



House of Commons

Monday 22 April 2024

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 2.30 pm.

Prayers

- 1 Questions to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities**
- 2 Urgent Question: Government response to the crisis in Sudan (Mr Andrew Mitchell)**
- 3 Thames Water (Special Administration): Presentation (Standing Order No. 57)**

Sarah Olney presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State to apply for an order for special administration in relation to Thames Water; and for connected purposes.

Bill read the first time; to be read a second time on Friday 21 June, and to be printed (Bill 204).

- 4 Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill: Consideration of Lords Message**

Lords Amendment 3G

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 3G.—(*Michael Tomlinson.*)

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

Question put.

The House divided.

Division No. 130

Ayes: 306 (Tellers: Joy Morrissey, Mark Jenkinson)

Noes: 229 (Tellers: Tonia Antoniazzi, Mary Glendon)

Question agreed to.

Lords Amendment 3G accordingly disagreed to.

As it was more than one hour after commencement of proceedings on the Lords Message, the Deputy Speaker put the Questions necessary to bring proceedings on the Lords Message to a conclusion (Programme Order, 18 March).

The following Question was put forthwith (Standing Order No. 83G).

(1) That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 10F (Question on any motion made by a Minister of the Crown on or relevant to any of the remaining items in the Lords message).—(*Michael Tomlinson.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 131

Ayes: 305 (Tellers: Joy Morrissey, Mark Jenkinson)

Noes: 234 (Tellers: Tonia Antoniazzi, Mary Glendon)

Question agreed to.

Lords Amendment 10F accordingly disagreed to.

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 3G and 10F;

That Colleen Fletcher, Stephen Kinnock, Scott Mann, Dr Kieran Mullan, James Sunderland, Alison Thewliss and Michael Tomlinson be members of the Committee.

That Michael Tomlinson be the Chair of the Committee.

That three be the quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(*Suzanne Webb.*)

The House divided.

Division No. 132

Ayes: 309 (Tellers: Joy Morrissey, Mark Jenkinson)

Noes: 37 (Tellers: Peter Grant, Steven Bonnar)

Question agreed to.

5 Business of the House (Today)

Ordered, That, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (14) of Standing Order No. 80A (Carry-over of bills), the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the names of

(1) Secretary Kemi Badenoch relating to the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill: Carry-over Extension;

(2) Secretary Michael Gove relating to the Renters (Reform) Bill: Carry-over Extension; and

(3) Secretary Michael Gove relating to the Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill: Carry-over Extension

not later than one and a half 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 may continue, though opposed, after the moment of interruption; and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.—(*Suzanne Webb.*)

6 Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill: Carry-over extension (Standing Order No. 80A)

Ordered, That the period on the expiry of which proceedings on the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill shall lapse in pursuance of paragraph (13) of Standing Order No. 80A shall be extended by 232 days until 12 December 2024.—(*Penny Mordaunt.*)

7 Renters (Reform) Bill: Carry-over extension (Standing Order No. 80A)

Ordered, That the period on the expiry of which proceedings on the Renters (Reform) Bill shall lapse in pursuance of paragraph (13) of Standing Order No. 80A shall be extended by 210 days until 12 December 2024.—(*Penny Mordaunt*.)

8 Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill: Carry-over extension (Standing Order No. 80A)

Motion made and Question put, That the period on the expiry of which proceedings on the Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill shall lapse in pursuance of paragraph (13) of Standing Order No. 80A shall be extended by 177 days until 12 December 2024.—(*Penny Mordaunt*.)

The House divided.

Division No. 133

Ayes: 304 (Tellers: Joy Morrissey, Mark Jenkinson)

Noes: 222 (Tellers: Peter Grant, Stephen Bonnar)

Question agreed to.

9 Pensions (Special Rules for End of Life) Bill: Money

King's Recommendation signified.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Pensions (Special Rules for End of Life) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable under or by virtue of any other Act out of money so provided.—(*Suzanne Webb*.)

Question agreed to.

10 International Freedom of Religion or Belief Bill: Money

King's Recommendation signified.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the International Freedom of Religion or Belief Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred under or by virtue of the Act by a Minister of the Crown.—(*Ms Nusrat Ghani*.)

Question agreed to.

11 Backbench Business

Hospice Funding

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House has considered the postcode lottery of funding for hospices; and calls on integrated care boards to urgently address the funding for hospice-provided palliative care in their areas.—(*Sally-Ann Hart*.)

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

Question put and agreed to.

12 Business of the House (Today) (No. 2)

Ordered, That, at this day's sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Messages from the Lords relating to the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill shall have been received.—(*Aaron Bell*.)

13 Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill: Consideration of Lords Message

The House proceeded to consider forthwith the Lords Message received today relating to the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill (Programme Order, 18 March).

Lords Amendment 3J

Motion made and Question put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment 3J.—(*Michael Tomlinson*.)

The House divided.

Division No. 134

Ayes: 312 (Tellers: Joy Morrissey, Mark Jenkinson)

Noes: 237 (Tellers: Tonia Antoniazzi, Mary Glendon)

Question agreed to.

Lords Amendment 3J accordingly disagreed to.

Motion made and Question put forthwith (Standing Order No. 83H(2)), That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment 3J;

That Colleen Fletcher, Stephen Kinnock, Scott Mann, Dr Kieran Mullan, James Sunderland, Alison Thewliss and Michael Tomlinson be members of the Committee.

That Michael Tomlinson be the Chair of the Committee.

That three be the quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(*Mark Fletcher*.)

The House divided.

Division No. 135

Ayes: 309 (Tellers: Joy Morrissey, Mark Jenkinson)

Noes: 41 (Tellers: Peter Grant, Steven Bonnar)

Question agreed to.

14 Suspension of sitting: awaiting Lords Message

The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting (Order, today).

15 Public petitions

A public petition from residents of the constituency of West Suffolk relating to sentencing and illegal knife possession was presented and read by Matt Hancock.

A public petition from residents of the constituency of Rutherglen and Hamilton West relating to the recommendations of the Infected Blood Inquiry was presented and read by Michael Shanks.

16 Adjournment

Subject: Potential merits of a food poverty strategy (Chris Stephens)

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Rebecca Harris*.)

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Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.

Adjourned at 12.17 am until today.

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

17 Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill

The Lords do not insist on an Amendment to the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill to which the Commons have disagreed, but propose an Amendment in lieu to which they desire the agreement of the Commons; and they do not insist on another Amendment to which the Commons have disagreed.

18 Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill to which the Commons have disagreed.

Explanatory Notes to Bills

19 Paternity Leave (Bereavement) Bill

Explanatory Notes to the Bill to be printed (Bill 194–EN).

Printing of Lords Message

20 Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill

Lords Message relating to the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill to be considered today, and to be printed (Bill 206).

Changes to Notices Given

21 Horticultural Peat (Prohibition of Sale) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 26 April, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 17 May.

22 Conversion Practices (Prohibition) Bill

Order for resuming on Friday 17 May the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 1 March, That the Bill be now read a second time, read and discharged.

Debate to be resumed on Friday 7 June.

*Reasons Committees: Reports***23 Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill: Reasons Committee (Lords Amendments 3G and 10F)**

Michael Tomlinson (Chair) reported that the Committee had agreed the following Reasons:

Lords Amendment 3G

Because the Commons consider that it is not necessary as the Bill comes into force on the day on which the Rwanda Treaty enters into force and Rwanda's ongoing adherence to its Treaty obligations will be subject to the monitoring provisions set out in the Treaty.

Lords Amendment 10F

Because the Commons consider that it is not necessary as the only way individuals should come to the UK is through safe and legal routes.

24 Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill: Reasons Committee (Lords Amendment 3J)

Michael Tomlinson (Chair) reported that the Committee had agreed the following Reason:

Lords Amendment 3J

Because the Commons consider that it is not necessary as the Bill comes into force on the day on which the Rwanda Treaty enters into force and Rwanda's ongoing adherence to its Treaty obligations will be subject to the monitoring provisions set out in the Treaty.

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).

25 International Freedom of Religion or Belief Bill Committee

Chair: Sir Graham Brady

26 Pensions (Special Rules for End of Life) Bill Committee

Chair: Dame Siobhain McDonagh

27 Dogs (Protection of Livestock) (Amendment) Bill Committee

Chair: Mrs Pauline Latham

28 First Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Economic Growth (Regulatory Functions) (Amendment) Order 2024) and (draft Growth Duty: Statutory Guidance Refresh)

Chair: Ian Paisley

29 Second Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) (Amendment, Surrender and Compensation) Order 2024)

Chair: Christina Rees

30 Third Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Veterinary Medicines (Amendment etc.) Regulations 2024)

Chair: Dame Maria Miller

31 Fourth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Sea Fisheries (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2024)

Chair: Dr Rupa Huq

32 Fifth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft National Crime Agency (Directed Tasking) Order 2023)

Chair: Derek Twigg

33 Sixth Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Accounting Standards (Prescribed Bodies) (United States of America and Japan) (Amendment) Regulations 2024)

Chair: Mr Philip Hollobone

Select Committees: Reports

34 Administration Committee

Record of the Committee's discussions at its meeting on 22 April 2024 to be published (Sir Charles Walker).

35 Business and Trade Committee

UK arms exports to Israel: Written evidence, to be published (HC 690) (Liam Byrne).

36 Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee

(1) *The Office for Local Government*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 64);

(2) *Correspondence from the Parliamentary Secretary of State for Social Housing and Faith relating to reforms to social housing allocations in England*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Departmental Annual Report and Accounts 2023–24*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 528);

(4) *Financial reporting and audit in Local Authorities*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 59)

(Mr Clive Betts).

37 Public Accounts (Committee of)

(1) *Progress in implementing Universal Credit*: Twenty-ninth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 458);

(2) *Supporting mobile connectivity*: Oral and written evidence, to be published (HC 650);

(3) *Correspondence from the UK Infrastructure Bank relating to the concluding update on roll-out activity*: Written evidence, to be published;

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

(5) *Correspondence with the Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee of the Australian Parliament relating to the use of consultancies*: Written evidence, to be published;

(6) *FCDO Annual Report and Accounts 2022–23*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 68);

(7) *Lessons learned: competition in public procurement*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 385)

(Dame Meg Hillier).

38 Scottish Affairs Committee

(1) *Intergovernmental relations: 25 years since the Scotland Act 1998*: Oral evidence, to be published (HC 149);

(2) *City Region and Growth Deals*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 644);

(3) *Intergovernmental relations: The Civil Service*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 600)

(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 Carer's Allowance

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House has considered e-petition 640062 relating to Carer's Allowance.—(*Christina Rees*.)

The sitting was suspended between 5.12 pm and 5.37 pm for divisions in the House (Standing Order No. 10(3)).

The sitting was suspended between 5.43 pm and 6.09 pm for divisions in the House (Standing Order No. 10(3)).

Resolved, That this House has considered e-petition 640062 relating to Carer's Allowance.

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

Adjourned at 7.11 pm until tomorrow.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Employment (Allocation of Tips)

Draft Code of Practice on Fair and Transparent Distribution of Tips (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Kemi Badenoch)

2 Financial Services and Markets

Draft Securitisation (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Bim Afolami)

3 International Monetary Fund

Draft International Monetary Fund (Increase in Subscription) Order 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Bim Afolami)

4 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism

Draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Proscribed Organisations) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary James Cleverly)

5 Terms and Conditions of Employment

Draft Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amendment of Schedule A2) Order 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Kemi Badenoch)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

6 Animals, Food and Plant Health

(1) Official Controls (Extension of Transitional Periods) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 540), dated 22 April 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Steve Barclay)

(2) Official Controls (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 541), dated 22 April 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Steve Barclay)

7 Education

Special Educational Needs and Disability (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 535), dated 18 April 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (David Johnston)

8 Senior Courts

Civil and Family Proceedings Fees (Amendment) Order 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 538), dated 18 April 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Alex Chalk)

Other papers

9 National Audit

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Department for Education: Preparations to extend early years entitlements for working parents in England (by Act), to be printed (HC 701) (Clerk of the House)

MEMORANDA

EXAMINER OF PETITIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS

In pursuance of Standing Order 69 relating to Private Business (Appointment of Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills) the Speaker has appointed Dr Lynn Mary Gardner as an Examiner of Petitions for Private Bills in place of Mr James David Wade Rhys.

TAXING OFFICER

In pursuance of section 1(1) of the Parliamentary Costs Act 2006 the Speaker has appointed Dr Lynn Mary Gardner as the Taxing Officer of the House of Commons.

SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATES

VOTING BY PROXY (STANDING ORDER NO. 39A)

(Variations to existing arrangements appear in **bold.**)

Member	From	To	Proxy
David Duguid	22 April	5 May	Mr Marcus Jones
Helen Grant	22 April	22 May	Mr Marcus Jones