



House of Commons

Tuesday 11 January 2022

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 11.30 am.

Prayers

- 1 Questions to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy**
- 2 Urgent Question: Event in the Downing Street Garden on 20 May 2020 (Michael Ellis)**
- 3 Co-operatives (Employee Company Ownership): 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 groups of employees at risk of redundancy buying their employing company as a co-operative; and for connected purposes;

That Christina Rees, Gareth Thomas, Tracey Crouch, Luke Pollard, Christine Jardine, John McNally, Claire Hanna, Mr Steve Baker, Preet Kaur Gill, Ben Lake, Rachael Maskell and Jim Shannon present the Bill.

Christina Rees accordingly presented the Bill.

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time on Friday 18 March, and to be printed (Bill 222).

- 4 Opposition Day: Leader of the Opposition (10th allotted day (Standing Order No. 14))**
- 5 Value Added Tax on household energy bills**

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House calls on the Government to cut the rate of VAT for household energy bills as soon as possible; and makes provision as set out in this Order:

(1) On Tuesday 1 February 2022:

(a) Standing Order No. 14(1) (which provides that government business shall have precedence at every sitting save as provided in that Order) shall not apply;

(b) any proceedings governed by this Order may be proceeded with until any hour, though opposed, and shall not be interrupted;

(c) the Speaker may not propose the question on the previous question, and may not put any question under Standing Order No. 36 (Closure of debate) or Standing Order No. 163 (Motion to sit in private);

(d) at 3.00 pm, the Speaker shall interrupt any business prior to the business governed by this Order and call the Leader of the Opposition or another Member on his behalf to present a Bill concerning a reduction in Value Added Tax on energy of which notice of presentation has been given and immediately thereafter (notwithstanding the practice of

the House) call a Member to move the motion that the Value Added Tax (Energy) Bill be now read a second time as if it were an Order of the House;

(e) in respect of that Bill, notices of Amendments, new Clauses and new Schedules to be moved in Committee may be accepted by the Clerks at the Table before the Bill has been read a second time.

(f) any proceedings interrupted or superseded by this Order may be resumed or (as the case may be) entered upon and proceeded with after the moment of interruption.

(2) The provisions of paragraphs (3) to (18) of this Order shall apply to and in connection with the proceedings on the Value Added Tax (Energy) Bill in the present Session of Parliament.

Timetable for the Bill on Tuesday 1 February 2022

(3) (a) Proceedings on Second Reading and in Committee of the whole House, any proceedings on Consideration and proceedings up to and including Third Reading shall be taken at the sitting on Tuesday 1 February 2022 in accordance with this Order.

(b) Proceedings on Second Reading shall be brought to a conclusion (so far as not previously concluded) at 5.00 pm.

(c) Proceedings in Committee of the whole House, any proceedings on Consideration and proceedings up to and including Third Reading shall be brought to a conclusion (so far as not previously concluded) at 7.00 pm.

Timing of proceedings and Questions to be put on Tuesday 1 February 2022

(4) When the Bill has been read a second time:

(a) it shall, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills not subject to a programme order), stand committed to a Committee of the whole House without any Question being put;

(b) the Speaker shall leave the Chair whether or not notice of an Instruction has been given.

(5) (a) On the conclusion of proceedings in Committee of the whole House, the Chairman shall report the Bill to the House without putting any Question.

(b) If the Bill is reported with amendments, the House shall proceed to consider the Bill as amended without any Question being put.

(6) For the purpose of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph (3), the Chairman or Speaker shall forthwith put the following Questions in the same order as they would fall to be put if this Order did not apply—

(a) any Question already proposed from the Chair;

(b) any Question necessary to bring to a decision a Question so proposed;

(c) the Question on any amendment, new clause or new schedule selected by The Chairman or Speaker for separate decision;

(d) the Question on any amendment moved or Motion made by a designated Member;

(e) any other Question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded; and shall not put any other Questions, other than the Question on any motion described in paragraph (16) of this Order.

(7) On a Motion made for a new Clause or a new Schedule, the Chairman or Speaker shall put only the Question that the Clause or Schedule be added to the Bill.

Consideration of Lords Amendments and Messages on a subsequent day

(8) If any message on the Bill (other than a message that the House of Lords agrees with the Bill without amendment or agrees with any message from this House) is expected from the House of Lords on any future sitting day, the House shall not adjourn until that message has been received and any proceedings under paragraph (10) have been concluded.

