The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Journal of the Scottish Parliament

Session 6

13 May 2024 – 12 May 2025

Foreword

The Journal is the central, long-term, authoritative record of what the Parliament has done. The *Minutes of Proceedings*, which are produced for each meeting of the Parliament, do that in an immediate way, while the Journal presents essentially the same material but has the benefit of hindsight to allow any errors and infelicities of presentation to be corrected. Unlike the *Official Report*, which primarily records what is said, the *Minutes of Proceedings,* and in the longer term the Journal*,* provide the authoritative record of what was done.

The Journal is required under Rule 16.3 of Standing Orders and contains, in addition to the *Minutes of Proceedings* themselves, notice of any Bill introduced*, notice of any instrument or draft instrument or any other document laid before the Parliament; notice of any report of a committee, and any other matter that the Parliament, on a motion of the Parliamentary Bureau, considers should be included.

(* The requirement to include notice of Bills introduced was only added to Rule 16.3 in January 2003. However, such notices have in practice been recorded in the Annex to the *Minutes of Proceedings* from the outset.)

Note: (DT), which appears throughout the Journal, signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

Chamber Office
The Scottish Parliament

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Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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Minutes of Proceedings of the Parliament

No. 1, Tuesday 14 May 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13215—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 14 May 2024—

delete

6.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.10 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 15 May 2024—

after

followed by Scottish Labour Party Debate: Scotland's Housing Emergency

insert

followed by Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill: Emergency Bill Motion

delete

5.10 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.25 pm Decision Time

(c) Thursday 16 May 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scotland's Prison Population

followed by Ministerial Statement: Horizon Information Technology Prosecutions

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

4. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13203—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 40 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 1 hour 10 minutes

Groups 7 to 9: 1 hour 50 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 22, 2, 3, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 48 and 49.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

9 (For 52 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 65, Abstentions 0)
10 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68, Abstentions 0)
14 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67, Abstentions 0)
42 (For 45 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 66, Abstentions 0)
47 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 66, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 17 and 23.

The following amendments were not moved: 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 41, 43, 44, 45 and 46.

6. Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) moved S6M-13190—That the Parliament agrees that the Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 116 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

7. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13216— That the

Parliament agrees that Emma Roddick be appointed to replace Kate Forbes as a member of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee.
The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 5.07 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6 and 7 as noted above.

10. Urgent Action to Tackle Climate Change: The Parliament debated S6M-13008 in the name of Maurice Golden— That the Parliament considers that tackling climate change is one of the greatest challenges that the world faces and that Scotland set world-leading targets; is disappointed at reports that the Scottish Government has no credible pathway to meet the interim 2030 target, described as too stretching with just six years left to reach it; understands that the Scottish Government has failed to meet eight of its last 12 emissions targets; notes the belief that a draft climate change plan must be introduced with the utmost urgency; further notes the view that transformational policies must be introduced to tackle, mitigate and adapt to climate change, in line with just transition principles, and considers that this process, as part of the journey to a more circular economy, will have benefits for Scotland, including communities in the North East Scotland region, as well as contribute to the global effort in tackling climate change.

11. Motion without Notice: Maurice Golden moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.16 pm.

No. 2, Wednesday 15 May 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and then Justice and Home Affairs were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Stand Up for Teaching: Pam Duncan-Glancy moved S6M-13196—That the Parliament is concerned by reported plans to cut teacher posts in a number of local authorities, including Glasgow City Council, where 172 jobs are at risk in 2024, rising to 450 jobs that are to be cut over the next three years; recognises that teacher numbers have fallen, compared with 2007, and that these cuts will have the greatest impact on pupils in the most deprived communities; notes that the target numbers of student teachers in some subjects have not been met; considers that the increasing precarity of teaching as a profession makes it harder to attract and retain high-quality candidates; understands that local authorities require stability of funding to provide permanent teaching roles and drive up standards in education in Scotland, and calls on the Scottish Government to intervene to prevent job losses and publish a comprehensive plan to address gaps in the teaching and school staff workforce to inform future recruitment and retention.

The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) moved amendment S6M-13196.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13196 in the name of Pam Duncan-Glancy (Stand Up for Teaching), leave out from ", including" to end and insert "; recognises that the Scottish Government is investing in maintaining teaching numbers with an additional £145.5 million designed to support local authorities to do so; thanks those local authorities in 2022-23 that maintained or increased their teacher numbers; acknowledges that the policy of free tuition means that students in Scotland avoid incurring additional debt of up to £27,750; recognises that the Scottish Government further invests in supporting full postgraduate support, and in funding the salaries associated with the first full year of probation; recognises the challenges of rurality and subject area in certain parts of the country; confirms that action needs to be taken to reduce workload that does not support learning and teaching; recognises that the Scottish Government and the Parliament have a responsibility to promote teaching as a highly rewarding career, and agrees that the Scottish Government should engage with parties across the Parliament to hear views on how best to meet these challenges, further to work with COSLA, as underpinned by the principles of the Verity House Agreement, in a joint collaborative effort to improve the employment opportunities for all of Scotland's teachers, for the benefit of Scotland's young people."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 62, Against 63 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0 – by casting vote).

Liam Kerr moved amendment S6M-13196.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13196 in the name of Pam Duncan-Glancy (Stand Up for Teaching), insert at end "; takes on board the recommendations of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party's New Deal for Teachers to support teachers, reduce contact time and properly fund local authorities; believes that enacting these recommendations would help to facilitate the recruitment and retention of teachers, provide the highest standard of education and work to better improve the link between the education system and employers, and calls, in that regard, for the alignment of skills to meet the needs of businesses and employers both for today and into the future, as set out in the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party's Grasping the Thistle economic strategy plan."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 95 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 62 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 61, Abstentions 1).

3. Scotland's Housing Emergency: Mark Griffin moved S6M-13197—That the Parliament believes that Scotland is in a housing emergency.

The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) moved amendment S6M-13197.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13197 in the name of Mark Griffin (Scotland's Housing Emergency), insert at end "and that the housing emergency is more acutely felt in some parts of the country than others; acknowledges that the current situation is due to a combination of factors including those outwith the Scottish Government's powers, including a decade of UK Government austerity, soaring inflation and an increasing cost of living, labour shortages linked to Brexit, and a freeze to local housing allowance (LHA) rates; calls on the UK Government to reverse the near 9% cut in Scotland's capital funding settlement, commit to ensuring that LHA rates will permanently meet at least the 30th percentile of local rents, and provide adequate support to local authorities impacted by the increase in asylum support cessations; recognises the Scottish Government's record on delivering affordable homes and action taken on rent rises; notes that in 2024-25, despite the UK Government imposing a cut to its capital budget, the Scottish Government will invest nearly £600 million in affordable housing and over £90 million for discretionary housing payments; welcomes the actions in the Housing (Scotland) Bill to tackle rising rent levels and the continued focus on the target of delivering 110,000 high-quality, energy efficient affordable homes, and agrees that the Scottish Government, UK Government and local authorities must work together to deliver a housing system that meets the needs of the people of Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 69, Against 33, Abstentions 22 (including 1 proxy vote)).

Miles Briggs moved amendment S6M-13197.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13197 in the name of Mark Griffin (Scotland's Housing Emergency), insert at end "; notes that there are a record number of people in Scotland experiencing homelessness with almost 10,000 children stuck in temporary accommodation and 45 children becoming homeless in Scotland every day; calls on the Scottish Ministers to bring forward an urgent housing emergency action plan to tackle the issues raised by the Scottish Government's own expert Homelessness Prevention Task and Finish Group, including actions that will reduce the number of children stuck in temporary accommodation by the end of this parliamentary session; recognises the need to improve capacity in local government to prevent more local homelessness services falling into systemic failure, and the need to improve delivery for those with specific supported living needs, and calls on the Scottish Ministers to review how national government, local authorities and third sector partners are working together on the shared ambition to end homelessness."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 62 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 61, Abstentions 1).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 95 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 29, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament believes that Scotland is in a housing emergency and that the housing emergency is more acutely felt in some parts of the country than others; acknowledges that the current situation is due to a combination of factors including those outwith the Scottish Government’s powers, including a decade of UK Government austerity, soaring inflation and an increasing cost of living, labour shortages linked to Brexit, and a freeze to local housing allowance (LHA) rates; calls on the UK Government to reverse the near 9% cut in Scotland’s capital funding settlement, commit to ensuring that LHA rates will permanently meet at least the 30th percentile of local rents, and provide adequate support to local authorities impacted by the increase in asylum support cessations; recognises the Scottish Government’s record on delivering affordable homes and action taken on rent rises; notes that in 2024-25, despite the UK Government imposing a cut to its capital budget, the Scottish Government will invest nearly £600 million in affordable housing and over £90 million for discretionary housing payments; welcomes the actions in the Housing (Scotland) Bill to tackle rising rent levels and the continued focus on the target of delivering 110,000 high-quality, energy efficient affordable homes; agrees that the Scottish Government, UK Government and local authorities must work together to deliver a housing system that meets the needs of the people of Scotland; notes that there are a record number of people in Scotland experiencing homelessness with almost 10,000 children stuck in temporary accommodation and 45 children becoming homeless in Scotland every day; calls on the Scottish Ministers to bring forward an urgent housing emergency action plan to tackle the issues raised by the Scottish Government’s own expert Homelessness Prevention Task and Finish Group, including actions that will reduce the number of children stuck in temporary accommodation by the end of this parliamentary session; recognises the need to improve capacity in local government to prevent more local

homelessness services falling into systemic failure, and the need to improve delivery for those with specific supported living needs, and calls on the Scottish Ministers to review how national government, local authorities and third sector partners are working together on the shared ambition to end homelessness.

4. Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-13230—That the Parliament agrees that the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill be treated as an Emergency Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill: Timetable and Procedures for Consideration: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13218—That, subject to the Parliament's agreement that the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill be treated as an Emergency Bill, the Parliament agrees to consider the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill as follows—

Stage 1 on Tuesday 21 May 2024; and

Stage 2 on Thursday 23 May 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13217—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 21 May 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 22 May 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy; Finance, Deputy First Minister Responsibilities and Parliamentary Business

followed by Public Audit Committee Debate: Audit Scotland Report, Adult Mental Health

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 23 May 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Transport

followed by Committee of the Whole Parliament —Stage 2 Proceedings: Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 28 May 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 29 May 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 30 May 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 20 May 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Stage 1 Extension: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13219—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be extended to 7 June 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13220—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament after Portfolio Questions on Thursday 16 May 2024.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3 and 8 as noted above.

10. No Falls Week 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-12524 in the name of Clare Adamson—That the Parliament recognises that 13 to 17 May 2024 marks No Falls Week; considers that this week is an opportunity to recognise the powerful campaign dedicated to promoting safe working at height, providing an opportunity for organisations in all sectors to focus on working at height safety; notes that the latest figures from the Health and Safety Executive show that 40 people lost their lives due to a fall from height in Great Britain in 2022-23, that falls from height were responsible for 30% of all workplace deaths, and that, it understands, every year thousands of non-fatal falls take place, estimated at as many as 100 every day; understands that the No Falls Foundation has produced a toolkit with resources and guidelines to assist organisations in planning and implementing activities during No Falls Week, and notes the calls encouraging employers not only to contribute to the broader safety narrative, but also to demonstrate their dedication to the wellbeing of their employees.

The meeting closed at 6.16 pm.

No. 3, Thursday 16 May 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Foster Care Fortnight: The Parliament debated S6M-13031 in the name of Martin Whitfield—That the Parliament recognises Foster Care Fortnight, taking place from 13 to 26 May 2024; believes that foster care gives children the opportunity to experience family life in a stable, loving and nurturing home environment, when it is not possible for them to live with their birth families; recognises that the theme for 2024 is #FosteringMoments, which celebrates the big and small moments that make foster care so transformative; thanks the reported 3,261 fostering households in Scotland for what it sees as their dedication and commitment to caring for children and young people who, it believes, have had some of the most difficult starts in life in this country; notes reports that there are currently 4,155 children and young people living in foster care in Scotland; understands that fostering can be incredibly rewarding, but also challenging in the context of higher living costs, what it considers to be stretched public services, and the emotional and practical demands of the role; is concerned that the number of fostering households in Scotland is reportedly decreasing, and understands that 400 more fostering households are needed; notes the belief that a resilient and well-resourced foster care sector is vital to Scotland's work to keep The Promise, so that care experienced children and young people grow up safe, loved and respected, and further notes the calls for more support for foster carers to ensure that they can continue to do what they love, for the children and young people they love.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance MSP) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland's Prison Population.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Lord Advocate (Dorothy Bain KC) made a statement and answered questions on Horizon Information Technology Prosecutions.

7. Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Employment and Investment (Tom Arthur) moved S6M-13221—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed (DT).

8. Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-12713—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill, agrees to—

(a) any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act, and

(b) any tax imposed in consequence of the Act in relation to which Rule 9.12.3B(a) of the Parliament's Standing Orders applies.

The motion was agreed (DT).

9. Appointment of the Chair of the Scottish Commission for Human Rights: Karen Adam, on behalf of the Selection Panel, moved S6M-13172—That the Parliament nominates Professor Angela O'Hagan to His Majesty The King for appointment as the Chair of the Scottish Commission for Human Rights.

The motion was agreed (DT).

10. Scottish Commission for Public Audit: Maggie Chapman moved S6M-13096—That the Parliament agrees to the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body's proposal to appoint Jamie Greene to be a member of the Scottish Commission for Public Audit.

The motion was agreed (DT).

11. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 7, 8, 9 and 10 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.12 pm.

No. 4, Tuesday 21 May 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Esther Elliott, Church of Scotland Community Chaplain, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13317—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 21 May 2024—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by First Minister's Statement: Infected Blood Inquiry

after

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill

insert

followed by Financial Resolution: Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 22 May 2024—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy; Finance, Deputy First Minister Responsibilities and Parliamentary Business

insert

followed by First Minister's Statement: Priorities for Scotland

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.15 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

4. First Minister's Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Infected Blood Inquiry.

5. Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-13292— That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT)

6. Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-13232— That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT)

7. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 5.28 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5 and 6 as noted above.

9. National Epilepsy Week: The Parliament debated S6M-13087 in the name of Marie McNair—That the Parliament recognises National Epilepsy Week, which runs from 20 to 26 May 2024; notes that this takes place to raise awareness of epilepsy, the challenges that those living with the condition face and to promote greater understanding and inclusion; further notes, in particular, the employment challenges that can face those living with epilepsy; understands that it is the most prevalent of the main neurological conditions, with around 58,000 people living with epilepsy in Scotland; recognises what it sees as the importance of National Epilepsy Week to foster conversations and greater understanding amongst the general public of the condition and what to do when someone has a seizure; welcomes the work of local groups such as West Dunbartonshire Epilepsy Support Group and, nationally, Epilepsy Scotland, for what it regards as the vital social support services that they provide to those living with epilepsy, but notes the reported difficulties that they are facing through independently funding these services, and hopes for a productive and successful National Epilepsy Week.

The meeting closed at 6.07 pm.

No. 5, Wednesday 22 May 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy, and then on Finance, Deputy First Minister Responsibilities and Parliamentary Business, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Priorities for Scotland.

3. Adult Mental Health: Richard Leonard, on behalf of the Public Audit Committee, moved S6M-13291—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Public Audit Committee's 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6), Adult mental health (SP Paper 532).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its response is to reports that Creative Scotland was aware that the project, Rein, which received £76,196 of funding from the organisation, had scenes that were of a sexually explicit nature before awarding it funding, was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13318—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 28 May 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 29 May 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 30 May 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Debate: A Vision for Health and Social Care in Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 4 June 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

4.15 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 5 June 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 6 June 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 27 May 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 2 Extension: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13319—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be extended to 31 May 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13320—That the Parliament agrees that the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13321—That the Parliament agrees that the Transport Partnerships (Transfer of Functions) (Scotland) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13326—That the

Parliament agrees that Patrick Harvie be appointed to replace Gillian Mackay as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Finance and Public Administration Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 7, 8 and 9 as noted above.

11. National Lyme Disease Awareness Month: The Parliament debated S6M-12082 in the name of Alexander Burnett—That the Parliament recognises that May 2024 marks Lyme Disease Awareness Month, which aims to raise awareness of the disease in order to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment; understands that Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that can be spread to humans by infected ticks; recognises that cases of Lyme disease have been reported across Scotland, but that diagnosis and treatment of the disease can be difficult and complex due to varying symptoms, including a "bullseye" bite, rash, fatigue and flu-like symptoms; notes the importance of early diagnosis and access to antibiotic treatment, as in some cases Lyme disease can have long-term symptoms impacting someone’s health, including memory problems, joint and nerve pain and heart problems, and further notes the view that there is still much more progress to be made in educating medical professionals across Scotland to help improve detection of the disease, as well as spreading public health information on how to prevent and treat Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses.

The meeting closed at 6.09 pm.

No. 6, Thursday 23 May 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Europe Day 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-12992 in the name of Alasdair Allan—That the Parliament is pleased to celebrate Europe Day 2024, which takes place on 9 May and marks the 74th anniversary of the historic Schuman Declaration; considers that Europe Day is a chance to reflect on the aspiration for peace and unity across Europe, both within and outwith the EU; notes with alarm that this Europe Day takes place at a time of war in Europe, and reinforces Scotland's solidarity with the people of Ukraine; applauds the efforts of organisations, including the European Movement in Scotland, New Europeans UK, Citizens' Rights Project, and the Scottish Council on Global Affairs, to mark Europe Day 2024 with a Festival of Europe, which will be held from 11-12 May at Summerhall in Edinburgh; is firm in the belief that Scotland remains a steadfastly European nation, bound to its neighbours by a long history of cultural, social and economic ties; notes that the flag of Europe is still flown with pride outside the Scottish Parliament building; recommits to the shared EU values of human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, rule of law and human rights, as well as the EU motto, "United in Diversity"; notes what it sees as the positive impact that EU programmes and structural funds have had on communities in the Na h-Eileanan an Iar constituency and across rural Scotland; regrets what it sees as the continued damage on Scotland's economy and society resulting from Brexit, and that, it believes, the people of Scotland had their European citizenship taken from them against their democratic will; notes the belief that it is in Scotland's interests to rejoin the EU and the single market, and reaffirms what it considers to be Scotland's aspiration to play an active role in its European future.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

5. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13358—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Tuesday 28 May 2024—

delete

5.30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

and insert

7.20 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

6. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.32 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.32 pm.

No. 6a, Thursday 23 May 2024

The meeting opened at 3.00 pm.

1. Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill - Stage 2: The Bill was considered at Stage 2 by a Committee of the Whole Parliament.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1 and 15.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

2 (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 93, Abstentions 0)
3 (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 93, Abstentions 0)
6 (For 33 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 88, Abstentions 0)
7 (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 93, Abstentions 0)
9 (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 93, Abstentions 0)
21 (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 91, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 16, 20, 22 and 23.

The following amendments were not moved: 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19 and 24.

The following provisions were agreed to without amendment: sections 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, and the long title.

Section 1 was agreed to as amended.

The Committee completed Stage 2 consideration of the Bill.

The meeting closed at 4.30 pm.

No. 7, Tuesday 28 May 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Mark Bitel, Co-Clerk, Central Edinburgh Quaker Meeting, led Time for Reflection.

2. Timetable for Consideration: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13384— That the Parliament agrees to consider the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill as follows—

Stage 3 on Thursday 30 May

The motion was agreed to.

3. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13389— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(b) Wednesday 29 May 2024—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

insert

followed by Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Debate: Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6)

delete

5.10 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.40 pm Decision Time

(b) Thursday 30 May 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Debate: A Vision for Health and Social Care in Scotland

insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Ministerial Statement: Industrial Relations in the Further Education Sector

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

4.30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Liam Kerr moved S6M-13389.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13389 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Revision to Business Programme), leave out from third "delete" to end and insert—
>
> "*followed by* Ministerial Statement: LEZ Implementation
>
> after
>
> 5.00 pm Decision Time
>
> insert
>
> *followed by* Members' Business"

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 29, Against 62, Abstentions 18 (including 1 proxy vote)).

The motion was then agreed to.

4. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

5. Stage 3 Timetable: Martin Whitfield, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13356—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 1 hour 5 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 2 hours

Groups 7 and 8: 3 hours

Groups 9 and 10: 3 hours 45 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 3, 30, 31, 32, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 68, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64 and 20.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

4 (For 99 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 12, Abstentions 0)
46 (For 104 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 8, Abstentions 0)
9 (For 104 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 7, Abstentions 0)
10 (For 104 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 7, Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

22 (For 25, Against 84 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
23 (For 27, Against 83 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
24 (For 27, Against 83 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
25 (For 27, Against 84 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
26 (For 27, Against 84 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
34 (For 25 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 86, Abstentions 0)
35 (For 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 63, Abstentions 0)
36 (For 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 62, Abstentions 0)
39 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 63, Abstentions 0)
43 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 63, Abstentions 0)
47 (For 7, Against 87, Abstentions 18 (including 1 proxy vote))
50 (For 7, Against 87, Abstentions 18 (including 1 proxy vote))
51 (For 44 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 21 and 67.

The following amendments were not moved: 1, 2, 27, 28, 29, 33, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 52, 65 and 66.

7. Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Employment and Investment (Tom Arthur) moved S6M-13349—That the Parliament agrees that the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 27, Abstentions 4).

8. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 6.39 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 6.43 pm.

No. 8, Wednesday 29 May 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Martin Whitfield, on behalf of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, moved S6M-13368—That the Parliament notes the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6), Complaint against Michael Matheson MSP (SP Paper 597), and agrees to impose the sanctions recommended in the report that the Parliament excludes Michael Matheson MSP from proceedings of the Parliament for a period of 27 sitting days and withdraws his salary for a period of 54 calendar days to take effect from the day after this motion is agreed.

The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved amendment S6M-13368.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13368 in the name of Martin Whitfield (Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6)), insert at end "; recognises that Stephen Kerr MSP resigned from the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee in March 2024 as he had made public pronouncements on this case ahead of the complaint being heard by the committee; agrees with Stephen Kerr MSP that to have remained as a committee member 'would have been wrong' as he 'couldn't meet the test to be unbiased'; notes that Annie Wells MSP also made public pronouncements on this case in advance of the complaint being heard by the committee and has remained a committee member throughout; agrees that this runs the risk of the committee report being open to bias and prejudice and the complaint being prejudged, thereby bringing the Parliament into disrepute; further agrees with the disappointment expressed by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee that material relating to the committee's deliberations appeared in the media prior to its decisions being reached and announced, and calls on the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body to initiate an independent review of the Parliament's complaints process to restore integrity and confidence in the Parliament and its procedures."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (by division: For 68, Against 56 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)

The motion, as amended was agreed to (by division: For 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 0, Abstentions 63)

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament notes the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6), Complaint against Michael Matheson

MSP (SP Paper 597); agrees to impose the sanctions recommended in the report that the Parliament excludes Michael Matheson MSP from proceedings of the Parliament for a period of 27 sitting days and withdraws his salary for a period of 54 calendar days to take effect from the day after this motion is agreed; recognises that Stephen Kerr MSP resigned from the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee in March 2024 as he had made public pronouncements on this case ahead of the complaint being heard by the committee; agrees with Stephen Kerr MSP that to have remained as a committee member 'would have been wrong' as he 'couldn't meet the test to be unbiased'; notes that Annie Wells MSP also made public pronouncements on this case in advance of the complaint being heard by the committee and has remained a committee member throughout; agrees that this runs the risk of the committee report being open to bias and prejudice and the complaint being prejudged, thereby bringing the Parliament into disrepute; further agrees with the disappointment expressed by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee that material relating to the committee's deliberations appeared in the media prior to its decisions being reached and announced, and calls on the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body to initiate an independent review of the Parliament's complaints process to restore integrity and confidence in the Parliament and its procedures.

3. Michael Matheson Resignation: Douglas Ross moved S6M-13365—That the Parliament believes that Michael Matheson should resign as an MSP for misusing taxpayers' money and making misleading statements.

