



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 3, No. 67, Session 5

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 15 January 2019

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

**1. Time for Reflection:** Reverend Wilhelmina Nesbitt, Rector, St John the Evangelist Church, Greenock, led Time for Reflection.

**2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

**3. Securing a Just Transition to a Carbon-neutral Economy:** The Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (Roseanna Cunningham) moved S5M-15380—That the Parliament supports the application of just transition principles in Scotland, acknowledging the need to plan, invest in and implement a transition to carbon-neutrality in a way that is fair for all.

Maurice Golden moved amendment S5M-15380.2—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15380 in the name of Roseanna Cunningham (Securing a Just Transition to a Carbon-neutral Economy), insert at end “, and believes that implementing a circular economy strategy for Scotland is an effective and sustainable way to bring about this transition.”

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

Claudia Beamish moved amendment S5M-15380.3—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15380 in the name of Roseanna Cunningham (Securing a Just Transition to a Carbon-neutral Economy), insert at end “, and further supports the just transition process through giving further

consideration to the establishment of a statutory, long-term just transition commission, which should be well-funded, independent of government and accountable to the Parliament, building on the work of the present non-statutory commission.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 85, Against 29, Abstentions 0).

Mark Ruskell moved amendment S5M-15380.1—

As an amendment to motion S5M-15380 in the name of Roseanna Cunningham (Securing a Just Transition to a Carbon-neutral Economy), insert at end “; recognises that global fossil fuel reserves far exceed the amount that can safely be used without causing catastrophic climate change; agrees therefore that the policy of maximum economic recovery of oil and gas, as advocated by both Scottish and UK governments, is incompatible with the Paris Agreement or with the goal of a just transition; supports an accelerated roll-out of renewable energy and decommissioning projects, creating secure and high-quality employment opportunities, and calls for the principles of a just transition to be embedded across all government infrastructure policy, planning and projects, including the national investment bank and publicly-owned energy company.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 6, Against 107, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 86, Against 0, Abstentions 28).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—That the Parliament supports the application of just transition principles in Scotland, acknowledging the need to plan, invest in and implement a transition to carbon-neutrality in a way that is fair for all; believes that implementing a circular economy strategy for Scotland is an effective and sustainable way to bring about this transition, and further supports the just transition process through giving further consideration to the establishment of a statutory, long-term just transition commission, which should be well-funded, independent of government and accountable to the Parliament, building on the work of the present non-statutory commission.

**4. Business Motion:** Graeme Dey, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S5M-15413—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 17 January—

after

2.30 pm Celebrating the Role of Credit Unions in Scotland’s Communities

insert

*followed by* Appointment of the Chair of the Poverty and Inequality Commission

The motion was agreed to.

**5. Parliamentary Bureau Motion:** Graeme Dey, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S5M-15414—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Equalities and Human Rights Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament from 1.15pm to 2.15pm on Thursday 17 January 2019 for the purpose of taking evidence from Professor Ann Skelton, Member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, on the implications of setting 14 as an international standard for the minimum age of criminal responsibility.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**6. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 3 and 5 as noted above.

**7. Paisley Voted Britain's Top Town:** The Parliament debated S5M-14729 in the name of George Adam—That the Parliament notes that Paisley has been named the best town in the UK and Ireland at the Academy of Urbanism Awards in London; understands that the Great Town Award recognises the best, most enduring or most improved urban environments across the UK, Ireland and Europe, and this year focused on places that have been through transformation; acknowledges Paisley's recent achievements and the success of the City of Culture 2021 campaign in winning over the people of Paisley and helping to change the narrative and establish a "Positive Paisley" attitude; praises the efforts of everyone involved in transforming the town, and looks forward to the continued vision of confidence and community spreading across the town.

The meeting closed at 5.33 pm.

**P E Grice**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
15 January 2018

## **Appendix**

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

### **Affirmative instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 15 January 2019 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Drug Driving (Specified Limits) (Scotland) Regulations 2019 [draft]  
laid under section 195(4A) of the Road Traffic Act 1988

---

Published by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

---

All documents are available on  
the Scottish Parliament website at:

[www.scottish.parliament.uk/documents](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/documents)

For information on the Scottish Parliament contact  
Public Information on:

Telephone: 0131 348 5000 or 0800 092 7500

Email: [sp.info@parliament.scot](mailto:sp.info@parliament.scot)

Live chat on [parliament.scot](http://parliament.scot)

You can write to us in any language or contact us  
using the Text Relay service or in British Sign  
Language through [contactScotland-BSL](http://contactScotland-BSL).

---

© Parliamentary copyright. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

The Scottish Parliament's copyright policy can be found on the website - [www.parliament.scot](http://www.parliament.scot) or by  
contacting Public Information.