



HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday 17 March 2021

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 11.30 am.

Prayers

**1 Questions to (1) the Secretary of State for Wales
(2) the Prime Minister**

**2 Education Employment (Accompaniment to Hearings): Motion for leave to bring in a Bill
(Standing Order No. 23)**

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide that teachers and other education staff may choose to be accompanied to disciplinary or grievance hearings by a person other than a trade union representative or colleague; and for connected purposes;

That Brendan Clarke-Smith, Andrew Lewer, Andrew Percy, Caroline Ansell, Damian Hinds, Jim Shannon, Jonathan Gullis, Robert Halfon, Scott Benton, Selaine Saxby, Tim Loughton and Virginia Crosbie present the Bill.

Brendan Clarke-Smith accordingly presented the Bill.

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 276).

**3 Opposition Day: Leader of the second largest opposition party (18th allotted day
(Standing Order No. 14))**

(1) Scottish Parliamentary General Election and Scotland's constitutional future

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House has considered the upcoming Scottish Parliamentary general election and Scotland's right to choose its constitutional future. —(*Tommy Sheppard*.)

Amendment proposed, in line 1, to leave out from 'House' to end and add 'believes the priority of the Scottish people is to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and that it would be irresponsible to hold a referendum at this time.'.—(*David Duguid*.)

The Deputy Speaker announced a time limit on backbench speeches (Standing Order No. 47(1)).

Question put, That the original words stand part of the Question (Standing Order No. 31(2)).

The House divided.

Division No. 240

Ayes: 53 (Tellers: David Linden, Richard Thomson)

Noes: 362 (Tellers: Tom Pursglove, Maggie Throup)

Question accordingly negatived.

Question, That the proposed words be there added, put forthwith (Standing Order No. 31(2)).

The House divided.

Division No. 241

Ayes: 369 (Tellers: Tom Pursglove, Maggie Throup)

Noes: 55 (Tellers: Andrew Jones, Gary Sambrook)

Question accordingly agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker declared the Main Question, as amended, agreed to (Standing Order No. 31(2)).

Resolved, That this House believes the priority of the Scottish people is to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and that it would be irresponsible to hold a referendum at this time.

(2) The impact of the UK's exit from the EU

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House considers that the immediate economic damage, recent uncertainty and the projected long-term damage to business and trade from the UK leaving the European Union has disproven the perceived benefits of leaving the European Union; notes that the Scottish economy, specifically fishing, small businesses and manufacturing, are particularly vulnerable to market disruption; further notes that the failure of the UK Government to remain in mutually beneficial education schemes such as Erasmus+ is to the detriment of education and cultural exchange for people in Scotland and the rest of the UK; shows serious concern at the loss of EU funding and its replacement with the Shared Prosperity Fund; affirms the positive role immigration plays in society; and regrets the impact leaving the EU will have on those who wish to live, study and work in the UK.—(*Alison Thewliss*.)

Amendment proposed, in line 1, to leave out from 'House' to end and add 'welcomes the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement, and recognises the enormous opportunities for Scotland's economy.'.—(*Penny Mordaunt*.)

The Deputy Speaker announced a time limit on backbench speeches (Standing Order No. 47(1)).

Question put, That the original words stand part of the Question (Standing Order No. 31(2)).

The House divided.

Division No. 242

Ayes: 65 (Tellers: David Linden, Richard Thomson)

Noes: 361 (Tellers: Maggie Throup, Tom Pursglove)

Question accordingly negated.

Question, That the proposed words be there added, put forthwith (Standing Order No. 31(2)).

Question agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker declared the Main Question, as amended, agreed to (Standing Order No. 31(2)).

Resolved, That this House welcomes the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement, and recognises the enormous opportunities for Scotland's economy.

4 Statutory Instruments: Motions for Approval

(1) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Representation of the People (Proxy Vote Applications) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2021, which were laid before this House on 22 February, be approved.—(*Leo Docherty.*)

Question agreed to.

(2) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Grants to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 2021, which was laid before this House on 19 January, be approved.—(*Leo Docherty.*)

Question agreed to.

5 European Statutory Instruments Committee (Temporary Standing Order)

Ordered, That the European Statutory Instruments Committee Order of 3 February 2020 be amended as follows:

(1) After paragraph (1)(a) insert:

'(aa) any of the following documents laid before the House of Commons in accordance with paragraph 8(3)(b) of Schedule 5 to the European Union (Future Relationship) Act 2020—

(i) a draft of an instrument; and

(ii) a memorandum setting out both a statement made by a Minister of the Crown to the effect that in the Minister's opinion the instrument should be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament (the negative procedure) and the reasons for that opinion, and'.

