



House of Commons

Tuesday 6 December 2022

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 11.30 am.

Prayers

1 Questions to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

2 Employment: 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 employment rights, including the right to request more predictable terms and conditions of work; to amend the definition of worker; and for connected purposes;

That Steven Bonnar, Stephen Flynn, Mhairi Black, Colum Eastwood, Amy Callaghan, Jim Shannon, Patricia Gibson, Dave Doogan, Pete Wishart, Owen Thompson and Chris Stephens present the Bill.

Steven Bonnar accordingly presented the Bill.

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time on Friday 3 February 2023, and to be printed (Bill 211).

3 Opposition Day: Leader of the Opposition (9th allotted day (Standing Order No. 14))

(1) NHS workforce

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House recognises that the National Health Service is facing the worst workforce crisis in its history with a shortage of 9,000 hospital doctors and 50,000 nurses; condemns the Government's failure to train enough NHS staff to tackle this crisis; regrets that, as a result, patients are finding it impossible to get a GP appointment, ambulance or operation when they need one; calls on the Government to end the 200-year-old non-domiciled tax status regime which currently costs taxpayers £3.2 billion a year; and further calls on the Government to use part of the funds raised to invest in the NHS workforce by doubling the number of medical training places, delivering 10,000 more nursing and midwifery clinical placements, training twice the number of district nurses per year and delivering 5,000 more health visitors to guarantee that the NHS has the staff to ensure every patient can access the care they need.—(*Wes Streeting*.)

4 Royal Assent

The Deputy Speaker reported that the King had signified Royal Assent to the following Acts under the Royal Assent Act 1967:

Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022

Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure Act 2022

Counsellors of State Act 2022

Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Act 2022

5 Opposition Day: Leader of the Opposition (9th allotted day (Standing Order No. 14)) (resumed)

The House resumed the debate.

Question put.

The House divided.

Division No. 111

Ayes: 226 (Tellers: Colleen Fletcher, Gerald Jones)

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

Question accordingly agreed to.

Resolved, That this House recognises that the National Health Service is facing the worst workforce crisis in its history with a shortage of 9,000 hospital doctors and 50,000 nurses; condemns the Government's failure to train enough NHS staff to tackle this crisis; regrets that, as a result, patients are finding it impossible to get a GP appointment, ambulance or operation when they need one; calls on the Government to end the 200-year-old non-domiciled tax status regime which currently costs taxpayers £3.2 billion a year; and further calls on the Government to use part of the funds raised to invest in the NHS workforce by doubling the number of medical training places, delivering 10,000 more nursing and midwifery clinical placements, training twice the number of district nurses per year and delivering 5,000 more health visitors to guarantee that the NHS has the staff to ensure every patient can access the care they need.

(2) Government PPE contracts

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House—

(a) notes that the Department for Health and Social Care purchased more than £12 billion of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in 2020–21;

(b) regrets that the Government has now written £8.7 billion off the value of this £12 billion, including £4 billion that was spent on PPE which did not meet NHS standards and was unusable;

(c) is extremely concerned that the Government's high priority lane for procurement during the pandemic appears to have resulted in contracts being awarded without due diligence and wasted taxpayer money;

(d) considers there should be examination of the process by which contracts were awarded through the high priority lane; and

(e) accordingly resolves that an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, praying that he will be graciously pleased to give direction that all papers, advice and correspondence involving Ministers and Special Advisers, including submissions and electronic communications, relating to the Government contracts for garments for biological or chemical protection, awarded to PPE Medpro by the Department for Health and Social Care, references CF-0029900D00000000rwimUAA1 and 547578, be provided to the Committee of Public Accounts.—(*Angela Rayner*.)

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 Main Question accordingly put and agreed to.

Resolved, That this House—

(a) notes that the Department for Health and Social Care purchased more than £12 billion of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in 2020–21;

(b) regrets that the Government has now written £8.7 billion off the value of this £12 billion, including £4 billion that was spent on PPE which did not meet NHS standards and was unusable;

(c) is extremely concerned that the Government's high priority lane for procurement during the pandemic appears to have resulted in contracts being awarded without due diligence and wasted taxpayer money;

(d) considers there should be examination of the process by which contracts were awarded through the high priority lane; and

(e) accordingly resolves that an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, praying that he will be graciously pleased to give direction that all papers, advice and correspondence involving Ministers and Special Advisers, including submissions and electronic communications, relating to the Government contracts for garments for biological or chemical protection, awarded to PPE Medpro by the Department for Health and Social Care, references CF-0029900D0O000000rwwimUAA1 and 547578, be provided to the Committee of Public Accounts.

6 Statutory Instruments: Motions for Approval

(1) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Trade in Animals and Related Products (Amendment and Legislative Functions) Regulations 2022, which were laid before this House on 20 October, be approved.—*(Robert Langan.)*

Question agreed to.

(2) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the draft Animals and Animal Health, Feed and Food, Plants and Plant Health (Amendment) Regulations 2022, which were laid before this House on 20 October, be approved.—*(Robert Langan.)*

Question agreed to.

(3) Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 118(6)), That the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (High-Risk Countries) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 1183), dated 14 November 2022, a copy of which was laid before this House on 14 November, be approved.—*(Robert Langan.)*

Question agreed to.

7 Changes to membership of select committees

(1) *Ordered*, That Angela Richardson be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr Simon Clarke and Jill Mortimer be added.—*(Sir Bill Wiggin, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)*

(2) *Ordered*, That Jackie Doyle-Price be discharged from the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee and Jo Gideon be added.—*(Sir Bill Wiggin, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)*

8 Public petitions

A public petition from residents of the constituency of Blackpool South relating to access to NHS dental care was presented and read by Scott Benton.

9 Adjournment

Subject: Department for Work and Pensions' performance in responding to MPs' queries (Peter Grant)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Robert Lagan*.)

Adjourned at 7.29 pm until tomorrow.

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

10 Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Bill

The Lords agree to the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Bill without amendment.

Changes to Notices Given

11 Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (Powers) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

12 Under-Occupancy Penalty (Report) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

13 Social Security Benefits (Healthy Eating) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

14 Corporate Homicide Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

15 Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

16 Housing Standards (Refugees and Asylum Seekers) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

17 Barnett Formula (Replacement) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

18 Covid-19 Vaccine Damage Payments Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

19 Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

20 Covid-19 Vaccine Diagnosis and Treatment Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

21 National Health Service Co-Funding and Co-Payment Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3 March 2023.

22 Anonymity of Suspects Bill

Order for resuming on Friday 9 December the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 28 October, That the Bill be now read a second time, read and discharged.
Debate to be resumed on Friday 3 March 2023.

23 Covid-19 Vaccine Damage Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 20 January 2023.

24 NHS England (Alternative Treatment) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3 March 2023.

25 Green Belt (Protection) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 9 December, read and discharged.
Bill to be read a second time on Friday 3 March 2023.

26 BBC Licence Fee Non-Payment (Decriminalisation for Over-75s) Bill

Order for resuming on Friday 9 December the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 21 October, That the Bill be now read a second time, read and discharged.
Debate to be resumed on Friday 3 March 2023.

*General Committees: Reports***27 Third Delegated Legislation Committee**

Mr Peter Bone (Chair) reported the draft Dentists, Dental Care Professionals, Nurses, Nursing Associates and Midwives (International Registrations) Order 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 Committee of Selection nominates Members to serve on General Committees (and certain Members to serve on Grand Committees).

28 Employment Relations (Flexible Working) Bill Committee

Members: Rehman Chishti, Gill Furniss and Mr William Wragg discharged and Fleur Anderson, Katherine Fletcher and Dr Kieran Mullan nominated in substitution.

29 Sixth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Extraterritorial US Legislation (Sanctions against Cuba, Iran and Libya) (Protection of Trading Interests) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2022)

Members: Kate Kniveton, Dr Matthew Offord and Mike Wood discharged and Sara Britcliffe, Fay Jones, and Martin Vickers nominated in substitution.

Select Committees: Reports

*This section has been corrected since publication. See the correction in the Votes and Proceedings relating to Wednesday 7 December 2022.

30 Backbench Business Committee

Transcript of representations made on Tuesday 6 December to be published (Ian Mearns).

31 Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee

(1) *The national security and investment screening system*: Oral evidence taken before the Sub-Committee on National Security and Investment, to be published (HC 944);

(2) *Correspondence from Ofgem relating to RIIO-ED2*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Correspondence from the Minister for Energy and Climate relating to energy price support schemes*: Written evidence, to be published;

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

(5) *Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to the Retained EU Law (Revocation & Reform) Bill*: Written evidence, to be published;

(6) *Decarbonisation of the power sector*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 283);

(7) *Post-pandemic economic growth: UK labour markets*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 306)

(Darren Jones).

32 Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee

The work of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 158) (Julian Knight).

33 Draft Mental Health Bill (Joint Committee on)

Draft Mental Health Bill: Written evidence, to be published (HC 696) (Sir Charles Walker).

34 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

(1) *Work of the Department*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 705);

(2) *Food security*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 622);

(3) *Marine mammals*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 697)

(Sir Robert Goodwill).

35 Finance Committee

Record of the Committee's decisions taken at its meeting on 6 December, to be published (Mr Clive Betts).