(9) On any day on which such a message is received, if a designated Member indicates to the Speaker an intention to proceed to consider that message—

(a) notwithstanding Standing Order No. 14(1) (which provides that government business shall have precedence at every sitting save as provided in that Order), any Lords Amendments to the Bill or any further Message from the Lords on the Bill may be considered forthwith without any Question being put; and any proceedings interrupted for that purpose shall be suspended accordingly;

(b) proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement; and any proceedings suspended under subparagraph (a) shall thereupon be resumed;

(c) the Speaker may not propose the question on the previous question, and may not put any question under Standing Order No. 36 (Closure of debate) or Standing Order No. 163 (Motion to sit in private) in the course of those proceedings.

(10) If such a message is received on or before the commencement of public business on Tuesday 8 February 2022 and a designated Member indicates to the Speaker an intention to proceed to consider that message, that message shall be considered before any order of the day or notice of motion which stands on the Order Paper.

(11) Paragraphs (2) to (7) of Standing Order No. 83F (Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings on consideration of Lords amendments) apply for the purposes of bringing any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments to a conclusion as if:

(a) any reference to a Minister of the Crown were a reference to a designated Member;

(b) after paragraph (4)(a) there is inserted—

“(aa) the question on any amendment or motion selected by the Speaker for separate decision;”.

(12) Paragraphs (2) to (5) of Standing Order No. 83G (Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings on further messages from the Lords) apply for the purposes of bringing any proceedings on consideration of a Lords Message to a conclusion as if:

(a) any reference to a Minister of the Crown were a reference to a designated Member;

(b) in paragraph (5), the words “subject to paragraphs (6) and (7)” were omitted.

Reasons Committee

(13) Paragraphs (2) to (6) of Standing Order No. 83H (Programme orders: reasons committee) apply in relation to any committee to be appointed to draw up reasons after proceedings have been brought to a conclusion in accordance with this Order as if any reference to a Minister of the Crown were a reference to a designated Member.

Miscellaneous

(14) Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) shall not apply in relation to any proceedings on the Bill to which this Order applies.

(15) No Motion shall be made, except by a designated Member, to alter the order in which any proceedings on the Bill are taken, to recommit the Bill or to vary or supplement the provisions of this Order.

(16) (a) No dilatory Motion shall be made in relation to proceedings on the Bill to which this Order applies except by a designated Member.

(b) The Question on any such Motion shall be put forthwith.

(17) Proceedings to which this Order applies shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

(18) No private business may be considered at any sitting to which the provisions of this order apply.

(19) In this Order, "a designated Member" means— (a) the Leader of the Opposition; and (b) any other Member acting on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition.

(20) This Order shall be a Standing Order of the House.—(*Rachel Reeves.*)

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

Question put.

The House divided.

Division No. 158

Ayes: 229 (Tellers: Gerald Jones, Liz Twist)

Noes: 319 (Tellers: Michael Tomlinson, Alan Mak)

Question accordingly negatived.

6 Reducing costs for business

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House recognises the strain that businesses are under following a difficult Christmas period and two years of disruption during the COVID-19 outbreak; notes challenges are more severe in some sectors; regrets that businesses are struggling with increasing energy costs, high inflation, low growth and higher taxes as a result of the Government's long-term failures and lack of adequate support; and therefore calls on the Government to reform business rates, to alleviate the debt burden by allowing businesses flexibility on Government loans and to implement a contingency fund to support businesses with high energy costs.—(*Jonathan Reynolds.*)

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

Sir Alan Campbell claimed to move the closure (Standing Order No. 36).

Question put, That the Question be now put.

Question agreed to and Question accordingly put.

The House divided.

Division No. 159

Ayes: 219 (Tellers: Liz Twist, Gerald Jones)

Noes: 0 (Tellers: Lilian Greenwood, Mark Tami)

Question accordingly agreed to.

Resolved, That this House recognises the strain that businesses are under following a difficult Christmas period and two years of disruption during the COVID-19 outbreak; notes challenges are more severe in some sectors; regrets that businesses are struggling with increasing energy costs, high inflation, low growth and higher taxes as a result of the Government's long-term failures and lack of adequate support; and therefore calls on the Government to reform business rates, to alleviate the debt burden by allowing

businesses flexibility on Government loans and to implement a contingency fund to support businesses with high energy costs.

7 Welsh Grand Committee

Ordered, That:

(1) the matter of Strengthening the Union as it relates to Wales be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 18 January at 9.30am and 2.00pm to consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and

(3) the Chair shall interrupt proceedings at the afternoon sitting not later than two hours after their commencement at that sitting.—(*Scott Mann.*)

8 Adjournment

Subject: Proposed closure of Solihull police station (Julian Knight)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Scott Mann.*)

Adjourned at 7.41 pm until tomorrow.

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

9 Charities Bill [Lords]

The Lords have passed a Bill to amend the Charities Act 2011 and the Universities and Colleges Estates Act 1925; and for connected purposes, to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

10 Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill

The Lords agree to the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill with amendments to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

First Reading and Printing of Lords Bills

11 Charities Bill [Lords]

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time tomorrow; and to be printed (Bill 223), with Explanatory Notes (Bill 223–EN).