(2) In paragraph (2), delete 'paragraph (1)(a)' and insert 'paragraph (1)'.

(3) After paragraph (2)(a) insert:

'(aa) contains any provisions of the type specified in paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 5 to the European Union (Future Relationship) Act 2020 in relation to which the Act requires that a draft of the instrument must be laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament (the affirmative procedure);'.

(4) Leave out paragraph (16) and insert:

'(16) This Standing Order shall lapse—

(a) in so far as it relates to documents laid in accordance with paragraph 3(3)(b) of Schedule 7 to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (and matters arising from the consideration of such documents), at the end of the period after which no more regulations may be made under section 8(1) of that Act;

(b) in so far as it relates to documents laid in accordance with paragraph 17(3)(b) of Schedule 7 to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (and matters arising from the consideration of such documents), at the end of the period after which no more regulations may be made under section 23(1) of that Act; and

(c) in so far as it relates to documents laid in accordance with paragraph 8(3)(b) of Schedule 5 to the European Union (Future Relationship) Act 2020 (and matters arising from the consideration of such documents), at the end of the period specified in paragraph 8(1) of that Schedule.'—(*Leo Docherty.*)

6 Adjournment

Subject: Funding for Transport for the North (Dame Diana Johnson)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Leo Docherty.*)

Adjourned at 7.39 pm until tomorrow.

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

7 Fire Safety Bill

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Fire Safety Bill to which the Commons have disagreed but propose Amendments in lieu thereof to which they desire the agreement of the Commons; and they do not insist on certain Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed.

Printing of Lords Messages

8 Fire Safety Bill

Lords Message in relation to the Fire Safety Bill to be considered tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 277).

General Committees: Reports

9 Third Delegated Legislation Committee

Mrs Maria Miller (Chair) reported the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Codes of Practice and Transit Code of Practice) Order 2021.

10 Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee

Sir Edward Leigh (Chair) reported the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Wearing of Face Coverings in a Relevant Place and Restrictions: All Tiers) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 247).

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).

11 Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill Committee

Chairs: Steve McCabe and Sir Charles Walker

12 First Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Administration (Restrictions on Disposal etc. to Connected Persons) Regulations 2021)

Chair: Hannah Bardell

Members: Stuart Andrew, Kevin Brennan, Maria Caulfield, David T C Davies, Jo Gideon, Mr Marcus Jones, Scott Mann, James Morris, Kate Osamor, Lucy Powell, Christina Rees, David Rutley, Paul Scully, Mr Virendra Sharma, David Simmonds, Jeff Smith and Richard Thomson

13 Second Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Nuclear Safeguards (Fissionable Material and Relevant International Agreements) (EU Exit) (Amendment) Regulations 2021)

Chair: Dame Angela Eagle

Members: Rushanara Ali, Stuart Anderson, Stuart Andrew, Richard Burgon, Dawn Butler, Maria Caulfield, Bambos Charalambous, Rosie Cooper, David T C Davies, Mark Fletcher, Mr Marcus Jones, Scott Mann, James Morris, David Rutley, Nick Smith, Anne-Marie Trevelyan and Dr Alan Whitehead

Reports from Select Committees

14 Armed Forces Bill (Select Committee on the)

Armed Forces Bill: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1281) (James Sunderland).

15 Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee

The future of public service broadcasting: Sixth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 156) (Julian Knight).

16 Environmental Audit Committee

(1) *Next steps for deposit return schemes*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1221);

(2) *Energy efficiency of existing homes*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 346);

(3) *Water quality in rivers*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 902)

(Philip Dunne).

17 European Scrutiny Committee

(1) Fortieth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 229-xxxv);

(2) *Ministerial correspondence*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 229)

(Sir William Cash).

18 Home Affairs Committee

(1) *Police conduct and complaints*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 706);

(2) *Home Office preparedness for COVID-19 (coronavirus)*: Part of the written evidence, to be published (HC 232);

(3) *The Windrush Compensation Scheme*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1013);

(4) *The work of the Home Secretary*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 561)

(Yvette Cooper).

19 Human Rights (Joint Committee on)

(1) *The Government response to covid-19: freedom of assembly and the right to protest*: Thirteenth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 1328);

(2) *Democracy, freedom of expression and freedom of association: Threats to MPs: Government response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2019*: Fifth Special Report, to be printed (HC 1317);

(3) *The Government's Independent Human Rights Act Review*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1161);

(4) *The Government's response to covid-19: human rights implications of long lockdown*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1004)

(Ms Harriet Harman).

