



House of Commons

Thursday 23 May 2024

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 9.30 am.

Prayers

- 1 **Speaker's Statements: (1) Sir Roger Gale**
(2) Liam Laurence Smyth CB
- 2 **Questions to (1) the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport**
(2) the hon. Members representing the Church Commissioners, the hon. Members representing the House of Commons Commission, the hon. Members representing the Public Accounts Commission and the hon. Members representing the Speaker's Committee on the Electoral Commission
- 3 **Urgent Question: Equality and Human Rights Commission investigation into the treatment of disabled people on benefits (Mims Davies)**
- 4 **Statements: (1) AI Seoul Summit (Saqib Bhatti)**
(2) NHS update (Secretary Victoria Atkins)
(3) Business (Leader of the House)
- 5 **Prime Minister (Nomination) and Cabinet (Appointment) Bill: Presentation (Standing Order No. 57)**
Patrick Grady, supported by David Linden, Marion Fellows, Alison Thewliss, Kirsty Blackman, Kirsten Oswald, Gavin Newlands, Alan Brown, Chris Stephens, Carol Monaghan and Owen Thompson, presented a Bill to make provision for the House of Commons to nominate the Prime Minister and approve appointments to the Cabinet; and for connected purposes.
Bill read the first time; to be read a second time on Friday 24 May, and to be printed (Bill 226).
- 6 **Scotland (Independence) Bill: Presentation (Standing Order No. 57)**
Patrick Grady, supported by David Linden, Marion Fellows, Alison Thewliss, Kirsty Blackman, Kirsten Oswald, Gavin Newlands, Alan Brown, Chris Stephens, Carol Monaghan and Owen Thompson, presented a Bill to make provision for the dissolution of the Union between Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom; to make provision for the transfer of powers from the UK Parliament to the Scottish Parliament; and for connected purposes.
Bill read the first time; to be read a second time on Thursday 4 July, and to be printed (Bill 227).

7 Business of the House (23 and 24 May)

Ordered—

House to sit on Friday 24 May

(1) That, notwithstanding the Order of 30 January 2024 (Adjournment (February, Easter, May Bank Holiday and Whitsun Recesses)), the House shall meet on Friday 24 May at 9.30 am.

Order to make provision about Thursday 23 May and Friday 24 May

(2) That paragraphs (3) to (13) shall apply to today's sitting and to the sitting on Friday 24 May.

Government business to have precedence

(3) Notwithstanding anything in Standing Order No. 14, government business shall have precedence.

Deferred divisions

(4) Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.

Motions by Ministers

(5) No notice shall be required of any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown.

(6) Any Motion made by a Minister of the Crown may be proceeded with, though opposed, after the moment of interruption and shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

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

(8) Such a Motion may be considered forthwith without any Question being put; and any proceedings interrupted for that purpose shall be suspended accordingly.

(9) The Question on such a Motion shall be put forthwith; and any proceedings suspended under paragraph (8) shall thereupon be resumed.

Consideration of Lords Amendments

(10) Proceedings on Lords Amendments or any subsequent Lords Message in respect of any Bill may be considered forthwith without any further Question being put.

(11) Such proceedings shall be brought to a conclusion (unless already concluded) one hour after—

(a) the commencement of those proceedings, or

(b) if earlier, the commencement of any proceedings in relation to the Bill concerned on a Money motion, Ways and Means motion, Procedure motion or motion to alter the order in which proceedings on or in respect of the Bill are considered.

(12) Standing Orders Nos. 83F to 83I shall apply to such proceedings as if paragraph (11) were a provision of a programme order.

Private business

(13) No private business may be considered after this Order has been agreed.

Emergency debates

(14) The start of any emergency debate under Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates) to be held at today's sitting shall be postponed until the conclusion of government business; and no such debate shall be held at the sitting on Friday 24 May.

Urgent business on Friday

(15) That at the sitting on Friday 24 May, notwithstanding Standing Order No. 11(4) and (5), urgent questions and statements may be taken before the commencement of public business.

