



HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday 14 April 2021

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 11.30 am.

Prayers

1 Questions to (1) the President of COP26

(2) the Prime Minister

2 NHS Pay Award (Report): Motion for leave to bring in a Bill (Standing Order No. 23)

Motion made and Question put, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require the Secretary of State to lay before Parliament a report on any proposal to award NHS staff a pay rise for 2021/22 below 2.1%; to require the Secretary of State to move a motion in the House of Commons to approve any such report; and for connected purposes.—
(*Carolyn Harris.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 249

Ayes: 222 (Tellers: Colleen Fletcher, Gill Furniss)

Noes: 0 (Tellers: Mark Tami, Jessica Morden)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Ordered, That Carolyn Harris, Keir Starmer, Angela Rayner, Jonathan Ashworth, Dr Rosena Allin-Khan, Mr Nicholas Brown, Liz Kendall, Justin Madders, Alex Norris, Jim Shannon and Jamie Stone present the Bill.

Carolyn Harris accordingly presented the Bill.

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 284).

3 Opposition Day: Leader of the Opposition (19th allotted day (Standing Order No. 14))

(1) Committee to investigate the lobbying of Government

Motion made and Question proposed, That the following Standing Order shall have effect until 31 December 2021:

Investigation into the Lobbying of Government Committee

(1) There shall be a select committee, called the Investigation into Lobbying of Government Committee, to consider:

(a) the effectiveness of existing legislation to prevent the inappropriate lobbying of Ministers and Government;

(b) the rules governing all public officials regarding conflicts of interest;

- (c) the circumstances surrounding the appointment of Lex Greensill as an adviser in Government and the process by which Greensill Capital was approved for commercial arrangements with Government departments and other public sector bodies; and
 - (d) the role Government played in facilitating the commercial relationship between Greensill Capital and the Gupta Family Group Alliance.
- (2) It shall be an instruction to the Committee that it:
- (a) considers whether there are robust transparency and accountability procedures in place and whether existing rules are being adhered to;
 - (b) considers whether the Advisory Committee on Business Appointments' regulatory framework and sanctioning powers are sufficient to enforce its advice;
 - (c) assesses the extent of undue influence that former politicians and advisers have on the policies and programmes of government departments and non-departmental public bodies; and
 - (d) that it makes a first Report to the House no later than 18th October 2021
- (3) The committee shall consist of sixteen members of whom 15 shall nominated by the Committee of Selection in the same manner as those Select Committees appointed in accordance with Standing Order No. 121;
- (4) The Chair of the Committee shall be a backbench Member of a party represented in Her Majesty's Government and shall be elected by the House under arrangements approved by Mr Speaker.
- (5) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it until the expiration of this Order.
- (6) The committee shall have power—
- (a) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time; and
 - (b) to appoint specialist advisers to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee's order of reference.
- (7) The committee shall have power to appoint a sub-committee, which shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report to the committee from time to time.
- (8) The committee shall have power to report from time to time the evidence taken before the sub-committee.—(*Rachel Reeves.*)

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

Question put.

The House divided.

Division No. 250

Ayes: 262 (Tellers: Colleen Fletcher, Gill Furniss)

Noes: 357 (Tellers: Maria Caulfield, James Morris)

Question accordingly negatived.

(2) Strength of the UK's armed forces

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

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House notes the Prime Minister's 2019 election pledge that his Government would not cut the Armed Services in any form; further notes with concern the threat assessment in the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, that threats from other states to the UK and its allies are growing and diversifying; calls on the Government to rethink its plan set out in the Defence Command Paper, published in March 2021, CP411, to reduce key defence capabilities and reduce the strength of the Armed Forces, including a further reduction in the size of the Army by 2025; and calls on the Prime Minister to make an oral statement to Parliament by June 30 2021 on the Government's plans to reduce the capability and strength of the Armed Forces.—(*John Healey.*)

Question put.

The House divided.

Division No. 251

Ayes: 256 (Tellers: Colleen Fletcher; Gill Furniss)

Noes: 357 (Tellers: Maria Caulfield; James Morris)

Question accordingly negated.

4 Statutory Instruments: Motions for Approval

Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Nuclear Safeguards (Fissionable Material and Relevant International Agreements) (EU Exit) (Amendment) Regulations 2021, which were laid before this House on 25 February, be approved.—(*Michael Tomlinson.*)

Question agreed to.

5 Church of England (General Synod) (Measures)

(1) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure (HC 1259), passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, be presented to Her Majesty for her Royal Assent in the form in which it was laid before Parliament.—(*Andrew Selous.*)

Question agreed to.

(2) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the Cathedrals Measure (HC 1260), passed by the General Synod of the Church of England, be presented to Her Majesty for her Royal Assent in the form in which it was laid before Parliament.—(*Andrew Selous.*)

Question agreed to.

6 Public petitions

(1) A public petition from residents of the constituency of North Ayrshire and Arran relating to gambling regulation was presented and read by Patricia Gibson.

(2) A public petition from residents of the constituency of Glasgow East relating to return to work after the pandemic was presented and read by David Linden.

