



House of Commons

Wednesday 16 March 2022

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 11.30 am.

Prayers

1 Questions to (1) the Secretary of State for Scotland

(2) the Prime Minister

2 Healthcare (Delayed Discharges): Motion for leave to bring in a Bill (Standing Order No. 23)

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about expediting the transfer of patients who are medically fit for discharge from acute hospitals to homely settings in the community;

That Dr Andrew Murrison, Tracey Crouch, Nick Gibb, Dr Luke Evans, Steve Brine and Dr Caroline Johnson present the Bill.

Dr Andrew Murrison accordingly presented the Bill.

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time on Friday 6 May, and to be printed (Bill 283).

3 Opposition Day: Leader of the second largest opposition party (16th allotted day (Standing Order No. 14))

(1) Refugees from Ukraine

Resolved, That this House once more condemns President Putin's illegal invasion of Ukraine and the war crimes being perpetrated by the Russian state there; reiterates the House's solidarity with Ukrainians in their resistance to Russia's invasion of their sovereign state; recognises that Europe is now seeing the largest movement of refugees since the Second World War, for whom the UK shares responsibility; warmly welcomes the significant and widespread offers of support for those fleeing the invasion from people and organisations across the UK; supports expansion of the family visa scheme and Homes for Ukraine scheme; and calls on the Government to go further and faster in its response, including waiving requirements for Ukrainians to apply for visas in advance of their arrival in the UK so as to facilitate speedy access to international protection here, working with international partners to ensure vulnerable people can be resettled here and providing full and sustained funding and safeguarding to support people to rebuild their lives.—(Stuart C McDonald.)

4 Statement: Iran detainees (Secretary Elizabeth Truss)**5 Opposition Day: Leader of the second largest opposition party (16th allotted day (Standing Order No. 14)) (resumed)**

(2) Increases in the cost of living

Resolved, That this House warns that households will soon be suffering the worst income squeeze since the 1970s; notes the Institute for Fiscal Studies analysis that households are on course to be £800 worse off; calls on the Government to scrap VAT on energy bills, implement a windfall tax on companies which are benefitting from significantly increased profits as a result of impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic or the current international situation, and to scrap the energy bill rebate scheme and introduce immediate emergency cash payments for households.—(*Stephen Flynn*.)

6 House of Commons Members' Fund

Resolved, That Stuart Andrew be removed as a Trustee of the House of Commons Members' Fund and Christopher Pincher be appointed as a Trustee in pursuance of section 2 of the House of Commons Members' Fund Act 2016.—(*Gareth Johnson*.)

7 Statutory Instruments: Motions for Approval

(1) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Agriculture (Financial Assistance) (Amendment) Regulations 2022, which were laid before this House on 1 February, be approved.—(*Gareth Johnson*.)

Question agreed to.

(2) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Direct Payments to Farmers (Reductions) (England) Regulations 2022, which were laid before this House on 3 February, be approved.—(*Gareth Johnson*.)

Question agreed to.

(3) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Agriculture (Lump Sum Payment) (England) Regulations 2022, which were laid before this House on 10 February, be approved.—(*Gareth Johnson*.)

Question agreed to.

(4) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Commissioner for Patient Safety (Appointment and Operation) (England) Regulations 2022, which were laid before this House on 7 February, be approved.—(*Gareth Johnson*.)

Question agreed to.

8 Public petitions

A public petition from residents of the United Kingdom relating to periodontal disease and diabetes was presented and read by Wera Hobhouse.

9 Adjournment

Subject: Bank branch closures (Ms Anum Qaisar)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Gareth Johnson*.)

Adjourned at 7.31 pm until tomorrow.

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

10 Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill

The Lords agree to the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill with Amendments to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

Printing of Lords Amendments

11 Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill

Lords Amendments to the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill to be considered tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 284) with Explanatory Notes (Bill 284–EN).

