fair allocation of future rural funds to Scotland, including fully replacing all lost EU funding, that will allow development and implementation of a funding support scheme that meets rural Scotland’s needs and interests; further calls on the Scottish Government to convene a group consisting of producer, consumer and environmental organisations to inform and recommend a new bespoke policy on farming and food production for Scotland, and agrees that the Parliament should legislate for future rural policy.

Donald Cameron moved amendment S5M-15279.3—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15279 in the name of Fergus Ewing (Future Rural Policy and Support in Scotland), leave out from “including fully replacing” to end and insert “which will allow the development and implementation of a funding support scheme that meets rural Scotland’s needs and interests; notes the serious concern across the farming and crofting sectors about the potential reduction of Less Favoured Area Support Scheme (LFASS) payments and the effects that this will have on livestock farming, given the unique importance of LFASS; welcomes the input of producer, consumer and environmental organisations in assisting with the formulation of a new bespoke policy on farming and food production for Scotland; notes the preference of the NFUS for a Scottish Schedule to the UK Agriculture Bill in order ‘to offer certainty and stability sooner rather than later’, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that it has sufficient legislative powers to implement a support scheme that will allow the active rural economy to transition from the current system.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 27, Against 89, Abstentions 0).

Rhoda Grant moved amendment S5M-15279.2—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15279 in the name of Fergus Ewing (Future Rural Policy and Support in Scotland), insert at end “; notes that, in designing a future farm payments system, there is an opportunity to mitigate current reductions to Less Favoured Area Support Scheme (LFASS) payments; recognises that any future system should prioritise payments to those farmers and agricultural workers most in need of financial support, due to land quality and distance from market, and notes that there is an opportunity to design a scheme that tackles rural poverty and food poverty, leads to sustainable

development and inclusive growth, supports the repopulation of rural areas, protects the environment and addresses climate change.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 51, Against 65, Abstentions 0).

Mark Ruskell moved amendment S5M-15279.1—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15279 in the name of Fergus Ewing (Future Rural Policy and Support in Scotland), after “land use;” insert “agrees that agricultural support is a key tool in addressing the climate emergency and emissions from agriculture and land use, and that future funding should help develop a net-zero emissions farming sector in Scotland;”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 24, Against 92, Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83, Against 27, Abstentions 6).

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

The meeting closed at 5.04 pm.

**P E Grice**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
10 January 2019

## **Appendix**

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

### **Document subject to approval**

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 10 January 2019 and is subject to approval by resolution of the Parliament—

OUR CHARTER – What you can expect from the Scottish Government and Social Security Scotland (SG/2019/4)  
laid under Section 16(6) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

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