Jackie Baillie moved amendment S6M-13365.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13365 in the name of Douglas Ross (Michael Matheson Resignation), insert at end “, and further believes that the people of Scotland should have the same right to recall MSPs as they do to recall MPs from the UK Parliament, if they are found to have behaved inappropriately by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 116 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 0, Abstentions 7).

Patrick Harvie moved amendment S6M-13365.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13365 in the name of Douglas Ross (Michael Matheson Resignation), leave out from “should” to end and insert “has been investigated by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB), and that decisions on sanctions are a matter for Parliament on the recommendations of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee; rejects the calls for sanctions that go far beyond those recommended by the committee; believes that the Parliament requires a sanctions process that can retain confidence across all political parties; recognises that concerns have arisen in relation to the lack of a consistent tariff of sanctions, the *potential* pre-judging of a case by an MSP who did not recuse themselves from the process, and the leaking of draft recommendations by the committee, and agrees, therefore, that reform of the

current arrangements for considering sanctions against MSPs is urgently needed."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68, Against 55 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68, Against 55 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament believes that Michael Matheson has been investigated by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB), and that decisions on sanctions are a matter for Parliament on the recommendations of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee; rejects the calls for sanctions that go far beyond those recommended by the committee; believes that the Parliament requires a sanctions process that can retain confidence across all political parties; recognises that concerns have arisen in relation to the lack of a consistent tariff of sanctions, the *potential* pre-judging of a case by an MSP who did not recuse themselves from the process, and the leaking of draft recommendations by the committee; agrees, therefore, that reform of the current arrangements for considering sanctions against MSPs is urgently needed, and further believes that the people of Scotland should have the same right to recall MSPs as they do to recall MPs from the UK Parliament, if they are found to have behaved inappropriately by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13392—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 4 June 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan - Annual Progress Report 2023-24

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Scottish Government Debate: A Vision for Health and Social Care in Scotland

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

6.15 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 5 June 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 6 June 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.30 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 11 June 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 12 June 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Abortion Services Safe Access Zones (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

7.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 13 June 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions

2.45 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 3 June 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 2 Extension: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13393—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be extended to 1 November 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13394—That the Parliament agrees that the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13395—That the Parliament

agrees that the Scottish Tribunals (Listed Tribunals) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13396—That the Parliament agrees that the Equality Act 2010 (Specification of Public Authorities) (Scotland) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13397—That the Parliament agrees that the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13398—That the Parliament agrees that the Damages (Review of Rate of Return) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13399—That the Parliament agrees that Jeremy Balfour be appointed to replace Oliver Mundell as a member of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 as noted above.

13. Importance of Wood-burning Stoves and Other Direct Emission Heating to Homes in Rural and Island Communities: The Parliament debated S6M-12917 in the name of Jamie Halcro Johnston—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the importance of wood-burning stoves and other forms of direct emission heating in homes in rural, island and remote communities across Scotland; notes that wood-burning stoves are often the only source of heat and hot water, and method of cooking, when power is lost or when bad weather leaves households or communities isolated; further notes that the Non-domestic Technical Handbook: April 2024 Edition states that “in smaller buildings there will be little justification to install emergency heating”; considers that any emergency heating can only be used in emergencies and must be connected to both the normal heating system and an emergency power source, and that the cost and technical implications of this have led to the Scottish Government’s Building (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 being described as “an effective ban” on wood-burning stoves in new-build properties; believes that this

will put vulnerable households in more remote areas of Scotland at greater risk when cut off or when power is lost, as well as exacerbate already high levels of fuel poverty, and recognises reports of the concern and anger that this has caused in rural and island communities across Scotland, especially in the Highlands and Islands.

14. Motion without Notice: Alexander Burnett moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.49 pm.

No. 9, Thursday 30 May 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Physiotherapy Workforce Shortage in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-12559 in the name of Alex Rowley—That the Parliament is concerned about the reported shortage of physiotherapists in the NHS workforce in Scotland and notes the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy's campaign "Scotland needs more physios"; notes the belief that Scotland does not currently educate or train enough physiotherapists to supply the workforce needs, with, it understands, only 7% of the hundreds of university applicants accepted onto undergraduate physiotherapy training places, and that this leaves considerable scope to expand the supply of qualified physiotherapists; understands that undergraduate training places have doubled in England to meet demand, but that there has been no increase in Scotland in the last decade, meaning that, while Scottish course programmes are oversubscribed with applicants, not enough places are funded to meet the needs of Scotland's NHS; acknowledges the reported views of physiotherapists, stating that they are finding it extremely difficult to recruit staff for their practices across Scotland, with record high vacancy rates, averaging over 10%, and that this is having an impact on existing staff morale, with increased levels of stress and work pressures; believes that the shortage of physiotherapists impacts on local communities, their services and staff, including in Mid Scotland and Fife, and further believes that physiotherapy is essential to reduce hospital admissions, speed up discharge from hospital and reduce reliance on social care, all of which are critical.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Higher and Further Education; and Minister for Veterans (Graeme Dey MSP) made a statement and answered questions on Industrial Relations in the Further Education Sector.

6. Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill – Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2 and 3.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

8 (For 19, Against 89, Abstentions 0)
9 (For 20 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 88, Abstentions 0)
10 (For 20 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 89, Abstentions 0)
11 (For 18 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 90, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 4.

The following amendments were not moved: 5, 6 and 7.

7. Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-13407—That the Parliament agrees that the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 116 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

9. Taliban's Suppression of Women's and Girls' Rights in Afghanistan: The Parliament debated S6M-12801 in the name of Michelle Thomson—That the Parliament condemns what it sees as the continued suppression of the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan, following the takeover by the Taliban authorities; appreciates that, since the Taliban took over Afghanistan in 2021, the United Nations has continued to condemn the actions being enforced and highlight the Taliban's reported behaviour in breaking international law; considers that the requirement to be accompanied by a Mahram, a male chaperone, at all times beyond the home severely inhibits female participation in society; notes the reported restrictions on daily life for women and girls, including access to education, the use of gyms and parks, access to beauty services, bans on women working in various sectors of society, the compulsory wearing of hijabs and the reduction in available aid to women unless being delivered by women workers; notes what it sees as the detrimental impact that restrictions to all educational levels will have on women and girls, including on their acquisition of skills, knowledge and professional development opportunities; further notes what it sees as the detrimental impact that the ban on women and girls accessing outdoor social areas and beauty services will have, including the loss of jobs and the loss of women-only spaces; is appalled by the recently reported intention of the Taliban to re-impose the stoning to death of women; notes reports that the United Nations has declared that the Taliban has restricted the rights of women so gravely that it has made Afghanistan the "most repressive country" in the world; further notes that the overall societal impacts caused by the Taliban restrictions reportedly include increasing food scarcity and reliance on humanitarian aid; understands that population displacement caused by the restrictions has wider impacts, with countries including Scotland welcoming refugees through both humanitarian routes and informal routes; notes the role of the Scottish Government in providing £1 million per annum through the Humanitarian Emergency Fund to international humanitarian crises, including in Afghanistan; recognises the contributions of local groups across Scotland, including those in the Falkirk district, in supporting refugees who have resettled in Scotland to realise their potential, and further condemns the acts of the Taliban authorities in Afghanistan.

The meeting closed at 5.27 pm.

No. 10, Tuesday 4 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Dr Joseph J Morrow, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

3. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) made a statement and answered questions on Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan - Annual Progress Report 2023-24.

4. Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-13464—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-13176—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, agrees to—

(a) any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act, and

(b) any charge or payment in relation to which Rule 9.12.4 of the Parliament's Standing Orders applies arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. A Vision for Health and Social Care in Scotland: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved S6M-13466—That the Parliament recognises the urgent and critical need for health and social care reform within the context of an ageing population, persistent health inequalities and fiscal pressures, whilst ensuring that the founding principle that the NHS in Scotland remains in the hands of the public and is free at the point of use will not change; agrees that reform must focus on a more sustainable healthcare system, performance improvement, prevention, providing quality services and maximising access, with a foundation of due consideration for the people at the heart of Scotland's health and social care services, including the workforce; recognises the importance of continuing to invest in mental health and GP services, including the investment of £190 million in 2024-25 for multi-disciplinary teams to support general practice and the new support for protected learning time in GP practices, and supports the Scottish Government's commitment to a national engagement that will inform and inspire the reform programme.

Sandesh Gulhane moved amendment S6M-13466.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13466 in the name of Neil Gray (A Vision for Health and Social Care in Scotland), leave out from second ", including" to end and insert "; notes with concern that the Scottish Government has frozen all major NHS project investment for two years and that, for waiting lists to be cut, construction on these projects must resume immediately; further notes that the Scottish Government's A&E target has not been met in almost four years and that its 62-day cancer referral standard has not been met in over a decade; notes with alarm that one in seven people in Scotland are now on an NHS waiting list, and that the Scottish Government has failed to meet its targets to end long waits for treatment; requests that the Scottish Government reconsider its plans for a National Care Service, which will only serve to take power away from local authorities, and will not address the underlying issues in social care; reminds the Scottish Government that, since it promised to end delayed discharge seven years ago, successive health secretaries have failed to do so, and emphasises that any reform of health and social care must address the issues listed above as a matter of urgency and incorporate modern, efficient and local solutions into the health service."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 47, Against 57, Abstentions 7 (including 1 proxy vote)).

Jackie Baillie moved amendment S6M-13466.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13466 in the name of Neil Gray (A Vision for Health and Social Care in Scotland), insert at end "; is concerned that 840,300 people in Scotland are on NHS waiting lists for tests and treatment, of which over 87,000 have waited more than a year; notes that more patients are forced to use the private sector, with the latest data showing that the number of privately paid for hospital admissions is 80% higher than before the COVID-19 pandemic, and calls on the Scottish Government to set out a plan for reducing waiting times."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 18, Against 87, Abstentions 7 (including 1 proxy vote)).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 30, Abstentions 0).

7. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13492— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Wednesday 5 June 2024—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Low Emission Zones - Protecting Public Health and Improving Air Quality

delete

5.10 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.40 pm Decision Time

(b) Thursday 6 June 2024—

delete

5.30 pm Decision Time

and insert

4.55 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

8. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 6.03 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 4, 5 and 6 as noted above.

10. Child Safety Week 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-13063 in the name of Clare Adamson—That the Parliament marks Child Safety Week, the flagship annual campaign run by the Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT), which takes place between 3 and 9 June 2024; understands that the 2024 theme, Safety Sorted!, encourages families to feel confident that, with one small change, they can stop a serious accident and be clear what they need to do to keep children safe; considers that Child Safety Week acts as a catalyst for thousands of safety conversations and activities across Scotland, helping families to build confidence and skills in managing the real risks to children's safety; believes that child safety is a social justice issue and understands that children living in Scotland's most deprived communities are more likely to experience preventable accidents than those from the least deprived areas; applauds Child Safety Week's online resources and activities, which are available free to families and agencies; commends CAPT and other safety organisations for their ongoing efforts to promote the safety and wellbeing of children, and wishes all the organisers and volunteers the best for Child Safety Week 2024.

The meeting closed at 6.45 pm.

No. 11, Wednesday 5 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) made a statement and answered questions on Low Emission Zones - Protecting Public Health and Improving Air Quality.

3. Improving Scotland's Roads: Graham Simpson moved S6M-13480—That the Parliament acknowledges the importance of a well-maintained road network to Scotland's economy; believes that Scottish National Party administrations have repeatedly broken promises on major road upgrades and that their underfunding of Scottish local authorities has led to a deterioration in the condition of local roads, and calls upon the Scottish Government to fairly fund Scottish local authorities and make road infrastructure a key priority.