Bill stood referred to a second reading committee (Standing Order No. 59).

Printing of Lords Amendments

12 Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill

Lords Amendments to the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill to be considered tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 224) with Explanatory Notes (Bill 224–EN).

*Changes to Notices Given***13 Social Media Bill**

Order for Second Reading on Friday 14 January, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 18 March.

14 Miniature Mobile Phones (Prohibition of Sale) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 28 January, read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

*General Committees: Reports***15 Dormant Assets Bill [Lords]**

Nusrat Ghani (Chair) reported:

(1) Written evidence submitted to the Committee; and

(2) the Bill as amended.

Written evidence to be published.

Bill, as amended, to be considered tomorrow; and to be printed (Bill 226).

16 Finance (No. 2) Bill

Sir Christopher Chope (Chair) reported:

(1) Written evidence submitted to the Committee; and

(2) the Bill (except (a) Clause 4 (increase in rates of tax on dividend income); (b) Clause 6 (rate of banking surcharge and surcharge allowance); (c) Clauses 7 and 8 and Schedule 1 (attribution of trade and property business profits etc for a tax year); (d) Clause 12 (capital allowances: extension of temporary increase in annual investment allowance); (e) Clauses 27 and 28 (diverted profits tax: mutual agreement procedure and closure notices etc); (f) Clauses 53 to 66 (economic crime (anti-money laundering) levy); (g) Clauses 68 to 71 (value added tax); (h) Clauses 84 to 92 and Schedules 12 and 13 (avoidance); (i) Clause 93 and Schedule 14 (free zones); and any new Clauses or new Schedules relating to the subject matter of the Clauses and Schedules mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (i)) as amended.

Written evidence to be published.

Bill, as amended, to be considered tomorrow; and to be printed (Bill 225).

17 First Delegated Legislation Committee

James Gray (Chair) reported the draft Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 and Pubs Code etc. (Amendment) Regulations 2021.

18 Second Delegated Legislation Committee

Mrs Maria Miller (Chair) reported the draft Transport Act 2000 (Air Traffic Services Licence Modification Appeals) (Prescribed Aerodromes) 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 Selection Committee nominates Members to serve on General Committees (and certain Members to serve on Grand Committees).

19 Second Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Transport Act 2000 (Air Traffic Services Licence Modification Appeals) (Prescribed Aerodromes) Regulations 2022)

Members: Mrs Pauline Latham discharged and Tom Hunt nominated in substitution.

20 Third Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Air Traffic Management and Unmanned Aircraft Act 2021 (Airspace Change Directions) (Determination of Turnover for Penalties) Regulations 2022)

Members: Steve Brine discharged and Mark Eastwood nominated in substitution.

Reports from Select Committees

21 Backbench Business Committee

Transcript of representations made on Tuesday 11 January, to be published (Ian Mearns).

22 Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee

(1) *Post Office and Horizon*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 106);

(2) *Correspondence from the Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change on oil and gas licensing*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Correspondence from the Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change relating to Bulb Energy Limited*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Energy National Policy Statements*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 847);

(5) *Net Zero and UN Climate Summits*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 107);

(6) *Post-pandemic economic growth: Levelling up – local and regional structures and the delivery of growth*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 115);

(7) *Pre-appointment hearing: Chair of the Financial Reporting Council*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1029);

(8) *The impact of coronavirus on business and workers*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 105)

(Darren Jones).

23 Defence Committee

Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to the National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSbS) Refresh: Written evidence, to be published (Tobias Ellwood).

24 Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee

- (1) *Racism in cricket*: Seventh Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 1001);
 - (2) *The work of the Commissioner for Public Appointments*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 982);
 - (3) *Influencer culture*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 258);
 - (4) *Major cultural and sporting events*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 259);
 - (5) *Pre-appointment hearing for Chair of the Charity Commission*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 261)
- (Julian Knight).

25 Education Committee

- (1) *Children's Homes*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 83);
 - (2) *The Government's Catch-up programme*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 940);
 - (3) *The impact of COVID-19 on education and children's services*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 87)
- (Ian Mearns).

26 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

- (1) *Farming rules for water*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 927);
 - (2) *Correspondence from the Minister for Farming, Fisheries and Food relating to fisheries negotiations*: Written evidence, to be published;
 - (3) *Correspondence from the Secretary of State relating to further delays to the introduction of checks on EU food imports*: Written evidence, to be published;
 - (4) *Labour shortages in the food and farming sector*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 713);
 - (5) *Moving Animals Across Borders*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 79)
- (Neil Parish).

27 European Statutory Instruments Committee

Ninth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 934)
(Andrew Jones).