20 International Trade Committee

(1) *UK trade remedies policy*:

(i) Third Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 701);

(ii) Written evidence, to be published (HC 701);

(2) *Correspondence from the Secretary of State*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Department for International Trade: Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2020-21*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *UK trade negotiations*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 233);

(Angus Brendan MacNeil).

21 Liaison Committee

Correspondence from the Leader of the House relating to the Government's legislative programme: Written evidence, to be published (Sir Bernard Jenkin).

22 Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

(1) *Brexit and the Northern Ireland Protocol*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 767);

(2) *Cross-border co-operation on policing, security and criminal justice after Brexit*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 766)

(Simon Hoare).

23 Procedure Committee

(1) *Definition of parliamentary proceedings*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1325);

(2) *The procedure of the House of Commons and the territorial constitution*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 838)

(Karen Bradley).

24 Science and Technology Committee

A new UK research funding agency: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 778) (Greg Clark).

25 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee on)

Forty-fourth Report, to be printed (HC 75-xliv) (Jessica Morden).

26 Statutory Instruments (Select Committee on)

Thirty-seventh Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 73-xxxvii) (Jessica Morden).

27 Transport Committee

Major transport infrastructure projects: appraisal and delivery: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1067) (Huw Merriman).

28 Treasury Committee

Work of National Savings and Investments: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1321) (Mel Stride).

29 Women and Equalities Committee

Reform of the Gender Recognition Act: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 884) (Caroline Nokes).

30 Work and Pensions Committee

(1) *The Work of the Health and Safety Executive:* Oral evidence, to be published (HC 39);
(2) *Disability employment gap:* Written evidence, to be published (HC 957)
(Stephen Timms).

Lindsay Hoyle

Speaker

Westminster Hall

The sitting began at 9.25 am (Order, 25 February).

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

1 Future of passenger boats and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency

Resolved, That this House has considered the future of passenger boats and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.—(*Andrew Rosindell.*)

The sitting was suspended between 10.41 am and 11.00 am (Order, 25 February).

2 Extension of marine protected areas

Resolved, That this House has considered the extension of marine protected areas.—(*Tony Lloyd.*)

The sitting was suspended between 11.30 am and 2.30 pm (Standing Order No. 10(1)(b)).

3 Future of research and development funding

Resolved, That this House has considered the future of research and development funding.—(*Daniel Zeichner.*)

4 UK voting record at the UN Human Rights Council on Israel

Resolved, That this House has considered the UK voting record at the UN Human Rights Council on Israel.—(*Scott Benton.*)

The sitting was suspended between 4.35 pm and 4.50 pm (Order, 25 February).

5 Disposal of unexploded ordnance for offshore windfarm construction

Resolved, That this House has considered the matter of the disposal of unexploded ordnance for offshore windfarm construction.—(*John Nicolson*.)

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

Adjourned at 5.40 pm until tomorrow.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Employment

Draft Employment Rights Act 1996 (Protection from Detriment in Health and Safety Cases) (Amendment) Order 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

2 Criminal Law

Compulsory Electronic Monitoring Licence Condition Order 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 330), dated 15 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum and an Impact Assessment (by Command) (Secretary Robert Buckland)

3 Employment and Training

Industrial Training (Film Industry Training Board for England and Wales) (Revocation) Order 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 318), dated 15 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Gillian Keegan)

4 Ministers of the Crown

Transfer of Functions (Speaker's Committee) Order 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 310), dated 10 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Chloe Smith)

5 National Health Service

National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 331), dated 17 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Jo Churchill)

Other papers

6 Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy (by Command) (CP 399) (Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng)

7 Fire and Rescue Services

Report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services on State of Fire and Rescue: Annual Assessment of Fire and Rescue Services in England 2020 (by Act) (Clerk of the House)

8 National Audit

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on HM Treasury: Public service pensions (by Act), to be printed (HC 1242) (Clerk of the House)

Withdrawn papers

9 Employment

Draft Employment Rights Act 1996 (Protection from Detriment in Health and Safety Cases) (Amendment) Order 2021, with an Explanatory Memorandum (laid 1 March)

CORRECTION

Tuesday 26 January 2021

Item 28 (Other Proceedings) should have read:

Women and Equalities Committee

(1) *Unequal impact? Coronavirus and the gendered economic impact*: Fifth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 385);

(2) *Changing the perfect picture: an inquiry into body image*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 274);

(3) *Correspondence from London Borough of Hackney to the Committee on trans, non-binary and gender diverse inclusion*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Reform of the Gender Recognition Act*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 884) (Caroline Nokes).