The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) moved amendment S6M-13480.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13480 in the name of Graham Simpson (Improving Scotland's Roads), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "notes that the procurement process for the construction of the A9 Dualling Tay Crossing to Ballinluig project has now started, and that the contract for the A9 Dualling Tomatin to Moy project is on track to achieve contract award early in summer 2024; further notes that the statutory authorisation process is now complete for the A96 Dualling Inverness to Nairn (including Nairn Bypass) project, which will enable the purchase of land required to build the project; notes that the Scottish Government is delivering a range of measures in the short, medium and long term to reduce the risk of impact of landslides at the A83 Rest and Be Thankful; further notes that the procurement of technical advisors is underway to take forward design work on Springholm and Crocketford Bypasses on the A75; notes that investment in safely operating and maintaining the trunk road network will increase from over £525 million in 2023-24 to over £683 million in 2024-25, which is an increase of over 30%; further notes the ongoing commitment to Scotland's 2030 road safety targets, with a record £36 million earmarked for investment, including £10 million for the local road network through the Road Safety Improvement Fund; agrees that the funding in the UK Spring Budget falls far short of what Scotland needs to deliver improvements to Scotland's infrastructure, and will result in a reduction in real terms of the Scottish block grant for capital of 8.7% by 2027-28, and calls on the incoming UK administration to bring forward an emergency budget to address this hole in Scotland's capital budget of over £1.3 billion."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 56, Against 55 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Alex Rowley moved amendment S6M-13480.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13480 in the name of Graham Simpson (Improving Scotland's Roads), insert at end "; further calls on the Scottish Government to confirm when the Bus Partnership Fund will be reinstated following the decision to pause this crucial infrastructure investment, and calls for a clear delivery plan for active travel, bus, ferry and rail infrastructure projects, with clear actions to reverse the decline in public transport, which has seen significant cuts to both rail and bus services in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 56 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 57, Abstentions 0 – by casting vote).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 57, Against 55 (including 2 proxy votes, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament acknowledges the importance of a well-maintained road network to Scotland's economy; notes that the procurement process for the construction of the A9 Dualling Tay Crossing to Ballinluig project has now started, and that the contract for the A9 Dualling Tomatin to Moy project is on track to achieve contract award early in summer 2024; further notes that the statutory authorisation process is now complete for the A96 Dualling Inverness to Nairn (including Nairn Bypass) project, which will enable the purchase of land required to build the project; notes that the Scottish Government is delivering a range of measures in the short, medium and long term to reduce the risk of impact of landslides at the A83 Rest and Be Thankful; further notes that the procurement of technical advisors is underway to take forward design work on Springholm and Crocketford Bypasses on the A75; notes that investment in safely operating and maintaining the trunk road network will increase from over £525 million in 2023-24 to over £683 million in 2024-25, which is an increase of over 30%; further notes the ongoing commitment to Scotland's 2030 road safety targets, with a record £36 million earmarked for investment, including £10 million for the local road network through the Road Safety Improvement Fund; agrees that the funding in the UK Spring Budget falls far short of what Scotland needs to deliver improvements to Scotland's infrastructure, and will result in a reduction in real terms of the Scottish block grant for capital of 8.7% by 2027-28, and calls on the incoming UK administration to bring forward an emergency budget to address this hole in Scotland's capital budget of over £1.3 billion.

4. Recognising the Contribution of Scotland's Oil and Gas Industry: Douglas Lumsden moved S6M-13482—That the Parliament recognises the invaluable contribution that oil and gas makes to Scotland, with the industry supporting 94,000 jobs and providing over £10 billion in revenue in 2022-23; notes with concern that the Scottish Government has a presumption against oil and gas, whilst the Labour Party has said it will not allow any new licences, something that industry experts have said could lead to thousands of job losses; welcomes the provisions of the Offshore Petroleum Licensing Bill, which, when passed, will increase investor confidence in the oil and gas sector and reduce the UK's dependence on higher-emission imports from overseas; welcomes the approval of

the Rosebank oil field and awaits a similar decision on the Cambo oil field; appreciates that oil and gas will still be a vital component of the UK's energy mix in the future and that it is more environmentally friendly for the country to produce its own oil and gas than import it from abroad, and notes with concern the extremist positions taken by some activists, who are opposed to the very existence of a North Sea oil and gas sector, and condemns their actions, which are irresponsible, damaging and disruptive.

The Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Màiri McAllan) moved amendment S6M-13482.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13482 in the name of Douglas Lumsden (Recognising the Contribution of Scotland's Oil and Gas Industry), leave out from first “that oil” to end and insert “of the highly skilled and internationally recognised workforce in the oil and gas sector and the part that it plays in Scotland's economy; believes that any responsible government that cares about the workforce and its future, as well as a just transition in regions such as the north east of Scotland and Shetland, and sites such as Grangemouth and Mossmorran, must now plan for a managed energy transition; notes that Scotland has been well positioned twice in terms of natural energy resources, once for North Sea oil and gas and now again for renewables; calls on the Scottish Government to bring forward a finalised Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan in summer 2024 that takes an evidence-based and pragmatic approach and ensures that climate compatibility assessment and energy security are properly reflected; understands the clear scientific evidence that there is an urgent need to transition away from fossil fuels globally if the Paris Agreement climate goals are to be met, and that the North Sea is a geologically mature and declining basin; appreciates that a key element of a managed transition must be a fiscal regime for the entire energy sector that provides stability and certainty, protects jobs based in Scotland and incentivises investment in renewables, and believes that the incoming UK administration should invest in a just transition for Scotland's valued oil and gas workforce to a net zero future as North Sea resources decline, and invest in reducing emissions in line with climate commitments.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 56, Against 57 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0 – by casting vote).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-13482.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13482 in the name of Douglas Lumsden (Recognising the Contribution of Scotland's Oil and Gas Industry), leave out from first “notes” to end and insert “agrees that, as part of the energy transition, oil and gas production will continue in the North Sea for decades to come; believes that if Scotland is to maintain its reputation for expertise in energy generation, there is a need to deliver a just transition to the clean energy industries of the future; further believes that it is the Scottish National Party (SNP)'s failure to plan and invest for a just transition that is putting jobs at risk; calls on the UK and Scottish governments to work together to deliver a skills passport to protect workers and help Scotland's world-leading offshore

> workforce transition to the renewables sector; further calls on the Scottish Government to reform Scotland's planning system to make it an asset in attracting investment by providing efficiency and certainty for developers; condemns the economic incompetence of the Conservative Party and the SNP, which has exacerbated the cost of living crisis for households in Scotland; notes that the Scottish Government has chosen to side with energy giants over working people with its recent u-turn on a windfall tax on the exorbitant profits of oil and gas companies, while raising taxes on working people; believes that the policies and instability of the UK Government further undermined progress in delivering the energy jobs of the future and failing to improve energy security, and further believes that only the UK Labour Party has a plan for the transition through its Green Prosperity Plan, which will support 69,000 green jobs in Scotland, and creation of GB Energy as a publicly-owned energy company, which will ensure jobs and supply chains are built in the UK and Scotland, developing clean energy industries and that no community is left behind."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 19 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 94 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 1).

Patrick Harvie moved amendment S6M-13482.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13482 in the name of Douglas Lumsden (Recognising the Contribution of Scotland's Oil and Gas Industry), leave out from "makes" to end and insert "has made to Scotland's economy and the contribution that it has made to the greenhouse gas emissions, which threaten the future of humanity and much of the living world; accepts the reality that the North Sea is a declining basin, that most of its production is for export and does not contribute to energy security, and that the world already has far more fossil fuel in existing reserves than it can afford to use in any scenario consistent with the Paris Agreement; notes that the industry supports an estimated 30,000 direct jobs and that these skilled workers need a managed transition to green industries that is both just and fast; further notes the long track record of the fossil fuel industry in first covering up climate science, then promoting climate denial conspiracy theories, before shifting to its current strategy of lobbying for slower climate action; notes with concern reports that the Scottish Government is considering ending its presumption against new oil and gas licences; condemns the UK Offshore Petroleum Licensing Bill, which would reward the fossil fuel industry and do nothing to reduce the UK's dependence on it; notes with concern the extremist positions taken by some fossil fuel apologists who are opposed to the very existence of a liveable world, and condemns their actions, which are irresponsible, damaging and disruptive."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 7 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 107 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Liam McArthur moved amendment S6M-13482.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13482 in the name of Douglas Lumsden (Recognising the Contribution of Scotland's Oil and Gas Industry), leave out from first “notes” to end and insert “recognises that there is a climate emergency and that it is essential that Scotland meets its net zero targets by 2045 and drives down its reliance on fossil fuels; believes that the phasing down of the traditional oil and gas sector must be done hand in hand with the expansion of renewables and the creation of green jobs, using the wealth of talent and skills available, in order to ensure that communities are not left behind, and further believes that, in order to achieve a successful just transition, both of Scotland's governments must work together, and with the oil and gas and renewables sectors, so that change can be managed properly and effectively.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 79 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 34 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 1).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 106 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 7 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament recognises the invaluable contribution that oil and gas makes to Scotland, with the industry supporting 94,000 jobs and providing over £10 billion in revenue in 2022-23; recognises that there is a climate emergency and that it is essential that Scotland meets its net zero targets by 2045 and drives down its reliance on fossil fuels; believes that the phasing down of the traditional oil and gas sector must be done hand in hand with the expansion of renewables and the creation of green jobs, using the wealth of talent and skills available, in order to ensure that communities are not left behind, and further believes that, in order to achieve a successful just transition, both of Scotland's governments must work together, and with the oil and gas and renewables sectors, so that change can be managed properly and effectively.

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13493—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 11 June 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scottish Government Priorities: Eradicating Child Poverty

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 12 June 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

7.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 13 June 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions

2.45 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scottish Government Priorities: Investing in Scotland's Public Services

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 18 June 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

9.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 June 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 June 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

4.30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 10 June 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

Liz Smith moved amendment S6M- S6M-13493.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13493 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Business Programme), leave out from third "*followed by* Business Motions" to second "5.00 pm Decision Time" and insert—
>
> "*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Allocation of EU Structural Funds
>
> *followed by* Business Motions
>
> *followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions
>
> 5.30 pm Decision Time".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 55 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 56, Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to.

6. Stage 1 Extension: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13494—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be extended to 13 September 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13495—That the Parliament agrees that the Sea Fisheries (Remote Electronic Monitoring and Regulation of Scallop Fishing) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 85 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 27).

8. Approval of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Child-friendly Complaint Handling Statement of Principles: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13496—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Child-friendly Complaint Handling Statement of Principles (SPSO/2024/01) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 7 and 8 as noted above.

10. 40th Anniversary of Volunteers' Week: The Parliament debated S6M-12850 in the name of Kevin Stewart—That the Parliament welcomes the 40th anniversary of Volunteers' Week, which will take place from 3 to 9 June 2024; notes that Volunteers' Week, which takes place from the first Monday of June every year, celebrates what it considers to be the invaluable contribution that volunteers make to society by selflessly giving up their time and energy to help other people, as well as inspiring others to try their hand at volunteering; understands that Volunteers' Week will be marked by thousands of charities, voluntary groups and social organisations coming together across hundreds of events and activities, including volunteer recruitment events, open days, coffee mornings and awards ceremonies, and culminating with "The Big Help Out", which is aimed at encouraging more people to become part of the volunteering community; sends its best wishes to everyone taking part in Volunteers' Week, and thanks all the volunteers for everything that they do in improving lives in Aberdeen and in communities across Scotland.

The meeting closed at 7.07 pm.

No. 12, Thursday 6 June 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister (Kate Forbes).

3. Permanently Ending Peak Rail Fares on ScotRail: The Parliament debated S6M-13270 in the name of Mark Ruskell—That the Parliament notes what it considers to be the success of the pilot scheme to remove peak rail fares, which has been in place since 2 October 2023 and has been further extended to the end of September 2024; believes that this has been an important tool in encouraging public transport use during the cost of living crisis, including for commuters in the Mid Scotland and Fife region; notes the belief that shifting commuters to low-carbon public transport is essential to drive down climate change emissions from the transport sector and contribute to the target of reducing car kilometres by 20% by 2030; further notes the support of the Scottish Trades Union Congress, and the rail unions RMT, ASLEF, TSSA and Unite, for the removal of peak time rail fares; notes the call to abolish peak time fares in the rail unions' joint report, A Vision for Scotland's Railways, published in October 2021, and further notes the calls on the Scottish Government to permanently abolish peak time rail fares.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13497—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limit indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:
Groups 1 to 4: 40 mins
Groups 5 to 7: 1 hour 30 mins.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

15 (For 58 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 55, Abstentions 0)
5 (For 65, Against 25, Abstentions 22 (including 1 proxy vote)).