28 Foreign Affairs Committee

- (1) *Tech and the future of UK foreign policy*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 201);
 - (2) *Correspondence with the National Security Adviser relating to Newport Wafer Fab*: Written evidence, to be published;
 - (3) *Implementing the Integrated Review: Tilt to the Indo-Pacific*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 684)
- (Tom Tugendhat).

29 Health and Social Care Committee

- (1) *NHS litigation reform*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 740);
- (2) *Clearing the backlog caused by the pandemic*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 599);

(3) *Pre-appointment hearing for the position of Chair of NHS England and NHS Improvement*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 1035);

(4) *The future of General Practice*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 892) (Jeremy Hunt).

30 International Development Committee

(1) *Global Britain in demand: UK climate action and international development around COP26: Government Response to the Second Report of the Committee, Session 2021–22: Fourth Special Report*, to be printed (HC 1008);

(2) *Promoting dialogue and preventing atrocities: the UK government approach*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 931);

(3) *Correspondence with the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, relating to Follow-up: Escalations in northwest Syria and UK support to the Syrian Civil Defence*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Correspondence to the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, relating to The philosophy and culture of aid inquiry*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 101);

(5) *Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's Annual Report and Accounts*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 739)

(Sarah Champion).

31 Justice Committee

(1) *Open justice: court reporting in the digital age*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 596);

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

(3) *Correspondence with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State and Government Whip*: Written evidence, to be published;

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

(Sir Robert Neill).

32 Petitions Committee

(1) Record of the Committee's decisions relating to e-petitions, to be published;

(2) List of closed e-petitions presented to the House, to be published (Catherine McKinnell).

33 Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee

(1) *Propriety of governance in light of Greensill*: Oral evidence to be published (HC 59);

(2) *Correspondence from Andrew Scadding relating to the Cabinet Office Freedom of Information Clearing House*: Written evidence to be published (HC 505);

(3) *Correspondence from Unlock Democracy and other campaign groups relating to The Elections Bill report*: Written evidence to be published (HC 597);

(4) *Correspondence with the Independent Adviser on Minister's Interests relating to the Electoral Commission's investigation report*: Written evidence, to be published;

(5) *Correspondence with Rob Behrens relating to his extension of term as Chair and Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman*: Written evidence, to be published;

(6) *Correspondence with the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman relating to Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman Scrutiny 2020–21*: Written evidence to be published (HC 721)

(Mr William Wragg).

34 Standards (Committee on)

(1) *All-Party Parliamentary Groups*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 717);

(2) *Code of Conduct consultation*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 954)

(Chris Bryant).

35 Transport Committee

(1) *Rollout and safety of smart motorways: Government Response to the Committee's Third Report*: Sixth Special Report, to be printed (HC 1020);

(2) *Airlines and airports: supporting recovery in the UK aviation sector*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 683);

(3) *Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Vaccines and Public Health relating to the removal of the latest travel measures*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Correspondence from the Secretary of State relating to international travel*: Written evidence, to be published;

(5) *Road freight supply chain*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 828)

(Huw Merriman).

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 Eye health and macular disease

Resolved, That this House has considered the matter of eye health and macular disease.—
(*Jim Shannon*.)

2 Safety of the A1 between Peterborough and Blyth

Resolved, That this House has considered the safety of the A1 between Peterborough and Blyth.—(*Alicia Kearns*.)

The sitting was suspended between 11.25 am and 2.30 pm (Standing Order No. 10(1)(b)).

3 Rollout of ultrafast broadband in Devon and Somerset

Resolved, That this House has considered the rollout of ultrafast broadband in Devon and Somerset.—(*Selaine Saxby*.)

The sitting was suspended between 3.43 pm and 4.00 pm.

4 Plans for Beam Park station

Resolved, That this House has considered plans for Beam Park station.—(*Jon Cruddas*.)

5 Careers guidance in schools

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House has considered careers guidance in schools.—(*Esther McVey*.)

The sitting was suspended between 4.43 pm and 4.54 pm for a division in the House (Standing Order No. 10(3)).

Resolved, That this House has considered careers guidance in schools.

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

Adjourned at 5.41 pm until tomorrow.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Family Law

Draft Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020 (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Dominic Raab)

2 Road Traffic

Draft Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Grant Shapps)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

3 Administration of Estates

Wills Act 1837 (Electronic Communications) (Amendment) Order 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 18), dated 10 January 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Dominic Raab)

4 National Health Service

National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 19), dated 10 January 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Edward Argar)

SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATES

Voting by proxy

Variation of proxy voting arrangement

The Speaker has certified, further to the certificate of 10 January, under the terms of Standing Order No. 39A(7) (Voting by proxy), that Angela Crawley has given notice that she wishes to vary her proxy voting arrangement to start from 17 January and finish on 11 February. The nominated proxy is Owen Thompson.