Close of business

(16) That at today's sitting, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Messages from the Lords have been received and any Committee to draw up Reasons has reported.

(17) That at the sitting on Friday 24 May, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until a Message has been received from the Lords Commissioners.—(*Penny Mordaunt.*)

8 Finance (No. 2) Bill: Programme (No. 2)

Ordered, That the Order of 17 April 2024 (Finance (No. 2) Bill: Programme) be varied as follows:

(1) Paragraphs (8) and (9) of the Order shall be omitted.

(2) Proceedings on Consideration shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion two hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order.

(3) Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order.—(*Robert Langan.*)

9 Finance (No. 2) Bill: Consideration of the Bill, not amended in the Public Bill Committee or in Committee of the whole House

No amendments on consideration.

10 Finance (No. 2) Bill: Third Reading

Motion made and Question put, That the Bill be now read the third time.

The House divided.

Division No. 159

Ayes: 215 (Tellers: Mark Jenkinson, Joy Morrissey)

Noes: 19 (Tellers: Kirsten Oswald, Patrick Grady)

Question agreed to and Bill passed.

11 Suspension of sitting: Awaiting Lords Message

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

12 Business Statement (Rebecca Harris)**13 Post Office (Horizon System) Bill: Consideration of Lords Amendments**

*This item has been corrected since publication. See the Votes and Proceedings relating to Wednesday 19 May 2024.

Lords Amendment 1 agreed to.

Lords Amendment 2 agreed to.

14 Media Bill: Consideration of Lords Amendments

Lords Amendment 1 agreed to.

Lords Amendments 2 to 25 agreed to.

15 Public petitions

(1) A public petition from residents of the constituency of Loughborough relating to annual swimming lessons in schools was presented and read by Jane Hunt.

(2) A public petition from residents of Earl Ditton Lane in Shropshire relating to the road network in Shropshire was presented and read by Philip Dunne.

16 Adjournment

Subject: Potential impact of National Grid proposals on the environment and economy of North East Lincolnshire (Martin Vickers)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Suzanne Webb*.)

Adjourned at 8.19 pm until tomorrow (Order, today).

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

17 Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill to which the Commons have disagreed; and they agree with the Commons in their Amendments in lieu.

18 Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill

The Lords agree to the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill with Amendments to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

19 Media Bill

The Lords agree to the Media Bill with Amendments to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

20 Victims and Prisoners Bill

The Lords agree to the Victims and Prisoners Bill with Amendments to which they desire the agreement of the Commons.

Printing of Lords Amendments

21 Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill

Lords Amendments to the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill to be considered today, and to be printed (Bill 228) with Explanatory Notes (Bill 228–EN).

22 Media Bill

* This item has been corrected since publication. See the Votes and Proceedings relating to Tuesday 10 September 2024.

Lords Amendments to the Media Bill to be considered today, and to be printed (Bill 229) with Explanatory Notes (Bill 229–EN).

23 Victims and Prisoners Bill

Lords Amendments to the Victims and Prisoners Bill to be considered tomorrow, and to be printed (Bill 230) with Explanatory Notes (Bill 230–EN).

*Standing Orders (Public Business)***24 Standing Orders (Public Business)**

Ordered, That the Standing Orders relating to Public Business be printed (HC 829).

*Public petitions***25 Petitions presented informally**

A public petition from residents of Farrington Gurney relating to housing development in Farrington Gurney was presented by Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg.

*General Committees: Reports***26 Football Governance Bill**

Caroline Nokes (Chair) reported written evidence submitted to the Committee.
Written evidence to be published.

*Select Committees: Reports***27 Business and Trade Committee**

- (1) *Implementation of the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 522);
- (2) *Industrial policy*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 440);
- (3) *Labour markets reform: Workers' rights and protections*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 703);
- (4) *UK arms exports to Israel*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 690)
(Liam Byrne).

28 Education Committee

- (1) *Screen Time: Impacts on education and wellbeing*: Fourth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 118);
- (2) *Boys' attainment and engagement in education*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 699);
- (3) *Children's social care*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 372);
- (4) *Disabled Students' Allowance*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 696);
- (5) *Impact of industrial action on university students*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 327);
- (6) *International students in English universities*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 713);

(7) *Ofsted Main Estimate 2024–25 Memorandum*: Written evidence, to be published;

(8) *Music Hubs*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 725)

(Mr Robin Walker).

29 Environmental Audit Committee

(1) *Net zero and UK shipping*: Seventh Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 509);

(2) *Environmental audit in the 2019 Parliament*: Eighth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 827)

(Philip Dunne).

30 Foreign Affairs Committee

(1) *Correspondence with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of State for Education relating to the Sub-Committee's inquiry into the UK Government's support of education for Overseas Territories students*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 773);

(2) *International relations within the multilateral system*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 691)

(Alicia Kearns).

31 Health and Social Care Committee

(1) *Pharmacy*: Third Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 140);

(2) *Work outstanding at the end of the 2019–24 Parliament*: Fifth Special Report, to be printed (HC 830);

(3) *Future cancer*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 138);

(4) *Men's health*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 139);

(5) *NHS leadership, performance and patient safety*: Written evidence

(Steve Brine).

32 Home Affairs Committee

(1) *Correspondence from the Minister of State for Legal Migration and the Border*: Written evidence, to be published;

(2) *Correspondence with the Home Secretary*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Fire and Rescue Services*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 505);

(4) *Fraud*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 125);

(5) *Legal migration*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 718);

(6) *Non-contact sexual offences*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 504)

(Dame Diana Johnson).

33 International Development Committee

(1) *Correspondence from the Secretary of State relating to the humanitarian situation in Sudan*: Written evidence, to be published;

(2) *Future funding of the BBC World Service*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 711);

(3) *The UK Government's work on achieving SDG2: Zero Hunger*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 112)

(Sarah Champion).

34 Liaison Committee

(1) *Promoting National Strategy: How Select Committee Scrutiny can improve strategic thinking in Whitehall*:

(i) First Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 31);

(ii) Written evidence, to be published (HC 31)

(2) *Correspondence from the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee relating to the scrutiny of confidential expenditure*: Written evidence, to be published;

(3) *Correspondence relating to the scrutiny of supplementary estimates*: Written evidence, to be published

(Sir Bernard Jenkin).

35 National Security Strategy (Joint Committee on)

Correspondence with the Prime Minister relating to the Defending Democracy inquiry and 4 July General Election: Written evidence, to be published (HC 539)

(Dame Margaret Beckett).

36 Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

(1) *Defence spending in Northern Ireland*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 524);

(2) *ECHR*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 720);

(3) *Integrated education*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 373);

(4) *Renewable energy and net zero in Northern Ireland*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 428)

(Sir Robert Buckland).

37 Procedure Committee

Correspondence with the Leader of the House of Commons relating to extending proxy voting arrangements into the next Parliament: Written evidence, to be published (Dame Karen Bradley).

38 Public Accounts (Committee of)

(1) *Asylum accommodation and UK-Rwanda partnership*: Thirty-fourth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 639);

(2) *Supporting mobile connectivity*: Thirty-fifth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 650);

(3) *Whistleblowing in the civil service*: Thirty-sixth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 457);

(4) *Decarbonising home heating*: Thirty-seventh Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 653);

(5) *Rail reform: the rail transformation programme*: Thirty-eighth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 652);

(6) *Correspondence from the Department for Work and Pensions relating to the annual fraud and error statistics and new unfulfilled eligibility statistics*: Written evidence, to be published;

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

(8) *Correspondence with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport relating to Accounting Officer assessments relating to the Euro 2028 programme*: Written evidence, to be published;

(9) *Correspondence with the Home Office*: Written evidence, to be published;

(10) *HMRC customer service*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 677);

(11) *NHS England's modelling for the Long-Term Workforce Plan*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 654);

(12) *Preparations to extend childcare entitlements for working parents in England*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 657);

(13) *Reforming adult social care*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 427);

(14) *Revising health assessments for disability benefits*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 79);

(15) *The UK border: implementing an effective trade border*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 658);

(16) *Use of artificial intelligence in government*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 655)

(Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown).