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

23 (For 27 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 88, Abstentions 0)
16 (For 33 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 80, Abstentions 0)
24 (For 10, Against 83, Abstentions 21)
25 (For 32 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 83, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 17 and 18.

The following amendments were not moved: 19, 20, 21 and 22.

7. Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) moved S6M-13477—That the Parliament agrees that the Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 109, Against 0, Abstentions 0).

8. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.49 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.53 pm.

No. 13, Tuesday 11 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Dr Amy Orr-Ewing, author and theologian, and honorary lecturer at the University of Aberdeen, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. Scottish Government Priorities: Eradicating Child Poverty: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-13566—That the Parliament agrees that eradicating child poverty is a national mission for the Scottish Government, the Scottish Parliament and society; welcomes the progress made in delivering the Best Start, Bright Futures: Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2022-2026, with spend benefitting children in low-income households increasing to an estimated £1.4 billion in 2023; recognises the balance of action required across the three drivers of poverty reduction, which are income from employment, the cost of living and income from social security, as well as the need to drive improvements in wellbeing and outcomes for children and families; warns of the threat that UK Government austerity poses to the action and ambition of the Scottish Government in eradicating child poverty; notes modelling that estimates that 100,000 children will be kept out of relative poverty in the current year as a result of Scottish Government policies; further notes modelling that estimates that a further 40,000 children in Scotland could be lifted out of poverty were the UK Government to make key changes to social security, including by introducing an Essentials Guarantee and abolishing the two-child limit, and calls on the incoming UK administration to work collaboratively with the Scottish Government and to follow Scotland's lead in taking ambitious anti-poverty action. Douglas Ross moved amendment S6M-13566.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13566 in the name of John Swinney (Scottish Government Priorities: Eradicating Child Poverty), leave out from “warns” to end and insert “notes that around 24% of children live in poverty in Scotland and that this rate has remained largely unchanged since 2007; recognises that the number of children in temporary accommodation has reached over 9,000, which is an 8% increase on the previous figure; calls on the Scottish Government to use the powers that it has to take action, rather than produce more strategies, to tackle child poverty; notes that the Scottish Government has abandoned plans to close the poverty-related attainment gap and that its plans to roll out free childcare have been described as 'fragile'; agrees that the Scottish Government has failed to deliver all of the devolved benefits that could help tackle child poverty; regrets that the Scottish Government is reportedly returning £450 million of EU structural funds that could be used to tackle child poverty, and calls on the Scottish Government to work constructively with the UK Government to ensure that all children get the best start in life.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 27, Against 87 (including 1 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-13566.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13566 in the name of John Swinney (Scottish Government Priorities: Eradicating Child Poverty), leave out from first “eradicating” to end and insert “child poverty should be a national mission for the Scottish Government, but deeply regrets that after 17 years of a Scottish National Party (SNP) administration, child poverty levels, after housing costs, have remained static, and that the most recent child poverty single-year statistics estimate that the number of children in Scotland living in poverty has now increased in 2022-23 to 260,000; acknowledges that the Poverty and Inequality Commission's Scrutiny Report, published last week, provided a damning assessment of the SNP administration's progress on tackling child poverty across a number of areas, noting that progress from the Scottish Government 'is slow or not evident at all'; disagrees with the Scottish Government's decisions to slash the affordable housing budget, freeze the Scottish Welfare Fund, abandon parental employability schemes and decimate the Fuel Insecurity Fund, all of which act as barriers to prevent more children in Scotland falling into poverty; recognises that SNP inaction has been coupled with 14 years of dire economic mismanagement under the UK Conservative administration, which has led to increased child poverty rates across the UK; condemns the fact that, despite professing to tackle child poverty under successive First Ministers, child poverty is increasing, and the Scottish Government is now set to miss its interim reduction targets and its own legally-binding child poverty targets in 2030; urges the Scottish Government to heed the advice of its own expert advisors and take immediate and decisive action to reduce poverty across Scotland in the face of a decade of SNP inaction and failure, and welcomes the Labour Party's plan to introduce a New Deal for Working People to deliver a real Living Wage, review Universal Credit and build a fairer social security system, tackle the cost of living crisis with a publicly owned clean energy company that would help to pay to keep bills down, paid for with a proper windfall tax on record oil and gas profits, deliver affordable public transport and housing support, end problem debt, and provide help and support for families and households across Scotland.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 93, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 63, Against 27, Abstentions 24 (including 1 proxy vote)).

4. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13579— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Wednesday 12 June 2024—

delete

7.00 pm Decision Time

insert

5.15 pm Decision Time

(b) Thursday 13 June 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Scottish Parliament Corporate Body Questions

2.45 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Scottish Parliament Corporate Body Questions

2.15 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Ministerial Statement: European Structural and Investment Funds

The motion was agreed to.

5. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.56 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

7. Proposed Cuts to Renfrewshire HSCP Services: The Parliament debated S6M-12891 in the name of Neil Bibby—That the Parliament notes reports that Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) faces a £14.7 million budget blackhole as a result of Scottish Government underfunding and has proposed significant cuts to its local services, including in the West of Scotland region; recognises what it sees as the widespread concern amongst service users and families about the reported proposal to close Montrose Care Home, merge Mirin and Milldale Day Centres as well as withdraw funding for the Renfrewshire Head Injuries Service; believes that Montrose Care Home in Paisley is an excellent and vital public sector care home; further believes that the Mirin and Milldale day centres provide a lifeline service for hundreds of adults with learning disabilities and that the Quarries Renfrewshire Head Injuries Service provides invaluable support to over 80 users with complex and life-altering conditions; understands that serious concerns have been raised regarding the extent to which the consultations for these decisions have followed the proper processes and impact that they will have on hundreds of local families, including the workers, in Renfrewshire, and notes the belief that every effort should be made by the Scottish Government, Renfrewshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde to reverse these proposals.

The meeting closed at 5.36 pm.

No. 14, Wednesday 12 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic, and then on Finance and Local Government, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13580—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 45 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 1 hour 25 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

3. Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 7, 10 and 11.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

6 (For 29, Against 81 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 1)
9 (For 29, Against 79 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 1).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 2, 3 and 8.

The following amendments were not moved: 4 and 5.

4. Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill: Gillian Mackay moved S6M-13571—That the Parliament agrees that the Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 118 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 1, Abstentions 0).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13585—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 18 June 2024
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
8.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 19 June 2024
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care
followed by Ministerial Statement: 2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scottish Government Priorities: Growing the Economy
followed by Stage 3 Debate: Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
6.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 20 June 2024
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice
followed by Ministerial Statement: 2023-24 Provisional Outturn
followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government Response to Scotland's Housing Emergency

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
4.25 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Tuesday 25 June 2024
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
9.00 pm Decision Time
Wednesday 26 June 2024
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs; Education and Skills
followed by Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill
followed by Financial Resolution: Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill
followed by Stage 3 Debate: Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
6.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 27 June 2024
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
12.45 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

followed by Members' Business

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 17 June 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13616— That the Parliament agrees that the Early Release of Prisoners and Prescribed Victim Supporters (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 66, Against 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 5).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13586—That the Parliament agrees that the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 (Independent Health Care) Modification Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13587—That the Parliament agrees that the Healthcare Improvement Scotland (Inspections) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13588—That the Parliament agrees that the Carer's Assistance (Carer Support Payment) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13589—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Pubs Code Adjudicator (Duty to Publish Certain Information) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13590—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Pubs Code Adjudicator (Miscellaneous Listings) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13591—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Pubs Code Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

13. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13592—That the Parliament agrees that the Tied Pubs (Scottish Arbitration Rules) Amendment Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

14. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13593—That the Parliament agrees that the Tied Pubs (Fees and Financial Penalties) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

15. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13594—That the Parliament agrees that the Protected Trust Deeds (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

16 Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 5.11 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

17. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 as noted above.

18. Resolving Scotland's Rural Depopulation Crisis: The Parliament debated S6M-13416 in the name of Tim Eagle— That the Parliament believes that many rural communities across Scotland are facing a depopulation crisis; understands that the reasons for rural depopulation are many and varied, including a lack of affordable housing, unreliable public transport, ageing infrastructure, a lack of opportunities for young people, and the inability to easily access healthcare and education services; acknowledges the Scottish Government's recently published Action Plan to Address Depopulation, which states that 14 local authority areas, including Argyll and Bute and the Western Isles, are projected to have population decline over the next decade; notes the belief that significant interventions are required to reverse what it considers to be the trend of rural depopulation, and further notes the calls for MSPs

to work with impacted communities to implement measures that will deliver long-term stability, protection of local services and population growth.

19. Motion Without Notice: Tim Eagle moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.21 pm.

No. 15, Thursday 13 June 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Fostering a Discussion on a Kindergarten Stage in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-12369 in the name of Fulton MacGregor—That the Parliament acknowledges the body of international evidence on the reported benefits of play-based early years education; believes that active, social play is a natural learning drive that helps develop physical fitness, social skills, cognitive capacities and personal qualities; understands that Scotland and the rest of the UK are outliers in Europe in starting formal education at four or five years of age; considers that, since the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) comparisons began, countries with later school starting ages have performed better than those with earlier starts; understands that the UN defines early childhood as being from birth to eight years of age, and that Scottish research has established that there are significant differences in children's levels of development at age five; commends the work of organisations such as Upstart Scotland in promoting the needs of children in early years education based on relationship-centred, child-led, play-based environments, with a greater focus on outdoor learning; notes the belief that a universal play-based kindergarten stage, with a raised formal school starting age, could contribute to closing the attainment gap and be a significant anti-poverty measure, and that it would help provide a true level playing field for all of Scotland's children, including those in the Coatbridge and Chryston constituency, giving every child time to develop the skills and capacities that underpin educational success, improving long-term outcomes and giving every child the best start in life, and further notes the belief that there is a need for a national conversation on early years education to consider a later school starting age preceded by a relationship-centred, play-based kindergarten stage to support optimal development during early childhood and ensure secure foundations, and that such a conversation should be open to all who wish to contribute, including early years practitioners, parents, teachers, academics and children, as well as policy makers.

4. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions: Questions were answered by members of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on European Structural and Investment Funds.

7. Scottish Government Priorities: Investing in Scotland's Public Services: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved

S6M-13602—That the Parliament welcomes the Scottish Government's continued investment in public services and shares its commitment to maintaining high-quality services that people in Scotland need; recognises the key role that the workforce plays in delivering public services and welcomes that public sector pay is higher in Scotland than other parts of the UK; acknowledges the importance of a socially just and progressive approach to public service design and delivery, underpinned by fair work and a progressive tax policy; agrees that the UK Spring Budget fell far short of what Scotland needs to deliver further investment in public services and infrastructure, and will result in a cut in the Scottish core block grant of around £0.4 billion in real terms in 2024-25 compared with 2022-23; is concerned that significant, real-terms spending cuts, assessed by the Institute for Fiscal Studies as being up to £20 billion by 2028 across the UK, will be needed as a result of the economic plans of either a Labour or Conservative UK administration; calls on the incoming UK administration to bring forward an emergency budget to restore the £1.3 billion cut in Scotland's capital budget, and notes that, for as long as the Scottish Government remains on a fixed budget under the current devolution settlement, there are limits to what it can achieve in terms of investment in public services.

Liz Smith moved amendment S6M-13602.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13602 in the name of Shona Robison (Scottish Government Priorities: Investing in Scotland's Public Services), leave out from "acknowledges" to end and insert "notes that, in so many areas of devolved public services in Scotland such as education, health, local government, housing and justice, there has been a marked deterioration in the services provided over the last 17 years; acknowledges that Scotland is now the most highly taxed part of the UK and that people are paying more yet getting less from their public services; is concerned that, despite the Scottish Government receiving a record block grant, the failure of the New Deal for Business and the Scottish Government's lack of emphasis on economic growth have contributed to a very challenging fiscal environment, and calls on the Scottish Government to put in place economic policies that will reform the public sector, improve skills and training, reduce the tax burden and foster new investment and growth opportunities across the economy."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 24, Against 81 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Mark Griffin moved amendment S6M-13602.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13602 in the name of Shona Robison (Scottish Government Priorities: Investing in Scotland's Public Services), leave out from first "welcomes" to end and insert "recognises that communities across Scotland are being failed by the Scottish National Party (SNP) administration's approach to reform and funding of Scotland's public services; notes that there are significant issues across Scotland's vital public services, including in the NHS, education, local government and housing, and that these issues are having a real impact on inequality; understands that the SNP has consistently failed to deliver the reform that Scotland's public services have desperately needed over the last 17 years; recognises that

funding for local authorities has been cut by a cumulative total of over £6 billion since 2014, resulting in local authorities across Scotland being forced to make difficult decisions on the provision of essential services in order to make ends meet; understands that the NHS is particularly impacted by the SNP's failure to deliver reform, with £1.3 billion spent on delayed discharge since the Scottish Government committed to eradicate it, and millions spent every year on agency staff; recognises the invaluable contribution of Scotland's public sector workers, who deliver the services that people rely on in challenging circumstances; believes that improving the terms and conditions of workers across the public sector is essential, especially in areas such as social care; understands that financial mismanagement and a failure to deliver economic growth has resulted in less money being generated for investment in public services; recognises the role that technology can play in improving public services, and calls on the Scottish Government to prioritise economic growth to boost wages and create jobs in all parts of Scotland, as well as financial competence and transparency to ensure that all taxpayer money is used effectively and towards delivering the support and reform that Scotland's public services desperately need."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 45 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 61, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 61, Against 46 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.10 pm.

No. 16, Tuesday 18 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Bilal Wardak led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13692—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 18 June 2024—

delete

8.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

and insert

7.30 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 19 June 2024—

delete

followed by Stage 3 Debate: Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill

delete

6.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.00 pm Decision Time

Meghan Gallacher moved amendment S6M-13692.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13692 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Revision to Business Programme), insert at end—
>
> "(c) Thursday 20 June 2024—
>
> after
>
> *followed by* Stage 3 Proceedings: Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill
>
> insert
>
> *followed by* Ministerial Statement: Applying the Cass Review Recommendations to Scotland
>
> delete
>
> 4.25 pm Decision Time
>
> and insert
>
> 4.55 pm Decision Time".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 51 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Ministers.

4. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13670—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 1 hour 15 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 2 hours 10 minutes

Groups 7 to 9: 3 hours 5 minutes

Groups 10 to 12: 4 hours.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 8, 9, 24, 25, 11, 10, 12, 50, 3, 13, 52, 14, 1, 60, 6, 7, 62, 65 and 16.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

22 (For 86 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 0)
40 (For 104 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 7, Abstentions 0)
42 (For 88 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
43 (For 88 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
49 (For 86 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
5 (For 103 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 8, Abstentions 0)
15 (For 105 Including 2 proxy votes), Against 7, Abstentions 0)
70 (For 85 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
17 (For 87 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
71 (For 108 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 7, Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

18 (For 7, Against 104 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
19 (For 27, Against 83 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
20 (For 27, Against 86 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
2 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)

8A (For 27, Against 87 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
8B (For 27, Against 87 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
23 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
11A (For 45 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
10A (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 84 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
10B (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 85 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
10C (For 54 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 59 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
10D (For 46 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
10E (For 46(including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
28 (For 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 65 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
27 (For 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 65 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
30 (For 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 60 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
31 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 86 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
32 (For 25 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 89 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
33 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 88 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
34 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
35 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 86 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
36 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
37 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
38 (For 25 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 84 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
39 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
51 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
54 (For 46 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 66 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
55 (For 46 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 65 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
56 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
58 (For 26(including 1 proxy vote), Against 88 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)

61 (For 27 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
63 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
64 (For 56 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 58 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
67 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 89 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
68 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
69 (For 45 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 41, 44 and 57.

The following amendments were not moved: 21, 8C, 26, 29, 45, 46, 47, 48, 4, 53, 59, 66 and 72.

The Deputy Presiding Officer extended the time limit under Rule 9.8.4A(c).

The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved a motion without notice under Rule 9.8.5A to move the second time limit by up to 30 minutes. The motion was agreed to.

Under Rule 9.8.5B, the Deputy Presiding Officer notified Members that Decision Time would take place at 8.22 pm.

6. Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved S6M-13663—That the Parliament agrees that the Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 115 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

7. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13693—That the Parliament agrees that—

George Adam be appointed as a member of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Ben Macpherson be appointed as a member of the Criminal Justice Committee

Michelle Thomson be appointed to replace Colin Beattie as a member of the Economy and Fair Work Committee

Willie Coffey be appointed to replace Evelyn Tweed as a member of the Economy and Fair Work Committee

George Adam be appointed to replace Ruth Maguire as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee

John Mason be appointed to replace Ben Macpherson as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee

Evelyn Tweed be appointed to replace Michelle Thomson as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee

Joe Fitzpatrick be appointed as a member of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Emma Roddick be appointed to replace Stephanie Callaghan as a member of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Fulton MacGregor be appointed to replace Willie Coffey as a member of the Public Audit Committee

Colin Beattie be appointed to replace Alasdair Allan as a member of the Rural Affairs and Island Committee

Kevin Stewart be appointed to replace John Mason as a member of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee

Ruth Maguire be appointed as a member of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Joe Fitzpatrick be appointed to replace Jackie Dunbar as a member of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13694—That the Parliament agrees that Lorna Slater be appointed to replace Maggie Chapman as a member of the Economy and Fair Work Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13695—That the Parliament agrees that Maggie Chapman be appointed to replace Ariane Burgess as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Economy and Fair Work Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6, 7, 8 and 9 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

No. 17, Wednesday 19 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Màiri McAllan) made a statement and answered questions on 2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

3. Scottish Government Priorities: Growing the Economy: The Parliament debated S6M-13679 in the name of Kate Forbes—That the Parliament recognises that Scotland's abundant natural resources and hugely talented people mean that there is opportunity to build a strong, successful and inclusive economy that realises the new opportunities from the transition to net zero and the digital revolution; acknowledges that Scotland's economic potential can be realised through actions to support entrepreneurs, promote science and technology and ensure that the track record of innovation is translated into new businesses and improvements in productivity in all sectors of the economy, and agrees that doing so will build Scotland's global reputation as a great place to do business, grow exports and secure international and domestic investment.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-13679.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13679 in the name of Kate Forbes (Scottish Government Priorities: Growing the Economy), insert at end "; recognises that the best way to grow Scotland's economy is to attract people to come and work in Scotland and to ensure that economic and fiscal policy is focused on removing the barriers that have hampered business expansion; acknowledges that many businesses, particularly in rural areas, have been let down by the Scottish Government's anti-growth agenda and the supposed New Deal for Business; believes that the income tax differential between Scotland and the rest of the UK is damaging business and is an obstacle to economic growth; notes that this tax differential has become more pronounced due to the recent introduction of the new 'advanced' tax band; agrees that continually raising taxes over the long term ultimately reduces public revenue and creates disincentives in the economy; further agrees that broadening Scotland's tax base is essential to improve fiscal sustainability, and calls on the Scottish Government to take steps to make income tax competitive with the rest of the UK, to unleash Scotland's economic potential."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 88 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-13679.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13679 in the name of Kate Forbes (Scottish Government Priorities: Growing the Economy), insert at end "; acknowledges

> that the gap in GDP per capita between Scotland and the rest of the UK has widened since 2007 and that EY's Scottish spring forecast predicts that Scotland's growth will continue to lag the UK's in 2025; notes that Scotland's early-stage entrepreneurial activity rate of 8.8% is lower than the UK's rate of 11%; believes that businesses must be successful to build a strong economy and create the jobs that the country needs, and calls on the Scottish Government to work in partnership with business, listening to industry and workers, to deliver economic growth and the revenue needed to improve lives across Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Maggie Chapman moved amendment S6M-13679.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13679 in the name of Kate Forbes (Scottish Government Priorities: Growing the Economy), insert at end "; acknowledges the important contribution that community and social enterprises, cooperatives and other not-for-profit structures make to local economies, including local resilience and community wealth building; recognises the need to promote science and technology, but also creative and caring work that sustains Scotland's society and culture, and agrees that proper investment in the green economy is required to deliver the urgent transformations that are needed to develop an economy that has equality and fairness at its heart."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 88 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament recognises that Scotland's abundant natural resources and hugely talented people mean that there is opportunity to build a strong, successful and inclusive economy that realises the new opportunities from the transition to net zero and the digital revolution; acknowledges that Scotland's economic potential can be realised through actions to support entrepreneurs, promote science and technology and ensure that the track record of innovation is translated into new businesses and improvements in productivity in all sectors of the economy; agrees that doing so will build Scotland's global reputation as a great place to do business, grow exports and secure international and domestic investment; acknowledges the important contribution that community and social enterprises, cooperatives and other not-for-profit structures make to local economies, including local resilience and community wealth building; recognises the need to promote science and technology, but also creative and caring work that sustains Scotland's society and culture, and agrees that proper investment in the green economy is required to deliver the urgent transformations that are needed to develop an economy that has equality and fairness at its heart.

4. Business Programme: Alexander Burnett, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13696—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 25 June 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

9.00 pm Decision Time

Wednesday 26 June 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs; Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency

followed by Stage 3 Debate: Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

6.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 27 June 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.15 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

followed by Members' Business

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 24 June 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.
The motion was agreed to.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

6. WASPI PHSO Final Report Published: The Parliament debated S6M-12612 in the name of Clare Haughey— That the Parliament notes the findings from the UK Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) final report into the women's State Pension age and associated issues, published on 21 March 2024; understands that the PHSO has made a finding of failings by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) in this case, and has ruled that the women affected are owed compensation; believes that women born in the 1950s have been treated unfairly by accelerated changes to the State Pension age, under the Pensions Act 1995 and subsequent legislation, and that the changes were not adequately communicated to them; understands that the report finds that many 1950s-born women have experienced financial loss and a negative impact on their health, emotional wellbeing and home life as a result; further understands that around 3.6 million women are impacted, including an estimated 5,000 in the Rutherglen constituency; recognises that, in its stage one report published in 2021, the PHSO found "maladministration" on two counts, the first being in 2005 when the DWP failed to make a reasonable decision about targeting information to the women affected by these changes, and the second being when the DWP proposed, in 2006, writing to women individually to tell them about changes to the State Pension age, but reportedly failed to act promptly; regrets that, as per the findings in the final ombudsman report, the DWP has not acknowledged its failings nor put things right for those women affected, and that it has failed to offer any apology or explanation for its failings and has indicated that it will not compensate women affected by its failure; notes the reported comments by the PHSO chief executive, Rebecca Hilsenrath, that given the "significant concerns" that it has that the DWP will "fail to act on" its findings, and "given the need to make things right for the affected women as soon as possible" the PHSO has "proactively asked Parliament to intervene and hold the Department to account"; understands that the level of compensation recommended by the PHSO is between £1,000 and £2,950; notes, however, that in its submission to the PHSO, the UK Parliament's All-Party Parliamentary Group on State Pension Inequality for Women argued for compensation at Level 6 on the PHSO scale, of £10,000 or more; pays tribute to what it considers to be the tenacity, commitment and resolve of Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) campaigners who, it considers, despite experiencing what it sees as setback after setback from the UK Government, the PHSO, and in court, have never given up fighting for justice; highlights estimates from the WASPI campaign that, in the past nine years, an estimated 270,000 women impacted have sadly passed away without seeing proper compensation; believes that the WASPI activists have been vindicated in their lengthy campaigning for pensions justice by the PHSO's findings, and notes the calls for the UK Government and UK Parliament to act swiftly and set up a fair compensation scheme without delay in order to resolve this long-standing issue.

The meeting closed at 5.54 pm.

