



HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday 15 April 2021

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 9.30 am.

Prayers

- 1 **Questions to the Secretary of State for International Trade**
- 2 **Urgent Question: Return date for university students and the Government's plans to provide financial compensation to university students for lost teaching and rent during the coronavirus pandemic (Michelle Donelan)**
- 3 **Business Question (Leader of the House)**

4 **Domestic Abuse Bill: Programme (No. 2)**

Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 83A(7)), That the following provisions shall apply to the Domestic Abuse Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 28 April 2020 (Domestic Abuse Bill (Programme)):

Consideration of Lords Amendments

(1) Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption.

Subsequent stages

(2) Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question being put.

(3) The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.—(*James Morris.*)

Question agreed to.

5 **Domestic Abuse Bill: Consideration of Lords Amendments**

The Deputy Speaker announced that Lords Amendments 41 and 43 engaged Commons financial privilege.

Lords Amendment 1

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 1.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 252

Ayes: 360 (Tellers: James Morris, Maria Caulfield)

Noes: 221 (Tellers: Gill Furniss, Colleen Fletcher)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 1 accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment 2 disagreed to.

Lords Amendment 3 disagreed to.

Lords Amendments 4 to 8 agreed to.

Lords Amendment 9

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 9.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 253

Ayes: 352 (Tellers: James Morris, Maria Caulfield)

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

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 9 accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments 10 to 32 agreed to.

Lords Amendment 33

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 33.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 254

Ayes: 361 (Tellers: James Morris, Maria Caulfield)

Noes: 218 (Tellers: Gill Furniss, Colleen Fletcher)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 33 accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments 34 to 36 agreed to.

Lords Amendment 37

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 37.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 255

Ayes: 362 (Tellers: James Morris, Maria Caulfield)

Noes: 217 (Tellers: Colleen Fletcher, Gill Furniss)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 37 accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment 38

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 38.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 256

Ayes: 362 (Tellers: Leo Docherty, Michael Tomlinson)

Noes: 217 (Tellers: Gill Furniss, Colleen Fletcher)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 38 accordingly disagreed to.

Lord Amendment 39 agreed to.

Lords Amendment 40

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 40.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 257

Ayes: 350 (Tellers: Leo Docherty, Michael Tomlinson)

Noes: 270 (Tellers: Gill Furniss, Colleen Fletcher)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 40 accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment 41

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 41.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 258

Ayes: 352 (Tellers: Leo Docherty, Michael Tomlinson)

Noes: 270 (Tellers: Gill Furniss, Colleen Fletcher)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 41 accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment 42

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 42.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 259

Ayes: 351 (Tellers: Leo Docherty, Michael Tomlinson)

Noes: 226 (Tellers: Colleen Fletcher, Gill Furniss)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 42 accordingly disagreed to.

Amendments (a) to (c) made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendment 42 disagreed to

Lords Amendment 43

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 43.—(*Victoria Atkins.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 260

Ayes: 352 (Tellers: Leo Docherty, Michael Tomlinson)

Noes: 226 (Tellers: Gill Furniss, Colleen Fletcher)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Lords Amendment 43 accordingly disagreed to.

As it was after 5.00 pm, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions necessary to bring proceedings on the Lords Amendments to the Domestic Abuse Bill to a conclusion (Order, today).

The following Questions were put forthwith (Standing Order No. 83F):

(1) That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 83 (Question on a motion made by a Minister of the Crown to disagree with a Lords Amendment).—
(*Victoria Atkins.*)

Question agreed to.

Lords Amendment 83 accordingly disagreed to.

(2) That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendments 44 to 82 and 84 to 86 (Single Question to agree with all remaining Lords Amendments).

Question agreed to.

Lords Amendments 44 to 82 and 84 to 86 accordingly agreed to.

Title accordingly amended, as follows:

A Bill to make provision in relation to domestic abuse; to make provision for and in connection with the establishment of a Domestic Abuse Commissioner; to make provision for the granting of measures to assist individuals in certain circumstances to give evidence or otherwise participate in civil proceedings; to prohibit cross-examination in person in family or civil proceedings in certain circumstances; to make further provision about orders under section 91(14) of the Children Act 1989; to provide for an offence of threatening to disclose private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress; to provide for an offence of strangulation or suffocation; to make provision about circumstances in which consent to the infliction of harm is not a defence in proceedings for certain violent offences; to make provision about certain violent or sexual offences, and offences involving other abusive behaviour, committed outside the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes.

Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 83H(2)), That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments 1 to 3, 9, 33, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43 and 83 to the Domestic Abuse Bill.

That Victoria Atkins, Chris Elmore, Tom Pursglove and Michael Tomlinson be members of the Committee.

That Victoria Atkins be the Chair of the Committee.

That three be the quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(*Michael Tomlinson.*)

Question agreed to.

6 Public petitions

(1) A public petition from residents of the constituency of York Central relating to the independence of City of York Council was presented and read by Rachael Maskell.

(2) A public petition from residents of the constituency of Hornsey and Wood Green relating to residents of Mary Feilding Guild care home was presented and read by Catherine West.

7 Domestic Abuse Bill (Reasons Committee)

Victoria Atkins (Chair) reported that the Committee had agreed the following Reasons:

Lords Amendments 1 to 3

Because it is inappropriate to extend the definition of “domestic abuse” in the Bill to include abuse carried out against a disabled person by the person’s carer.

Lords Amendment 9

Because it is unnecessary to provide for the accreditation of child contact centres by local authorities.

Lords Amendment 33

Because it is unnecessary and is contrary to the principle of judicial independence.

Lords Amendment 37

Because it is inappropriate to extend the so-called ‘householder defence’ to victims of domestic abuse who use disproportionate force against their abusers in self-defence.

Lords Amendments 38 and 83

Because it is inappropriate to provide a new defence for victims of domestic abuse who are compelled to commit an offence as a result of such abuse, as the existing common law defence of duress is sufficient.

Lords Amendment 40

Because the Government has committed to reviewing the processing of migrant victims’ personal data for the purposes of immigration control in response to the report on Liberty and Southall Black Sisters’ super-complaint on policing and immigration status published by Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary on 17 December 2020, and the Commons consider that the Amendment would pre-empt the outcome of that review.

Lords Amendments 41 and 43

Because the Amendments would involve a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Reasons were agreed to.

8 Adjournment

Subject: Future of the English language sector (Conor Burns)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Rebecca Harris.)

Adjourned at 5.31 pm until Monday 19 April.

Other Proceedings

General Committees: Reports

9 Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee

Mrs Maria Miller (Chair) reported the draft International Accounting Standards (Delegation of Functions) (EU Exit) 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 Sixth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Single Use Carrier Bags Charges (England) (Amendment) Order 2021)

Members: Chris Elmore discharged and Jessica Morden nominated in substitution.

Reports from Select Committees

11 Backbench Business Committee

Determination of business to be taken on Thursday 22 April in the Chamber and Tuesday 20, Thursday 22 and Tuesday 27 April in Westminster Hall (Ian Mearns).

12 Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee

(1) *Mineworkers' Pension Scheme*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1331);

(2) *Post-pandemic economic growth*: Industrial Strategy: Written evidence, to be published (HC 674)

(Darren Jones).

13 Foreign Affairs Committee

(1) *A climate for ambition: Diplomatic preparations for COP26*: Seventh Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 202);

(2) *Correspondence with the Foreign Secretary relating to the situation in Tigray*: Written evidence, to be published

(Tom Tugendhat).

14 Human Rights (Joint Committee on)

Freedom of expression: Written evidence, to be published (HC 979) (Ms Harriet Harman).

15 Justice Committee

(1) *The future of the Probation Service*: Eighteenth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 285);

(2) *Children and young people in custody (Part 2): The youth secure estate and resettlement: Government Response to the Committee's Sixteenth Report*: Eleventh Special Report, to be printed (HC 1357);

(3) *Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State*: Written evidence, to be published;

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

(5) *Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State*: Written evidence, to be published;

(6) *Court capacity*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 284);

(7) *The work of the Ministry of Justice*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1267)

(Sir Robert Neill).

16 Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

- (1) *Compensation for victims of Gaddafi-sponsored IRA attacks*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 1283);
- (2) *Brexit and the Northern Ireland Protocol*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 767) (Simon Hoare).