7 Adjournment

Subject: Funding for the restoration of Hammersmith Bridge (Fleur Anderson)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Michael Tomlinson.*)

Adjourned at 7.42 pm until tomorrow.

Other Proceedings

General Committees: Reports

8 Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill Committee

Esther McVey (Chair) reported that the Committee had come to the following Resolution, That, subject to the discretion of the Chair, any written evidence received by the Committee shall be reported to the House for publication.

9 Third Delegated Legislation Committee

Mrs Sheryll Murray (Chair) reported the draft Recognised Auction Platforms (Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2021 and the draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Auctioning Regulations 2021.

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).

10 Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill

Additional Chairs: Mr Philip Hollobone and Derek Twigg

11 Finance (No.2) Bill

Chairs: Dame Angela Eagle and Sir Gary Streeter

12 First Delegated Legislation Committee (the Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Wine) (Amendment, etc.) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 279))

Chair: Mr Philip Hollobone

Members: Ian Byrne, Maria Caulfield, Leo Docherty, Gill Furniss, Rebecca Harris, Fay Jones, Scott Mann, James Morris, Victoria Prentis, Tom Pursglove, David Rutley, Mr Virendra Sharma, Mr Barry Sheerman, Richard Thomson, Maggie Throup, Jon Trickett and Daniel Zeichner

13 Second Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Audiovisual Media Services (Amendment) Regulations 2021)

Chair: Julie Elliott

Members: Maria Caulfield, Caroline Dinenage, Leo Docherty, John Lamont, John McDonnell, Scott Mann, James Morris, Chi Onwurah, Kate Osamor, Tom Pursglove, Christina Rees, Ms Marie Rimmer, David Rutley, Jamie Stone, Richard Thomson, Maggie Throup and Michael Tomlinson

14 Third Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Civil Proceedings Fees (Amendment) Order 2021)

Chair: Ian Paisley

Members: Ruth Cadbury, Maria Caulfield, Bambos Charalambous, Chris Clarkson, Rosie Cooper, John Cryer, David T C Davies, Leo Docherty, Rebecca Harris, Tony Lloyd, Shabana

Mahmood, Scott Mann, James Morris, Chris Philp, Tom Pursglove, David Rutley and Jeff Smith

15 Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee (the Public Health (Coronavirus) (Protection from Eviction) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 164))

Chair: Clive Efford

Members: Richard Burgon, Liam Byrne, Ruth Cadbury, Alex Chalk, Bambos Charalambous, Chris Clarkson, Leo Docherty, Rebecca Harris, Barbara Keeley, Peter Kyle, Clive Lewis, Scott Mann, James Morris, Tom Pursglove, David Rutley, Maggie Throup and Michael Tomlinson

16 Fifth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Kyoto Protocol Registry) Regulations 2021)

Chair: Mrs Maria Miller

Members: Kevin Brennan, Maria Caulfield, Leo Docherty, Mark Fletcher, Gill Furniss, Andrew Gwynne, Ms Harriet Harman, Sir Mark Hendrick, Scott Mann, James Morris, Tom Pursglove, David Rutley, Richard Thomson, Maggie Throup, Michael Tomlinson, Anne-Marie Trevelyan and Dr Alan Whitehead

17 Sixth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Single Use Carrier Bags Charges (England) (Amendment) Order 2021)

Chair: Sir Charles Walker

Members: Maria Caulfield, Geraint Davies, Leo Docherty, Peter Dowd, David Duguid, Chris Elmore, Yvonne Fovargue, Kim Johnson, Fay Jones, Ruth Jones, Scott Mann, Navendu Mishra, James Morris, Rebecca Pow, Tom Pursglove, Maggie Throup and Michael Tomlinson

Reports from Select Committees

18 Armed Forces Bill (Select Committee on the)

Armed Forces Bill:

(i) Special Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 1281);

(ii) Written evidence, to be published (HC 1281);

(iii) the Bill, without amendment

(James Sunderland).

19 Environmental Audit Committee

(1) *Technological innovations and climate change: community energy*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1208);

(2) *Correspondence from the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council relating to the Committee's Twentieth Report of Session 2017–19, on Toxic chemicals in everyday life*: Written evidence, to be published;

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

(4) *Next steps for deposit return schemes*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1221);

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

(Philip Dunne).

20 European Scrutiny Committee

(1) Forty-third Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 229-xxxvii);

(2) *Ministerial correspondence*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 229)
(Sir William Cash).

21 Home Affairs Committee

(1) *Violence and abuse towards retail workers*: Oral and part of the written evidence, to be published (HC 1147);

(2) *Correspondence from the Home Office*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Correspondence from the Minister for Equalities relating to the publication of the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities report*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Police conduct and complaints*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 706);

(5) *Policing and organisation of vigils relating to the safety of women in public places*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1334);

(6) *The Macpherson Report: twenty-one years on*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 426);

(7) *The Windrush Compensation Scheme*: Part of the written evidence, to be published (HC 1013);

(8) *UK-EU security co-operation*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1087)
(Yvette Cooper).