Changes to Notices Given

12 Palestine Statehood (Recognition) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

13 Official Development Assistance Equalities Impact Assessment (Women and Girls) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

14 State Pension Underpayments (Divorced Women) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

15 Gender Pay Gap Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

16 Surgical Mesh (Support) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

17 Planning (Women's Safety) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

18 Miscarriage and Stillbirth (Black and Asian Women) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

19 Rape (Conviction Rates) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

20 Child Criminal Exploitation Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

21 Schools and Educational Settings (Essential Infrastructure and Opening During Emergencies) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

22 House of Lords (Retirement Age) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

23 Quarries (Planning) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

24 Flexible Working Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

25 United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Pension Transfers (Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman Investigation) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

26 Local Electricity Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

27 Energy Company Obligation (Cavity Wall Insulation) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

28 Parliamentary Elections (Optional Preferential Vote) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

29 Ministerial Competence (External Review) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

30 Charities (Income Source Statements) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

31 Local Welfare Assistance (Statements) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

32 House of Lords (Elected Senate) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

33 Institutes of Technology (Royal Charter) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

34 Education (Environment and Sustainable Citizenship) Bill [Lords]

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

35 Miscarriage Leave Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

36 Employment (Caring Leave) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

37 Company Transparency (Carbon in Supply Chains) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

38 Benefit Cap (Report on Abolition) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

39 Public Houses (Electrical Safety) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 18 March, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 6 May.

*General Committees: Reports***40 Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee**

Yvonne Fovargue (Chair) reported the draft Electricity Supplier Payments (Amendment) Regulations 2022.

General Committees: Appointments

The Speaker appoints the Chair of General Committees and members of Programming Sub-Committees, and allocates Statutory Instruments to Delegated Legislation Committees.

The Committee of Selection nominates Members to serve on General Committees (and certain Members to serve on Grand Committees).

41 First Delegated Legislation Committee (Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2022, (SI, 2022, No. 203), Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 2022, (SI, 2022, No. 205) and Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) (Amendment) (No. 6) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 241))

Members: Nickie Aiken, Rushanara Ali, Simon Baynes, Mr Clive Betts, Felicity Buchan, James Cleverly, Sir Geoffrey Cox, Stephen Doughty, Damian Green, Stephen Hammond, Rebecca Harris, Gerald Jones, Dr Andrew Murrison, Kate Osamor, Bell Ribeiro-Addy, Dean Russell and Alyn Smith

42 Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Electricity Supplier Payments (Amendment) Regulations 2022)

Members: Mark Eastwood discharged and Nick Fletcher nominated in substitution.

*Reports from Select Committees***43 Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee**

Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to the Spring Statement and Energy Supply Strategy: Written evidence, to be published (Darren Jones).

44 Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee

Correspondence with Robin Smith relating to Yorkshire County Cricket Club: Written evidence, to be published (Julian Knight).

45 Home Affairs Committee

(1) *Home Office policy on Ukrainian refugees: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1193);*

(2) *Drugs: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1128);*

(3) *Investigation and prosecution of rape: Written evidence, to be published (HC 193);*

(4) *Spiking: Written evidence, to be published (HC 967);*

(5) *Work of the Home Office: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1168)*

(Dame Diana Johnson).

46 Human Rights (Joint Committee on)

(1) *Legislative Scrutiny: Nationality and Borders Bill: Government Responses to the Committee's Seventh, Ninth, Eleventh and Twelfth Reports: Tenth Special Report*, to be printed (HC 1028);

(2) *Human Rights and the Government's response to Covid-19: Digital Contact Tracing: Government Response to the Committee's Third Report of Session 2019–21: Ninth Special Report*, to be printed (HC 1198);

(3) *The right to family life: adoption of children of unmarried women 1949–76*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 748);

(4) *Protecting human rights in care settings*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 714) (Ms Harriet Harman).

47 Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

Investment in Northern Ireland: Written evidence, to be published (HC 792) (Simon Hoare).

48 Petitions Committee

(1) *Correspondence with the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities relating to e-petition 604509*: Written evidence, to be published;

(2) *Impact of COVID-19 on new parents: one year on*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 479)

(Catherine McKinnell).

49 Public Accounts (Committee of)

(1) *Government preparedness for the COVID-19 pandemic: lessons for government on risk*: Forty-sixth Report, to be printed, with formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 952);

(2) *Academies Sector Annual Report and Accounts 2019/20*: Forty-seventh Report, to be printed, with formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 994);

(3) *Child Maintenance*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1056) (Dame Meg Hillier).

50 Science and Technology Committee

(1) *Diversity and inclusion in STEM*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 903);

(2) *UK science, research and technology capability and influence in global disease outbreaks*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 136);

(3) *UK space strategy and UK satellite infrastructure*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 98)

(Greg Clark).