17 Public Accounts (Committee of)

- (1) *COVID-19: supporting the vulnerable during lockdown*: Fifty-third Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 938);
- (2) *Improving single living accommodation for service personnel*: Fifty-fourth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 940);
- (3) *COVID-19: Government support for charities*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 948);
- (4) *Asylum Accommodation and Support Transformation Programme*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 683);
- (5) *Achieving government's long-term environmental goals*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 927);
- (6) *Correspondence from Crossrail Ltd relating to Crossrail progress update*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (7) *Correspondence from the Cabinet Office relating to a revised timetable for the introduction of the next stage of UK import requirements in order to ensure minimal disruption to supply chains post EU Exit*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (8) *Correspondence from the Department of Health and Social Care relating to Adapt and Adopt Endoscopy spend*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (9) *Correspondence from the Environment Agency relating to flood defence investment*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (10) *Correspondence from the Home Office relating to the Emergency Services Mobile Communication Programme (ESMCP)*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (11) *Correspondence from the Home Office relating to the Home Office transformation programme*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (12) *Correspondence relating to the Committee's previous Reports*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (13) *Correspondence with the Department of Health and Social Care relating to clinical negligence in community testing*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (14) *COVID-19: Free School Meals Voucher Scheme*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 689);
- (15) *COVID-19: Planning for a vaccine (Part 1)*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 930);
- (16) *COVID-19: Support for jobs*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 920);
- (17) *Digital services at the border*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 936);
- (18) *Environmental tax measures*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 937);
- (19) *Low emission cars*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 943);
- (20) *Managing flood risks*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 931);
- (21) *The production and distribution of cash*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 654) (Meg Hillier).

18 Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee

- (1) *Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman Scrutiny 2019–20: Government's and Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman's response to the Committee's Seventh Report: Seventh Special Report*, to be printed (HC 1348);
- (2) *The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments*: Oral evidence to be published (HC 1350);
- (3) *Correspondence from the Chief Operating Officer for the Civil Service and Permanent Secretary for the Cabinet Office relating to the work of the Data Standards Authority*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (4) *Correspondence from the Chief Executive of the Competition and Markets Authority relating to the Office for the Internal Market*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (5) *Correspondence from the Parliamentary Secretary at the Cabinet Office relating to Common Frameworks*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (6) *Correspondence from the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman relating to Operational changes in response to the impact of Covid pandemic on PHSO's service*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (7) *Correspondence with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster from the Chairs of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, the Scottish Affairs Committee, the Welsh Affairs Committee and the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee relating to Lord Dunlop's review of Union Capability*: Written evidence, to be published;
- (8) *Correspondence with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster relating to Covid polling*: Written evidence to be published;
- (9) *COVID-19 vaccine certification*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1315);
- (10) *The work of the Electoral Commission*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 488) (Mr William Wragg).

19 Scottish Affairs Committee

- (1) *Hospitality and Scotland*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 1356);
- (2) *Renewable energy in Scotland*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1322);
- (3) *Scotland and the Shared Prosperity Fund*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1089);
- (4) *Welfare policy in Scotland*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 889) (Pete Wishart).

20 Welsh Affairs Committee

- Renewable energy in Wales*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1021) (Stephen Crabb).

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 Unequal impact? Coronavirus, disability and access to services: full Report

Resolved, That this House has considered the Fourth Report of the Women and Equalities Committee, Unequal impact? Coronavirus, disability and access to services: full Report, HC 1050.—(*Caroline Nokes.*)

The sitting was suspended between 2.54 pm and 3.15 pm (Order, 25 February).

2 A plan for an adult skills and lifelong learning revolution

Resolved, That this House has considered the Third Report of the Education Committee, A plan for an adult skills and lifelong learning revolution, HC 278.—(*Robert Halfon.*)

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

Adjourned at 4.38 pm until Monday 19 April.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

1 Companies

Supervision of Accounts and Reports (Prescribed Body) and Companies (Defective Accounts and Reports) (Authorised Person) Order 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 465), dated 13 April 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng)

2 Town and Country Planning

Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Order 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 467), dated 14 April 2021 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Christopher Pincher)

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 Member listed in the table below is 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
Colleen Fletcher	19 April	Chris Elmore

2. 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 Orders of 22 October 2020 and 25 March 2021, 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
Alyn Smith	19 April
Chris Green	3 May

CORRECTION

Wednesday 14 April 2021

Item 15 (Other Proceedings) should have read:

Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee (the Public Health (Coronavirus) (Protection from Eviction) (England) (No. 2) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (SI, 2021, No. 362))

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