



HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday 25 March 2021

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 9.30 am.

Prayers

1 Hartlepool Writ

Ordered, That the Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough Constituency of Hartlepool in the room of Michael Robert Hill, who since his election for the said Borough Constituency has been appointed to the Office of Steward and Bailiff of Her Majesty's Three Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke, Desborough and Burnham in the county of Buckingham.—(*Mr Nicholas Brown.*)

2 Airdrie and Shotts Writ

Ordered, That, on the sixth day of April, the Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the County Constituency of Airdrie and Shotts in the room of Neil Charles Gray, who since his election for the said County Constituency has been appointed to the Office of Steward and Bailiff of Her Majesty's Manor of Northstead in the county of York.—(*Owen Thompson.*)

3 Questions to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office

4 Urgent Questions: (1) Future of UK steel production following Greensill Capital's recent insolvency (Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng)

(2) Provision of abortion in Northern Ireland (Secretary Brandon Lewis)

5 Business Question (Leader of the House)

6 Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Members of the House of Commons) Bill: Presentation (Standing Order No. 57)

Alyn Smith, supported by David Linden, Kirsty Blackman, Drew Hendry, Marion Fellows, Alan Brown, Deidre Brock, Gavin Newlands, Amy Callaghan and Brendan O'Hara, presented a Bill to amend the Scotland Act 1998 to provide that Members of the House of Commons may not be Members of the Scottish Parliament; and for connected purposes.

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 282).

7 Business of the House (Today)

Ordered, That, at this day's sitting, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 16(1) (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on –

(a) the Motions in the name of Secretary Matt Hancock relating to

(i) the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Steps) (England) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 364),

(ii) the Coronavirus Act 2020 (Review of temporary provisions) (No. 2), and

(iii) the Coronavirus Act 2020 (One-year status report), and

(b) the Motion in the name of Mr Jacob Rees-Mogg relating to Proceedings during the pandemic (No. 6)

not later than 5.00 pm; such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments to the Motion referred to in (b) above selected by the Speaker which may then be moved; and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.—(*Scott Mann.*)

8 Public Health, Coronavirus Act 2020, and Proceedings during the pandemic

Motion made and Question proposed, That the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Steps) (England) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 364), dated 22 March 2021, a copy of which was laid before this House on 22 March, be approved.—(*Secretary Matt Hancock.*)

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

As it was 5.00 pm, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions necessary to bring proceedings to a conclusion (Order, today).

(1) That the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Steps) (England) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 364), dated 22 March 2021, a copy of which was laid before this House on 22 March, be approved.

Question agreed to.

Resolved, That the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Steps) (England) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 364), dated 22 March 2021, a copy of which was laid before this House on 22 March, be approved.

(2) That the temporary provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020 should not yet expire.—(*Secretary Matt Hancock.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 246

Ayes: 484 (Tellers: Maggie Throup, Maria Caulfield)

Noes: 76 (Tellers: Mr Alistair Carmichael, Chris Green)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Resolved, That the temporary provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020 should not yet expire.

(3) That this House has considered the one-year report on the status on the non-devolved provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020.—(*Secretary Matt Hancock.*)

Question agreed to.

Resolved, That this House has considered the one-year report on the status on the non-devolved provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020.

(4) That the Order of 2 June 2020 (Proceedings during the pandemic (No. 2)), as amended on 1 July and 22 October 2020, the Order of 4 June 2020 (Virtual participation in proceedings during the pandemic), as amended on 1 July, 2 September, 22 October and 30 December 2020, the Order of 3 November 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic (No. 2)) and the Order of 25 February (Sittings in Westminster Hall during the pandemic) shall have effect until 21 June.—(*Secretary Matt Hancock.*)

Question agreed to.

Ordered, That the Order of 2 June 2020 (Proceedings during the pandemic (No. 2)), as amended on 1 July and 22 October 2020, the Order of 4 June 2020 (Virtual participation in proceedings during the pandemic), as amended on 1 July, 2 September, 22 October and 30 December 2020, the Order of 3 November 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic (No. 2)) and the Order of 25 February (Sittings in Westminster Hall during the pandemic) shall have effect until 21 June.

9 Public petitions

A public petition from residents of the constituency of Putney relating to the vaccination of school staff was presented and read by Fleur Anderson.

10 Adjournment

Subject: Conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia (Helen Hayes)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*James Morris.*)

Adjourned at 5.38 pm until Tuesday 13 April (Resolution, 22 February).

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

11 Domestic Abuse Bill

The Lords agree to the Domestic Abuse Bill with Amendments to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

12 Counter-Terrorism and Sentencing Bill:

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Counter-Terrorism and Sentencing Bill to which the Commons have disagreed and they agree without amendment to the Amendments proposed by the Commons.

Printing of Lords Amendments

13 Domestic Abuse Bill

Lords Amendments to be considered tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 281) with Explanatory Notes (Bill 281-EN).

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).

14 Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill Committee

Chairs: Judith Cummins and Esther McVey

15 First Delegated Legislation Committee (the Cathedrals Measure (HC 1260) and the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure (HC 1259))

Chair: James Gray

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

Chair: Graham Stringer

17 Third Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Recognised Auction Platforms (Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2021 and draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Auctioning Regulations 2021)

Chair: Mrs Sheryll Murray

18 Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft International Accounting Standards (Delegation of Functions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021)

Chair: Mrs Maria Miller

Reports from Select Committees

19 Backbench Business Committee

Determination of business to be taken on Tuesday 13 and Thursday 15 April in Westminster Hall (Ian Mearns).

20 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

(1) *Seafood and meat exports to the EU*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1189);

(2) *Environmental land management and the agricultural transition*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1064)

(Neil Parish).

21 Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee

Local authority financial sustainability and the Section 114 regime: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1054) (Mr Clive Betts).

22 Human Rights (Joint Committee on)

Legislative scrutiny: Police Powers Protections Bill: Written evidence, to be published (HC 192) (Ms Harriet Harman).

23 International Trade Committee

UK trade negotiations: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 233) (Angus Brendan MacNeil).

24 Public Accounts (Committee of)

(1) *COVID-19: Education*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 944);

(2) *HMRC performance in 2019–20*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 690) (Meg Hillier).

25 Scottish Affairs Committee

(1) *COP26: delivering a successful COP26 in Glasgow*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1323);

(2) *Welfare policy in Scotland*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 889) (Pete Wishart).

26 Treasury Committee

The Financial Conduct Authority's regulation of London Capital & Finance plc: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1191) (Mel Stride).

Lindsay Hoyle

Speaker

Westminster Hall

The sitting began at 1.30 pm.

Business determined by the Backbench Business Committee (Standing Orders No. 10(7) and No. 14(4))

1 Immigration and nationality application fees

Motion made, and Question proposed, That this House has considered immigration and nationality application fees.—(Meg Hillier.)

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).

At 3.00pm, the Motion lapsed (Standing Order No. 10(6)).

The sitting was suspended between 3.00 pm and 3.15 pm (Order, 25 February).

2 Government support for non-governmental organisations and churches in developing nations during the COVID-19 pandemic

Resolved, That this House has considered Government support for non-governmental organisations and churches in developing nations during the COVID-19 pandemic.—(*Jim Shannon*.)

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

Adjourned at 4.45 pm until Tuesday 13 April (Resolution, 22 February).

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Dangerous Drugs

Draft Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (Amendment) Order 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Priti Patel)

2 Financial Services

Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Amendment) (High-Risk Countries) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 392), dated 24 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (John Glen)

3 Plant Health

Draft Plant Health etc. (Miscellaneous Fees) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary George Eustice)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

4 Education

Education (Coronavirus) (School Teachers' Qualifications, Induction, Inspection Arrangements, Etc) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 385), dated 23 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Nick Gibb)

5 Exiting the European Union (Agriculture)

Vegetable and Ornamental Plant Propagating Material and Fodder Plant Seed (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 393), dated 24 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary George Eustice)

6 Rating and Valuation

Valuation for Rating (Coronavirus) (England) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 398), dated 24 March 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Luke Hall)

Papers laid under paragraphs 3(3) and 17(3) of Schedule 7 to the European Union
(Withdrawal) Act 2018

7 Exiting the European Union (Civil Contingencies)

Proposal for an instrument titled Union Civil Protection Mechanism (Revocation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021, with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Act) (Penny Mordaunt)

Other papers

8 Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Minute, dated 25 March 2021, concerning the notification of the parameters and contingent liability arising from the Recovery Loan Scheme (by Command) (Paul Scully)

9 Cabinet Office

(1) Cabinet Office Minute, dated 25 March 2021, concerning COVID-19 Indemnity for Returning Officers and Counting Officers at Local Government Elections and Referendums (by Command) (Chloe Smith)

(2) Local Government Elections and Referendums – Cabinet Office COVID-19 Indemnity (by Command) (Chloe Smith)

10 Health and Social Care

(1) Department of Health and Social Care Minute, dated 22 March 2021, concerning the contingent liability arising from an extension of the temporary indemnity for designated care home settings (by Command) (Helen Whately)

(2) Early Years Healthy Development Review Report on The Best Start for Life: A Vision for the 1,001 Critical Days (by Command) (CP 419) (Secretary Matt Hancock)

11 Industrial Development

Statement under Section 8, subsection 9 of the Industrial Development Act 1982: Recovery Loan Scheme (by Act) (Paul Scully)

12 Life Chances

Workless Households and Educational Attainment Statutory Indicators (by Act) (Secretary Thérèse Coffey)

13 Local Government

Report and Financial Statements of Southbank Centre (by Act) (Caroline Dinéage)

14 National Health Service

(1) The Government's mandate to NHS England and NHS Improvement for 2021–22 (by Act) (Secretary Matt Hancock)

(2) The Government's revised mandate to NHS England and NHS Improvement for 2020–21 (by Act) (Secretary Matt Hancock)

15 Police

Policing Inspection Programme and Framework for 2021, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (by Act), to be printed (HC 1320) (Clerk of the House)

16 Treasury

Treasury Minutes: Government responses to the Thirty-fifth to the Thirty-ninth Reports of the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2019–21 (by Command) (CP 409) (Kemi Badenoch)

17 Welfare Reform and Work

Report on the Troubled Families Programme for 2020–21: Improving families' lives (by Act) (Secretary Robert Jenrick)

SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATES
Voting by proxy
1. New pandemic proxy voting arrangements

The Speaker has certified, under the terms of Standing Order No. 39A (Voting by proxy), as amended by the temporary Orders of 23 September 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic) and 3 November 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic (No. 2)) and extended by the Order of 22 October 2020, that the Members listed in the table below are eligible to have a proxy vote cast on their behalf by the nominated proxies listed in the table below, starting on the dates specified below and ending on Tuesday 30 March 2021, unless the arrangement is ended or the House otherwise orders.

Member	From	Proxy
Mr Mark Harper	26 March	Stuart Andrew

2. Variation of existing pandemic proxy voting arrangements

The Speaker has certified, under the terms of Standing Order No. 39A (Voting by proxy), as amended by the temporary Orders of 23 September 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic) and 3 November 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic (No. 2)) and extended by the Order of 22 October 2020, that the following Members have given notice that they wish to amend their proxy voting arrangement:

from 26 March 2021 the nominated proxy for Bob Seely will be Stuart Andrew instead of Mark Harper.

3. Ending pandemic proxy voting arrangements

The Speaker has certified, under the terms of Standing Order No. 39A (Voting by proxy), as amended by the temporary Orders of 23 September 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic) and 3 November 2020 (Proxy voting during the pandemic (No. 2)) and extended by the Order of 22 October 2020, that the following Members have given notice that they wish to end their proxy voting arrangement with effect from when the Speaker takes the Chair on the dates specified below:

Member	From
Leo Docherty	26 March