22 Human Rights (Joint Committee on)

The Government's response to COVID-19: human rights implications of long lockdown: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1004) (Ms Harriet Harman).

23 International Development Committee

(1) *The Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI)'s review on The UK's approach to tackling modern slavery through the aid programme*: Oral and written evidence taken before the Sub-Committee, to be published (HC 1337);

(2) *Correspondence with the Foreign and Development Secretary relating to ICAI's budget and Framework Agreement*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Correspondence with the Foreign and Development Secretary relating to the UK's approach to tackling corruption and illicit financial flows*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *ICAI's review of Assessing DFID's results in nutrition*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1213)

(Theo Clarke).

24 International Trade Committee

(1) *UK Freeports*: Fourth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 258);

(2) *Correspondence from the Minister for International Trade relating to a trade agreement between the UK and Cameroon*: Written evidence, to be published

(3) *Correspondence from the Secretary of State relating to a parliamentary update to extension A28*: Written evidence, to be published

(Angus Brendan MacNeil).

25 Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

(1) *Citizenship and passport processes in Northern Ireland*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1111);

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

(3) *Compensation for victims of Gaddafi-sponsored IRA attacks*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1283)

(Simon Hoare).

26 Science and Technology Committee

The role of hydrogen in achieving Net Zero: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1066) (Greg Clark).

27 Standards (Committee on)

Code of Conduct: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 671) (Chris Bryant).

28 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee on)

Forty-sixth Report, to be printed (HC 75-xlvi) (Jessica Morden).

29 Statutory Instruments (Select Committee on)

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

30 Transport Committee

Global Travel Task Force: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1341) (Huw Merriman).

31 Treasury Committee

(1) *Decarbonisation and Green Finance*: Thirteenth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 147);

(2) *Budget 2021*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1196);

(3) *Correspondence from the Chief Secretary to HM Treasury relating to procurement during the pandemic*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Correspondence from the Minister of State at the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury relating to the extension of powers for HM Revenue and Customs*: Written evidence, to be published

(Mel Stride).

* This item has been corrected since publication. See the Votes and Proceedings from 19 April 2021 for details.

32 Women and Equalities Committee

The role of the GEO: embedding equalities across Government: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1139) (Caroline Nokes).

33 Work and Pensions Committee

(1) *Children in poverty: measurement and targets*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1138);

(2) *Correspondence from the Chief Executive of the Health and Safety Executive relating to the Preston New Road fracking site*: Written evidence, to be published;

- (3) *Correspondence from the Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work relating to disability benefit assessments*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (4) *Correspondence from the Minister for Pensions and Financial Inclusion relating to Post Office card accounts*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (5) *Correspondence from the Pensions Ombudsman relating to workforce diversity statistics*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (6) *Correspondence with the Minister for Pensions and Financial Inclusion relating to National Insurance numbers*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (7) *Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to rent arrears*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (8) *DWP's response to the coronavirus outbreak*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 178);
- (9) *Measurements of poverty*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 854);
- (10) *Protecting pension savers—five years on from the pension freedoms: Pension scams*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 648);
- (11) *The temporary increase in Universal Credit and Working Tax Credit*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1193);
- (12) *The work of the Health and Safety Executive*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 39)
- (Stephen Timms).

Lindsay Hoyle

Speaker

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Constitutional Law

Draft UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021 (Consequential Provisions and Modifications) Order 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Alister Jack)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

2 Financial Services and Markets

Solvency 2 (Credit Risk Adjustment) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 463), dated 13 April 2021 (by Statutory Instrument), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Steve Barclay)

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

3 Exiting the European Union (Civil Aviation)

Proposal for an instrument titled Aviation Safety (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2021, with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Act) (Secretary Grant Shapps)

Other papers

4 Fisheries

Secretary of State determination of fishing opportunities for British fishing boats (by Act) (Secretary George Eustice)

5 Treasury

Treasury Minute, dated 14 April 2021, concerning a contingent liability arising from the mortgage guarantee scheme (by Command) (John Glen)

6 Magistrates' Courts

Explanatory Memorandum to the Magistrates' Courts (Amendment) Rules 2021 (by Command) (Secretary Robert Buckland)

Withdrawn papers

7 Magistrates' Courts

Explanatory Memorandum to the Magistrates' Courts (Amendment) Rules 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 459) (laid 13 April)

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 Orders of 22 October 2020 and 25 March 2021, 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 21 June 2021, unless the arrangement is ended or the House otherwise orders.

Member	From	Proxy
Jessica Morden	15 April	Chris Elmore
Robbie Moore	15 April	Stuart Andrew
David Duguid	15 April	Stuart Andrew
Maggie Throup	15 April	Stuart Andrew
Steven Bonnar	15 April	Owen Thompson

Richard Thomson

15 April

Owen Thompson

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 Orders of 22 October 2020 and 25 March 2021, that the following Member has given notice that they wish to amend their proxy voting arrangement:

From 15 April the nominated proxy for Carla Lockhart will be Jim Shannon instead of Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson.