



House of Commons

Monday 26 February 2024

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 2.30 pm.

Prayers

1 Questions to the Home Secretary

2 Speaker's Statement: SO No. 24 emergency debate application

**3 Statements: (1) Situation in the Red Sea (Secretary Grant Shapps)
(2) Post Office Horizon compensation and legislation (Kevin Hollinrake)**

4 Business of the House (Today)

Ordered, That at this day's sitting, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to Northern Ireland not later than three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order; such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved; proceedings on that Motion may continue, though opposed, after the moment of interruption; and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.—(*Mr Steve Baker.*)

5 Northern Ireland

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty welcoming the return of the devolved institutions in Northern Ireland, re-affirming the importance of upholding the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement 1998 in all its strands, acknowledging the foundational importance of the Acts of Union 1800, including the economic provisions under Article 6 of those Acts, and recognising that, consistent with section 23(1) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, executive power in Northern Ireland shall continue to be vested in His Majesty, and that joint authority is not provided for in the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement 1998 in respect of the UK and Irish Governments.—(*Mr Steve Baker.*)

Address to be presented to His Majesty by such Members of the House as are of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council or of His Majesty's Household.

6 Adjournment

Subject: Access to social media in prisons (Paul Howell)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Mike Wood.*)

Adjourned at 9.09 pm until tomorrow.

Other Proceedings

Changes to Notices Given

7 Deductions from Universal Credit (Report) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15 March.

8 Evictions (Universal Credit) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15 March.

9 Food Poverty Strategy Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15 March.

10 Under-Occupancy Penalty (Report) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15 March.

11 Devolution (Employment) (Scotland) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15 March.

12 Social Security Benefits (Healthy Eating) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15 March.

13 Universal Credit Sanctions (Zero Hours Contracts) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15 March.

14 Building Societies Act 1986 (Amendment) Bill

Order for Consideration of Bill, not amended in the Public Bill Committee, on Friday 1 March, read and discharged.

Bill to be considered on Friday 19 April.

General Committees: Reports

15 First Delegated Legislation Committee

Sir Graham Brady (Chair) reported the draft West Midlands Combined Authority (Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions) Order 2024.

16 Second Delegated Legislation Committee

Mrs Sheryll Murray (Chair) reported the draft Limited Liability Partnerships (Application of Company Law) Regulations 2024, the draft Service Address (Rectification of Register) Regulations 2024, the draft Principal Office Address (Rectification of Register) Regulations 2024 and the draft Registered Office Address (Rectification of Register) Regulations 2024.

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).

17 First Delegated Legislation Committee (draft West Midlands Combined Authority (Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions) Order 2024)

Members: Jo Gideon, Jonathan Gullis and James Sunderland discharged and Andrew Jones, Joy Morrissey and Dr Kieran Mullan nominated in substitution.

18 Second Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Limited Liability Partnerships (Application of Company Law) Regulations 2024, draft Service Address (Rectification of Register) Regulations 2024, draft Principal Office Address (Rectification of Register) Regulations 2024 and draft Registered Office Address (Rectification of Register) Regulations 2024)

Members: David Morris, Jill Mortimer and Andrew Selous discharged and Peter Gibson, Joy Morrissey and Mrs Heather Wheeler nominated in substitution.

*Select Committees: Reports***19 Administration Committee**

Record of the Committee's discussions at its meeting on 26 February, to be published (Sir Charles Walker).

20 Business and Trade Committee

Post Office and Horizon – Compensation: follow-up: Written evidence, to be published (HC 477) (Liam Byrne).

21 Environmental Audit Committee

The UK and the Antarctic environment: Oral evidence, taken before the Sub-Committee on Polar Research, to be published (HC 381) (James Gray).

22 Foreign Affairs Committee

The UK Government's engagement regarding the British Indian Ocean Territory: Written evidence received by the Sub-Committee on the Overseas Territories, to be published (HC 598) (Alicia Kearns).

23 Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee

(1) *Children, young people and the built environment:* Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 94);

(2) *Correspondence with the Minister for Local Government*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Disabled people in the housing sector*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 63);

(4) *Fire safety*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 62);

(5) *Shared ownership*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 61)

(Mr Clive Betts).

24 National Security Strategy (Joint Committee on)

(1) *A hostage to fortune: ransomware and UK national security: Government Response to the Committee's First Report: Second Special Report*, to be printed (HC 601);

(2) *Economic security*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 538)

(Dame Margaret Beckett).

25 Public Accounts (Committee of)

(1) *Excess votes 2022–23*: Eighteenth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 589);

(2) *Investigation into student loans issued to those studying at franchised higher education providers*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 455);

(3) *Civil Service workforce: Recruitment, pay and performance management*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 452);

(4) *Correspondence from the Department for Health and Social Care relating to COVID-19 Contingent Liabilities: Spring 2024*: Written evidence, to be published;

(5) *Correspondence relating to the Committee's previous Reports*: Written evidence, to be published;

(6) *NAO Main Estimate 2024–25*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 510);

(7) *NHS Supply Chain and efficiencies in procurement*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 453)

(Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown).

26 Scottish Affairs Committee

Science and Scotland: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 151) (Pete Wishart).

Lindsay Hoyle

Speaker

Westminster Hall

The sitting began at 4.30 pm.

Debate on an e-petition (Standing Orders No. 10(1)(a) and No. 145A(7))

1 Financial risk checks for gambling

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House has considered e-petition 649894 relating to financial risk checks for gambling.—(*Christina Rees*.)

At 7.30 pm, the Motion lapsed (Standing Order No. 10(14)).

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

Adjourned at 7.30 pm until tomorrow.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Financial Services and Markets

Draft Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Disapplication or Modification of Financial Regulator Rules in Individual Cases) Regulations 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Bim Afolami)

2 Income Tax

Draft Major Sporting Events (Income Tax Exemption) (2024 UEFA Champions League Final) Regulations 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Nigel Huddleston)

3 Pensions

Draft Occupational Pension Schemes (Funding and Investment Strategy and Amendment) Regulations 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum and an Impact Assessment (by Command) (Paul Maynard)

4 Retained EU Law Reform

Draft Official Controls (Fees and Charges) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Steve Barclay)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

5 Electricity

Electricity (Individual Exemption from the Requirement for a Generation Licence) (Slough Multifuel) (England) Order 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 195), dated 22 February 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Claire Coutinho)

6 Miscellaneous No. 4 (2024)

Convention, done at Tokyo on 14 December 2023, on the Establishment of the 'Global Combat Air Programme – GCAP International Government Organisation' (by Command) (CP 1011), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Act) (David Rutley)

Other papers

7 Levelling-up and Regeneration

(1) Analysis of Geographical Disparities (by Act) (Secretary Michael Gove)

(2) Levelling Up Missions: The Role of the Devolved Legislatures and Devolved Administrations in Connection with the Missions (by Act) (Secretary Michael Gove)

8 National Audit

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Department for Work and Pensions: Progress in implementing Universal Credit for 2023–24 (by Act), to be printed (HC 552) (Clerk of the House)

9 Terms and Conditions of Employment

Employment Rights (Increase of Limits) Order 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 213), dated 22 February 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Kevin Hollinrake)

Withdrawn papers

10 Pensions

Draft Occupational Pension Schemes (Funding and Investment Strategy and Amendment) Regulations 2024, with an Explanatory Memorandum (laid 29 January)