No. 18, Thursday 20 June 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. West Coast Ferry Disruption and Replacement: The Parliament debated S6M-13505 in the name of Jamie Greene—That the Parliament notes with concern reports of a number of ongoing issues affecting CalMac ferry services on the west coast of Scotland ahead of the busy summer tourist season; further notes, in particular, reportedly ongoing problems with the MV Caledonian Isles, which were identified during its annual overhaul; understands that, as a result of the loss of the MV Caledonian Isles, the summer timetable for 2024 will be supported by two vessels rather than three as usual; further understands that this has led to a severe reduction in capacity for both passengers and vehicles on the route, as the MV Isle of Arran operates a core single vessel timetable on the Ardrossan-Brodick route; understands that damage to the Irish Berth at Ardrossan Harbour means that the MV Alfred can no longer operate out of Ardrossan, further reducing route capacity, and notes the calls on the berth's owner, Peel Ports, to work with North Ayrshire Council, CalMac, CMAL and the Scottish Government to resolve any ongoing disputes surrounding port maintenance; considers that the Ardrossan-Brodick ferry is the busiest ferry route in Scotland, carrying 692,518 passengers in 2022; emphasises what it considers to be the importance of the tourism industry to Arran's communities; notes the calls for all political parties to ensure that Ardrossan remains the principal port for the Arran route in the long term; understands that the MV Isle of Arran is 40 years old, whilst the MV Caledonian Isles is 31 years old; notes with concern the recently announced delays to the delivery of the Glen Sannox vessel to the route; understands that CalMac paid out £454,165 in 2022-23 in compensation to passengers for delays or cancellations, which was almost eight times the £57,822 paid out in 2017-18; further understands that, between 2017 and 2023, 6,302 sailings were cancelled due to technical issues; understands that the age and condition of CalMac's vessels has led to a deficiency of spare capacity and resilience across the network; notes the calls for adequate and timely investment to boost the resilience of the fleet, including the commission of the small vessel replacement programme as soon as possible and a prompt resolution to the CHFS contract award that better meets the needs of island communities, and expresses sympathy with islanders who are affected most by disruption to sailings.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) made a statement and answered questions on 2023-24 Provisional Outturn.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Response to Scotland's Housing Emergency.

7. Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-13664—That the Parliament agrees that the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 108 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

8. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.18 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

10. Increasing Benefits Uptake in the Current Economic Climate: The Parliament debated S6M-12301 in the name of Evelyn Tweed—That the Parliament believes that it is important that people are accessing all the benefits that they are entitled to, especially in the current economic climate; notes reports from 2023 that £19 billion of benefits went unclaimed across the UK; understands that some benefits are especially undersubscribed; further understands that 25% of those eligible for the Young Carer Grant do not currently claim it, as well as 39% of those eligible for Funeral Support Payment; notes the encouragement for the people of Scotland, including those in the Stirling constituency, to ensure that they are receiving all the support that they are eligible for; highlights what it sees as the useful services available, such as Citizens Advice Scotland, Age UK, and various online calculators to help individuals identify benefits that they may be missing out on; understands that Advice Direct Scotland's benefits calculator allows people to check their entitlement to both devolved and reserved benefits, and that it has been used by 56,000 people to identify over £43 million of unclaimed money; believes that a level of stigma is still associated with accessing some benefits; notes the belief that, although great work is underway, more work is required in this area, and recognises the stakeholders that are working to widen access to and reduce the stigma associated with benefits.

The meeting closed at 5.10 pm.

No. 19, Tuesday 25 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Margaret McArthur, Minister, Cardross Parish Church, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13779—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 25 June 2024—

delete

9.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

10.10 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 26 June 2024—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs; Education and Skills

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: European Structural and Investment Funds

(c) Thursday 27 June 2024—

after

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

insert

followed by Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Debate: Standing Order Rule Changes - Procedures on Consent in Relation to UK Parliament Bills

followed by Appointment of Scottish Minister and Junior Scottish Minister

delete

2.15 pm Decision Time

and insert

2.30 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a minister.

4. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13760—That the Parliament

agrees that, during stage 3 of the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 1 hour 45 minutes

Groups 4 and 5: 2 hours 30 minutes

Groups 6 and 7: 3 hours 35 minutes

Groups 8 to 10: 5 hours

Groups 11 to 13: 7 hours

Groups 14 and 15: 7 hours 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill- Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 40, 41, 42, 65, 72, 43, 45, 73, 74, 66, 75, 76, 46, 47, 48, 67, 77, 100, 68, 78, 79, 81, 82, 34, 83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 64 and 92.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

44 (For 96 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 19 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
91 (For 97 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 19 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
64A (For 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

38 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
93 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
94 (For 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 61 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
95 (For 29 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 57 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 29)
96 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
97 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 66 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
44A (For 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)

99 (For 52 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 60 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
1 (For 29, Against 83 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
49 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
50 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 65 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
52 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
51 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
80 (For 7, Against 89 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 19 (including 1 proxy vote))
101 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 69 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
71 (For 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 65 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
54 (For 47 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 69 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
10 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
36 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 69 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
11 (For 52 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 60 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
56 (For 28, Against 87 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
58 (For 54 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 61 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
102 (For 57 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 59 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
103 (For 54 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 62 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
60 (For 51 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 65 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
61 (For 46 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 69 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
62 (For 55 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 62 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
104 (For 55 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 62 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
63 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 31, 105.

The following amendments were not moved: 39, 98, 33, 2, 3, 69, 70, 53, 4, 35, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 55, 86, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 57, 59, 21, 37, 89, 90, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30.

6. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 7.55 pm.
The motion was agreed to.

7. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

No. 20, Wednesday 26 June 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, then on Justice and Home Affairs, and then on Education and Skills were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on European Structural and Investment Funds.

3. Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency: The Minister for Climate Action (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-13759—That the Parliament reaffirms its unwavering commitment to tackling the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss through a just and fair transition; believes firmly in, and accepts, climate science and expert advice and its importance in reaching net zero, and rejects, therefore, climate science denial.

Douglas Lumsden moved amendment S6M-13759.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13759 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency), insert at end "; urges the Scottish Government, in light of this, to reverse its anti-science approach to new nuclear technology; notes that the Scottish Government has missed nine of the past 13 climate change targets, and that its decision to scrap the 2030 target reflected concerns raised by the Climate Change Committee that the Scottish Government's approach to climate change was no longer feasible and had no clear delivery plan; urges the Scottish Government to be transparent with its approach to climate change and to publish the Climate Change Plan as soon as possible, and recognises that the proposed new Climate Change Bill should be appropriately scrutinised and contain realistic targets to help Scotland reach net zero."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-13759.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13759 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency), insert at end "; notes that the Scottish Government is still to legislate after announcing that the Scottish Ministers planned to scrap Scotland's legal climate targets, and regrets that Scotland's ambitious legal targets were not backed up by ambitious action from the Scottish Government, despite consistent cross-party support in the Parliament and the Climate Change Committee's belief that reaching the targets was previously achievable."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 58 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 59 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Patrick Harvie moved amendment S6M-13759.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-13759 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scottish Government Priorities: Tackling the Climate Emergency), after "transition" insert "; recognises that this is currently not happening at the pace required by climate science, and that Scotland's emission cuts since targets were first set have been inadequate; believes that significant policy change is required to achieve emission cuts, especially in transport, land use and heating; agrees with the UN Secretary General's description of fossil fuel companies as 'the godfathers of climate chaos'; further agrees that investment in new fossil fuel production and infrastructure cannot be justified".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 8, Against 108 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Climate Action (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-13757—That the Parliament agrees that the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 116 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13780—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 3 September 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 4 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 5 September 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 10 September 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 11 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 12 September 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 2 September 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13792—That the Parliament agrees that the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) Amendment Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 0, Abstentions 46 (including 1 proxy vote)).

7. Approval of Proposed Revised Social Security Charter: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13781—That the Parliament agrees that the Proposed Revised Social Security Charter (SG/2024/96) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13782—That the Parliament agrees that Patrick Harvie be appointed to replace Mark Ruskell as a member of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee.
The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13783—That the Parliament agrees that—

Jackie Dunbar be appointed to replace Kevin Stewart as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee;

Elena Whitham be appointed to replace Fulton MacGregor as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee;

Collette Stevenson be appointed to replace Colin Beattie as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, and

Rona Mackay be appointed to replace Alasdair Allan as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-13784—That the Parliament agrees that—

Gillian Mackay be appointed to replace Ross Greer as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee;

Lorna Slater be appointed to replace Mark Ruskell as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee;

Lorna Slater be appointed to replace Maggie Chapman as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, and

Patrick Harvie be appointed to replace Maggie Chapman as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Committee Remits: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M- 13795— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the remits of committees—

Name of Committee: Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

(a) the Scottish Government’s EU and external affairs policy;

(b) policy in relation to the UK’s exit from the EU;

(c) the international activities of the Scottish Administration, including international development; and

(d) any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and any matter relating to intergovernmental relations within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

(e) matters falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Independence.

New Remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

(a) the Scottish Government's EU and external affairs policy;

(b) policy in relation to the UK's exit from the EU;

(c) the international activities of the Scottish Administration, including international development; and

(d) any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and any matter relating to intergovernmental relations within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

Name of Committee: Economy and Fair Work Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to net zero and energy.

New remit: To consider and report on matters within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic, with the exception of Gaelic; and on matters relating to just transition.

Name of Committee: Education, Children and Young People Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills and matters relating to the Historical Abuse Inquiry and redress falling within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

New Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills and matters relating to the Historical Abuse Inquiry, redress and languages falling within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

Name of Committee: Finance and Public Administration Committee

Remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

(a) any report or other document containing proposals for, or budgets of, public revenue or expenditure or proposals for the making of a Scottish rate resolution, taking into account any report or recommendations concerning such documents

made by any other committee with power to consider such documents or any part of them;

(b) any report made by a committee setting out proposals concerning public revenue or expenditure;

(c) Budget Bills; and

(d) any other matter relating to or affecting the revenue or expenditure of the Scottish Administration or other monies payable into or expenditure payable out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund.

(e) matters relating to public service reform and the National Performance Framework within the responsibilities of the Deputy First Minister and public administration.

New remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

(a) any report or other document containing proposals for, or budgets of, public revenue or expenditure or proposals for the making of a Scottish rate resolution, taking into account any report or recommendations concerning such documents made by any other committee with power to consider such documents or any part of them;

(b) any report made by a committee setting out proposals concerning public revenue or expenditure;

(c) Budget Bills; and

(d) any other matter relating to or affecting the revenue or expenditure of the Scottish Administration or other monies payable into or expenditure payable out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund.

(e) matters relating to the National Performance Framework within the responsibilities of the Deputy First Minister, public service reform within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, and public administration.

Name of Committee: Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care and matters relating to drugs and alcohol policy.

New remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care.

Name of Committee: Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters relating to local government and planning falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and matters relating to housing and tenants' rights within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice and matters relating to the Local Government Boundary Commission and local governance review and democratic renewal within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister.

New remit: To consider and report on matters relating to local government and planning falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, matters relating to housing and tenants' rights within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, and matters relating to local government boundaries, local governance review and democratic renewal.

Name of Committee: Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

Remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to wellbeing economy, and just transition; and on matters relating to land reform, natural resources and peatland, Scottish Land Commission; Crown Estate Scotland, and Royal Botanic Garden within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands.

New remit: To consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to just transition; and on matters relating to land reform, natural resources and peatland, Scottish Land Commission, Crown Estate Scotland and Royal Botanic Garden within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 as noted above.

13. Immediate Recognition of the State of Palestine: The Parliament debated S6M-13609 in the name of Humza Yousaf—That the Parliament notes calls urging the UK Government to join its European neighbours, Ireland, Spain and Norway, in immediately recognising the State of Palestine; understands that 144 member states of the United Nations recognise Palestine as a sovereign state; believes that a two-state solution is the only viable path for peace between Israel and Palestine, and that there can only be a two-state solution if a sovereign Palestinian state is immediately recognised and co-exists alongside Israel; further believes that Palestinian statehood is an inalienable right of the people of Palestine, not a privilege that can be vetoed by others; notes in horror the continued suffering of the people of Gaza; commends aid organisations, and community groups across Scotland, including in Glasgow Pollok, which are donating funds and sending aid to ease the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza; notes the calls urging the Government of Israel to allow unimpeded access to Gaza for humanitarian aid, and further notes the calls for an immediate ceasefire, an end to arms sales to Israel and the immediate release of all hostages.