39 Science, Innovation and Technology Committee

(1) *Governance of artificial intelligence*: Third Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 38);

(2) *Legacy – Parliament 2019–24*: Fourth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 826);

(3) *Correspondence from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero relating to large-scale nuclear market engagement*: Written evidence, to be published;

(4) *Correspondence from the Minister for Nuclear and Renewables relating to a policy framework for managing radioactive substances and nuclear decommissioning*: Written evidence, to be published;

(5) *UK astronomy*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 329)

(Greg Clark).

40 Standards (Committee on)

*This item has been corrected since publication. See the Votes and Proceedings relating to Wednesday 19 May 2024.

The House of Commons standards landscape: how MPs' standards and conduct are regulated: Third Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 247) (Ms Harriet Harman).

41 Transport Committee

(1) *The work of the Transport Committee in the 2019 Parliament*: First Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the report (HC 828);

- (2) *Accessible transport: legal obligations*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 82);
 - (3) *Future of transport data*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 83);
 - (4) *Scrutiny of the draft Rail Reform Bill*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 584);
 - (5) *Strategic transport objectives*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 84)
- (Iain Stewart).

42 Women and Equalities Committee

- (1) *Accessibility of products and services to disabled people*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 605);
 - (2) *Correspondence from the Equality and Human Rights Commission relating to the treatment of some disabled benefits claimants by the Department for Work and Pensions*: Written evidence, to be published
- (Caroline Nokes).

43 Work and Pensions Committee

- (1) *Correspondence from the Equality and Human Rights Commission relating to the investigation and assessment of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions*: Written evidence, to be published;
 - (2) *Devolution of employment support*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 623);
 - (3) *Disability employment*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 591);
 - (4) *Norton pension schemes and the Fraud Compensation Fund*:
 - (i) Written evidence, to be published (HC 145);
 - (ii) Written evidence;
 - (5) *Safeguarding vulnerable claimants*: Written evidence, to be published (HC 146)
- (Sir Stephen Timms).

Lindsay Hoyle

Speaker

Westminster Hall

The sitting began at 12.30 pm.

Business determined by the Backbench Business Committee (Standing Orders No. 10(7) and No. 14(4))

1 Floating offshore wind and Allocation Round 6 of the Contracts for Difference scheme

Resolved, That this House has considered floating offshore wind and Allocation Round 6 of the Contracts for Difference scheme.—(*Selaine Saxby*.)

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

Adjourned at 1.20 pm.

Eleanor Laing

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 International Immunities and Privileges

Draft Global Combat Air Programme International Government Organisation (Immunities and Privileges) Order 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (David Rutley)

2 Sanctions

Syria (Sanctions) (EU Exit) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 677), dated 22 May 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Anne-Marie Trevelyan)

Papers subject to Negative Resolution

3 Food

Food Additives and Novel Foods (Authorisations and Miscellaneous Amendments) and Food Flavourings (Removal of Authorisations) (England) Regulations 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 685), dated 22 May 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Andrea Leadsom)

4 Road Traffic

M621 Motorway (Speed Limit) Regulations 2024 (SI, 2024, No. 683), dated 22 May 2024 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Secretary Mark Harper)

Other papers**5 Levelling Up Housing and Communities**

Government Response to the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Select Committee Report on shared ownership (by Command) (CP 1096) (Secretary Michael Gove)

6 Online Safety

Secretary of State's guidance about fees under section 87 of the Online Safety Act 2023 (by Act) (Secretary Michelle Donelan)

SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

MONEY BILL

Finance (No. 2) Bill

The Speaker has certified that the Finance (No. 2) Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

VOTING BY PROXY (STANDING ORDER NO. 39A)

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

Member	From	To	Proxy
James Duddridge	11 January	23 May	Mr Mark Francois