51 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee on)

Twenty-eighth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 56-xxviii) (Jessica Morden).

52 Transport Committee

Fuelling the future: motive power and connectivity: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 973) (Huw Merriman).

53 Treasury Committee

(1) *The Swift Review*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1166);

(2) *Correspondence with the Payment Systems Regulator relating to card payment fees*:
Written evidence, to be published

(Dame Angela Eagle).

54 Welsh Affairs Committee

Grid capacity in Wales: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1092) (Ben Lake).

55 Women and Equalities Committee

Menopause and the workplace: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 115) (Kate Osborne).

56 Work and Pensions Committee

(1) *Health assessments for benefits*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 604);

(2) *Correspondence with the Prime Minister relating to the Online Safety Bill*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Health and Safety Executive's approach to asbestos management*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 560)

(Stephen Timms).

Lindsay Hoyle

Speaker

Westminster Hall

The sitting began at 9.30 am.

Business appointed by the Chairman of Ways and Means (Standing Order No. 10(6))

1 Maintenance of peace and stability in the Balkans

Resolved, That this House has considered the maintenance of peace and stability in the Balkans.—(Wayne David.)

The sitting was suspended between 10.46 am and 11.00 am.

2 Proposed South East Strategic Reservoir Option

Resolved, That this House has considered the proposed South East Strategic Reservoir Option.—(Layla Moran.)

The sitting was suspended between 11.26 am and 2.30 pm (Standing Order No. 10(1)(b)).

3 In-work poverty

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House has considered in-work poverty.—
(*Grahame Morris.*)

The Chair announced a time limit on backbench speeches (under the authority of the Chairman of Ways and Means and Standing Order No. 47(1)).

Resolved, That this House has considered in-work poverty.

4 Future of soft power

Resolved, That this House has considered the future of soft power.—(*Mr John Baron.*)

5 Status of Local Enterprise Partnerships

Resolved, That this House has considered the status of Local Enterprise Partnerships.—
(*Sally-Ann Hart.*)

Sitting adjourned without Question put (Standing Order No. 10(14)).

Adjourned at 5.17 pm until tomorrow.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Employment and Training

Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Industry Training Board) Order 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum and an Impact Assessment (by Command) (Alex Burghart)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

2 Education

Education (Student Loans) (Repayment) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 301), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Michelle Donelan)

3 Income Tax

Finance Act 2021 (Modification of Section 26) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 275), dated 14 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Lucy Frazer)

4 Police

Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 303), dated 14 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum and an Impact Assessment (by Command) (Secretary Priti Patel)

5 Social Security

(1) National Insurance Contributions Act 2022 (Application of Part 1) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 307), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Lucy Frazer)

(2) Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 300), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Lucy Frazer)

(3) Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating) Consequential Amendment Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 306), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Lucy Frazer)

(4) Social Security (Medical Evidence) and Statutory Sick Pay (Medical Evidence) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 298), dated 14 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Chloe Smith)

(5) Social Security Contributions (Disregarded Payments) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 276), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Lucy Frazer)

(6) Social Security Contributions (Freeports) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 313), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Lucy Frazer)

6 Trade

Ivory Prohibition (Civil Sanctions) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 311), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary George Eustice)

7 Tribunals and Enquiries

Tribunal Procedure (Amendment) Rules 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 312), dated 15 March 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Dominic Raab)

Other papers**8 Harbours, Docks, Piers and Ferries**

Explanatory Memorandum to the Saint Mawes Pier and Harbour Revision Order 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 228) (by Command) (Secretary Grant Shapps)

9 Health and Safety

Explanatory Memorandum to the Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 8) (by Command) (Chloe Smith)

10 National Audit

Report by the Comptroller Auditor General on Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Ombudsman Service, Financial Services Compensation Scheme: Investigation into the British Steel Pension Scheme (by Act), to be printed (HC 1145) (Clerk of the House)

Withdrawn papers**11 Harbours, Docks, Piers and Ferries**

Explanatory Memorandum to the Saint Mawes Pier and Harbour Revision Order 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 228) (laid 8 March)

12 Health and Safety

Explanatory Memorandum to the Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 8) (laid 12 January)