

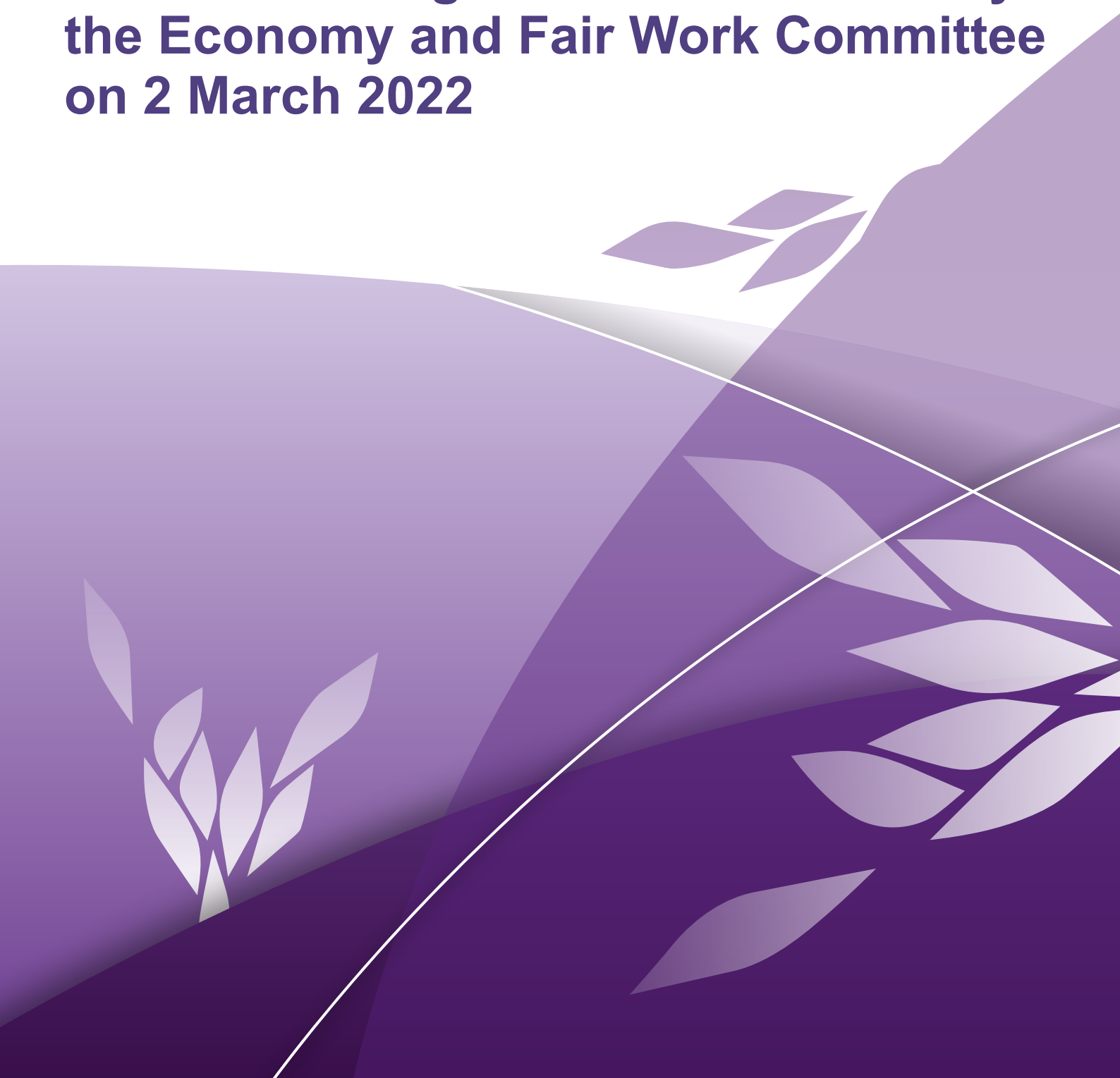


The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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SP Paper 124
4th Report 2022 (Session 6)

Economy and Fair Work Committee

Subordinate legislation considered by the Economy and Fair Work Committee on 2 March 2022



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Economy and Fair Work Committee

To consider and report on matters relating to the economy falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy.



economyandfairwork.committee@parliament.scot

Committee Membership



Convener
Claire Baker
Scottish Labour



Deputy Convener
Colin Beattie
Scottish National Party



Alexander Burnett
Scottish Conservative
and Unionist Party



Maggie Chapman
Scottish Green Party



Jamie Halcro Johnston
Scottish Conservative
and Unionist Party



Fiona Hyslop
Scottish National Party



Gordon MacDonald
Scottish National Party



Colin Smyth
Scottish Labour



Michelle Thomson
Scottish National Party

The Digital Government (Scottish Bodies) Regulations 2022 [SSI 2022/Draft]

1. The Digital Government (Scottish Bodies) Regulations 2022 [SSI 2022/Draft] were laid before the Parliament on 2 March 2022 and referred to the Economy and Fair Work Committee.
2. The purpose of the regulations is to add specific Scottish public bodies to [schedule 7](#) (debt) and [schedule 8](#) (fraud) of the [Digital Economy Act 2017](#) (“the Act”). This is an Act of the UK Parliament.
3. [Part 5 of the Act](#) introduced new information sharing powers to reduce debt owed to, or fraud against, the public sector. These data-sharing provisions affect a number of devolved matters and were subject to a Legislative Consent Motion, [approved by the Scottish Parliament, on 22 February 2017](#).
4. Under the Act, an “appropriate national authority” can amend the list of specified public bodies in schedules 7 and 8. In the case of Scottish bodies, the “appropriate national authority” is the Scottish Government. The UK and Welsh Governments have already added UK, English and Welsh bodies to the schedules.
5. The regulations provide a legal means for the Scottish bodies specified in the policy note’s annex to share information with other public bodies listed in the relevant schedule, for the purposes of reducing debt owed to, and combatting fraud against, the public sector.
6. The Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee [considered the instrument at its meeting on 8 February 2022](#) and made no recommendations.
7. Following the evidence session, Tom Arthur moved motion S6M-03050—

That the Economy and Fair Work Committee recommends that the Digital Government (Scottish Bodies) Regulations 2022 be approved.

The motion was agreed to without division.
8. The Economy and Fair Work Committee recommends to the Parliament that the Digital Government (Scottish Bodies) Regulations 2022 (SSI 2022/Draft) be approved.