36 Foreign Affairs Committee

(1) *The situation in Iran and the FCDO's response*: Part of the oral evidence, to be published (HC 928);

(2) *Correspondence with TikTok relating to sharing of UK user data*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Work of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 171)

(Alicia Kearns).

37 Health and Social Care Committee

(1) *Integrated Care Systems: autonomy and accountability*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 587);

(2) *Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to the Hewitt Review and Independent Workforce Plan*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Digital transformation in the NHS*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 223)

(Steve Brine).

38 International Development Committee

(1) *Extreme poverty and the Sustainable Development Goals*: Fifth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 147);

(2) *Future of UK aid*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 148)

(Sarah Champion).

39 Justice Committee

(1) *Appointment of the Chair of the Judicial Appointments Commission*:

(i) Sixth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 925);

(ii) Oral evidence, to be published (HC 925);

(2) *Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice relating to prison capacity*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Correspondence with the Chairman of the Sentencing Council relating to guidelines for child cruelty offences*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Fraud and the justice system*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 12);

(5) *The future of legal aid*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 665);

(6) *The work of the Lord Chancellor*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 883)
(Sir Robert Neill).

40 Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee

(1) *Lobbying and influence: post-legislative scrutiny of the Lobbying Act 2014 and related matters*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 638);

(2) *Correspondence with the Minister of State for the Cabinet Office relating to the review of the UK Statistics Authority*: Written evidence to be published
(Mr William Wragg).

41 Scottish Affairs Committee

Defence in Scotland: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 81) (Pete Wishart).

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 The sustainability of burning trees for energy generation in the UK

Resolved, That this House has considered the sustainability of burning trees for energy generation in the UK.—(*Selaine Saxby*.)

2 Public service obligation funding and Blackpool Airport

Resolved, That this House has considered public service obligation funding and Blackpool Airport.—(*Mark Menzies*.)

The sitting was suspended between 11.27 am and 2.30 pm (Standing Order No. 10(1)(b)).

3 Southeastern railway timetable changes

Resolved, That this House has considered Southeastern railway timetable changes.—(*Clive Efford*.)

4 Conduct of Ofsted school inspections

Resolved, That this House has considered the conduct of Ofsted school inspections.—(*Mr Philip Hollobone*.)

5 Dormant assets funding and community wealth funds

The sitting was suspended between 4.37 pm and 4.44 pm for a division in the House (Standing Order No. 10(3)).

Resolved, That this House has considered dormant assets funding and community wealth funds.—(*Jo Gideon*.)

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

Adjourned at 5.35 pm until tomorrow.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Civil Contingencies

Draft Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Amendment of List of Responders) Order 2023 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Oliver Dowden)

2 Energy

Energy Bill Relief Scheme Pass-through Requirement (Heat Suppliers) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 1280), dated 5 December 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Grant Shapps)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

3 Agriculture

Organic Production (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 1279), dated 5 December 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Thérèse Coffey)

4 Electricity

Electricity (Connection Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 1265), dated 30 November 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Grant Shapps)

5 Seeds

Seed (Equivalence) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 1274), dated 5 December 2022 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Thérèse Coffey)

Other papers

6 Education

Explanatory Memorandum to the Education (School Teachers' Qualifications and Induction Arrangements) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 1256) (by Command) (Nick Gibb)

Withdrawn papers

7 Education

Explanatory Memorandum to the Education (School Teachers' Qualifications and Induction Arrangements) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2022 (SI, 2022, No. 1256) (laid 1 December)

CORRECTIONS

(1) Wednesday 23 November 2022

Item 42 (Select Committees: Reports) should have read:

Women and Equalities Committee

(1) *The work of the Social Mobility Commission*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 743);

(2) *Correspondence with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Primary Care and Public Health relating to Monkeypox*: Written evidence, to be published (Caroline Nokes).

(2) Tuesday 5 December 2022

The following item should have appeared after item 23 (Select Committees: Reports):

Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee

(1) *Correspondence from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman relating to their equal justice report*: Written evidence, to be published;

(2) *Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety relating to Sandwell Metropolitan Council Commissioners Report*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Correspondence with the Minister for Levelling Up relating to data for funding for levelling up*: Written evidence to be published (HC 744);

(4) *Correspondence with the Minister of State for Immigration relating to the dispersal of people from the Manston processing site in Kent, and incidences of diphtheria*: Written evidence, to be published;

(5) *Correspondence with the National Residential Landlords Association relating to enforcement in social housing*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 18);

(6) *Correspondence with the Secretary of State and the Regulator for Social Housing relating to the regulation of Social Housing*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 18);

(7) *Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 309);

(8) *Reforming the Private Rented Sector*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 624);

(9) *Work of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 808)

(Mr Clive Betts).