14. Motion without Notice: Humza Yousaf moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 7.22 pm.

No. 21, Thursday 27 June 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Standing Order Rule Changes - Procedures on Consent in Relation to UK Parliament Bills: Martin Whitfield, on behalf of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, moved S6M-13746—That the Parliament notes the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 4th Report, 2024 (Session 6), Standing Order Rule changes - Procedures on consent in relation to UK Parliament Bills (SP Paper 627), and agrees that the rule changes to Standing Orders set out in annexe B of the report be made with effect from 2 July 2024.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Appointment of Scottish Minister: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-13771—That the Parliament agrees that Gillian Martin be appointed as a Scottish Minister.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Appointment of Junior Scottish Minister: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-13772—That the Parliament agrees that Alasdair Allan be appointed as a junior Scottish Minister.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-13758—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-13523—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 2.28 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 6 and 7 as noted above.

10. Action Mesothelioma Day 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-13487 in the name of Marie McNair— That the Parliament recognises Action Mesothelioma Day 2024, which is on 5 July 2024; understands that mesothelioma is a rare cancer that is usually caused by exposure to asbestos, with tiny fibres getting into the lungs and damaging them over time; notes that the cancer most commonly occurs in the lining of the lung, but can also occur in the lining of the abdomen and the lining of the heart, with symptoms including shortness of breath, chest pain, coughing and tiredness; understands that there are around 2,700 new mesothelioma cases in the UK every year, including around 200 in Scotland; recognises that Action Mesothelioma Day is a national event to raise awareness of asbestos and mesothelioma, raise vital funds to support the research into tackling mesothelioma, and to remember and support those who have been affected by the disease; notes with interest that a £2.1 million Cancer Research UK grant has been awarded to the University of Glasgow with the aim of answering the question of why it can take decades for exposure to the fibrous mineral to develop into cancer; applauds the long-standing and ongoing work of the Clydebank Asbestos Group, which has provided information and support to people with asbestos-related conditions for over 30 years; notes the calls for continued research into mesothelioma, and hopes for a successful Action Mesothelioma Day 2024.

11. Rural and Island Digital Connectivity Challenges: The Parliament debated S6M-13640 in the name of Beatrice Wishart— That the Parliament notes with concern that many households in rural and island Scotland face challenges regarding digital connectivity; understands that Ofcom reports that 25% of Shetland households have broadband speeds of less than 30Mbps; further understands that, despite the initial Scottish Government ambition to connect every household to superfast broadband by 2021 through the R100 programme, it is now estimated that full R100 rollout will not be achieved until 2028; notes the reported intention of telecommunications companies to retire the copper phone line network and replace phone lines with digital connections using fibre broadband; understands that this replacement is due by 2027; notes with concern reports that many households are unable to switch to digital phone lines due to lack of broadband connectivity in their area, which, it understands, can cause particular problems for customers with healthcare devices that use the phone line, or those who live in areas with poor mobile phone signal; expresses its disappointment that rural and island households are facing such difficulties, particularly in light of increasingly frequent adverse weather events, which, it understands, put rural and island households at risk of power outages; considers that poor 4G signal in rural and island areas has negative implications for businesses and education; understands that many households in Scotland are unable to be connected to smart meters due to poor connectivity of the smart meter network in their areas, with latest figures showing that less than 10% of

households in Scotland's island groups have smart meters; further understands that many of these households still use legacy radio teleswitch meters, with Scotland having a higher proportion of these meters than other parts of the UK; notes with concern that the radio teleswitch signal is due to be switched off by 30 June 2025, which, it believes, could leave households stuck paying higher tariffs; further notes the belief that a digital divide is detrimental, and notes the calls for both of Scotland's governments to work together to address the digital connectivity challenges facing households in rural and island Scotland.

The meeting closed at 3.39 pm.

No. 22, Tuesday 3 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Ruth Donaldson, Church Relationships Team Leader UK, CSW, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14246—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 3 September 2024—

delete

followed by Scottish Government Business

and insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Community Cohesion

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government Pre-Budget Fiscal Update

followed by Ministerial Statement: Gender Identity Healthcare for Young People – Update and New National Standards

followed by Ministerial Statement: Clyde and Hebrides Ferries - Provision, Service and Harbours Update

followed by Ministerial Statement: Mobile Phones and Behaviour and Relationships in School

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.05 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 4 September 2024—

delete

followed by Scottish Government Business

and insert

followed by First Minister’s Statement: Programme for Government 2024-25

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government 2024-25

(c) Thursday 5 September 2024—

delete

followed by Scottish Government Business

and insert

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government - Eradicating Child Poverty

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

4. Ministerial Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Community Cohesion.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Pre-Budget Fiscal Update.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Public Health and Women's Health (Jenni Minto) made a statement and answered questions on Gender Identity Healthcare for Young People – Update and New National Standards.

7. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) made a statement and answered questions on Clyde and Hebrides Ferries - Provision, Service and Harbours Update.

8. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) made a statement and answered questions on Mobile Phones and Behaviour and Relationships in School.

9. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

10. A New Winchburgh Train Station: The Parliament debated S6M-14125 in the name of Sue Webber— That the Parliament notes the view that there is a need for a new train station at Winchburgh; further notes the belief that a new station is essential because Winchburgh people need a sustainable, low-carbon alternative to the car to access jobs and services in Edinburgh, especially in light of 4,000 extra homes reportedly being built as part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal; understands that a study from transport consultants, Systra, estimates that a station would remove just short of 420,000 car journeys a year, which will help the Scottish Government and local authorities to achieve their net zero goals; further understands that passengers would save £2.4 million per year, and that there will be £3.5 million of decongestion benefits per year; notes that Winchburgh Developments has already spent over £50 million on transport improvements for the town, including a new junction on the M9, and welcomes its ambition and work towards bringing what is considered to be this vital transport link to Winchburgh.

The meeting closed at 6.06 pm.

No. 23, Wednesday 4 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic, and then on Finance and Local Government, were answered by the Deputy First Minister, a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement on Programme for Government 2024-25.

3. Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government 2024-25: The Parliament debated Programme for Government 2024-25.

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14305—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 10 September 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 11 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 12 September 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Ministerial Statement: National Mission to Reduce Deaths and Improve Lives of People Impacted by Drugs and Alcohol

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government - Growing Scotland's Green Economy

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 17 September 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Languages Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 18 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 19 September 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 9 September 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14306—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 27 September 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14307—That the Parliament agrees that the Tied Pubs (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14308—That the Parliament agrees that Daniel Johnson be appointed to replace Foysol Choudhury as a member of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Office of the Clerk: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14309—That the Parliament agrees that between 1 February 2025 and 31 January 2026, the Office of the Clerk will be open on all days except: Saturdays and Sundays, 18 April, 21 April, 5 May,

23 May, 26 May, 12 September, 28 November, 24 December (pm), 25 December and 26 December 2025, and 1 and 2 January 2026.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6, 7 and 8 as noted above.

10. Tackling the Misuse of Off-road Vehicles: The Parliament debated S6M-13189 in the name of Bob Doris—That the Parliament acknowledges what it sees as the significant public safety issues regarding the misuse of off-road vehicles, including quad bikes, being used dangerously, inappropriately and often illegally on roads, footpaths and various open spaces, which, it believes, poses a serious risk of injury and risk to life for those driving such vehicles, as well as others within the community; considers that their misuse can also have a detrimental impact on a community due to nuisance, antisocial behaviour and damage caused; notes the belief that registration of off-road vehicles, which is a reserved power, may assist Police Scotland with what it considers to be the often hazardous and unenviable tasks regarding policing, identification and enforcement; further notes that the Off-Road Vehicles (Registration) Bill is being progressed by Anne McLaughlin MP within the UK Parliament, and that the UK Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport has agreed to establish a task force to look at the wider issues caused by off-road vehicles, and notes the belief that such a working group in Scotland should include the Scottish Government, local authorities, Police Scotland and others to consider what more can be done to keep the public safe and nuisance-free from the misuse of off-road vehicles across Scotland, including in the Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn constituency.

The meeting closed at 5.50 pm.

No. 24, Thursday 5 September 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Recognising the UN's Declaration for Future Generations: The Parliament debated S6M-14137 in the name of Sarah Boyack—That the Parliament recognises the UN's Declaration on Future Generations, a document launched in relation to the UN's Summit of the Future in September 2024; acknowledges the calls urging Scotland to be governed with future generations and their interests in mind; notes the belief that Scotland must commit to playing its part to seize the global opportunity that present generations possess to leave a better future for generations to come, and further notes calls to advance the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, including in the Lothian region, in order to build strong and resilient foundations to achieve this.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Programme for Government – Eradicating Child Poverty: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) moved S6M-14322—That the Parliament notes the actions set out in the Programme for Government 2024-25 that focus on eradicating child poverty as the single greatest priority for the Scottish Government; recognises that sustained and cohesive effort is needed across all levels of government and in all parts of society to deliver on this national mission, especially at a time when the public finances are under acute pressure after 14 years of austerity; welcomes continued investment of around £3 billion in 2024-25 to eradicate poverty, mitigate the impacts of the cost of living crisis and invest in prevention to break the cycle of poverty; notes analysis of the Child Poverty Action Group, which estimates that low-income families in Scotland will be around £28,000 better off by the time that their child turns 18 when compared to other families across the UK; further notes modelling that estimates that 100,000 children will be kept out of relative poverty this year as a result of Scottish Government policies such as the Scottish Child Payment; recognises the Scottish Government's commitment to working constructively with the UK Government to end child poverty once and for all, and agrees that the UK Government has the opportunity to lift thousands of children out of poverty in Scotland by taking action in the Autumn Budget to remove the two-child limit.

Miles Briggs moved amendment S6M-14322.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14322 in the name of Jenny Gilruth (Programme for Government - Eradicating Child Poverty), leave out from "14" to end and insert "17 years of financial mismanagement by the Scottish Government; notes that 26% of children live in poverty in Scotland, and that this

rate has remained largely unchanged since 2007; recognises that the number of children in temporary accommodation has reached 10,000, which has increased by 138% since 2014; urges the Scottish Government to recognise that child poverty has a detrimental impact on the health of children, and notes that, by September 2023, the percentage of children waiting over 12 weeks for medical care increased to 49.8%, and that the total number of paediatric waits was 10,512, which was a 114.6% increase from October 2012; calls on the Scottish Government to recognise that the poverty-related attainment gap poses another barrier for children, and notes that, in 2024, the pass rates at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher were at record low levels since 2016; urges the Scottish Ministers to accept the findings of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee's report, Addressing Child Poverty Through Parental Employment, and calls on the Scottish Government to deliver a holistic strategy for tackling child poverty, which ensures that no child in Scotland goes without safe housing, modern and efficient local healthcare, and high-quality educational opportunities."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 91 (including 3 by proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-14322.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-14322 in the name of Jenny Gilruth (Programme for Government - Eradicating Child Poverty), leave out from first "notes" to end and insert "agrees that child poverty should be a national mission for the Scottish Government, but deeply regrets that, after 17 years of a Scottish National Party (SNP) administration, there are 30,000 more children in poverty; acknowledges that child poverty rates across the UK have risen under the economic mismanagement of the previous Conservative administration, but also recognises that Scotland has its own legally-binding child poverty reduction targets that the SNP administration is likely to miss, despite successive First Ministers declaring action on child poverty to be a priority; notes the damning assessment by Scotland's Poverty and Inequality Commission that progress from the SNP administration in tackling child poverty "is slow or not evident at all"; is deeply concerned by the Scottish Government's decision to cut measures that act as barriers to poverty, including cuts to the affordable housing budget, parental employability schemes, the Fuel Insecurity Fund and the freeze to the Scottish Welfare Fund; condemns cuts to education funding, including the Pupil Equity Fund, digital device provision and attainment funding in the poorest local authorities; agrees that there is a need to tackle in-work poverty and so welcomes the work of the UK Labour administration to strengthen workers' rights, review Universal Credit, build a fairer social security system, and deliver a pay rise for 200,000 of the lowest-paid people in Scotland with a genuine living wage; welcomes the establishment of a cross-government Child Poverty Ministerial Taskforce by the UK Government, and encourages the Scottish Government to work collaboratively to tackle the root causes of poverty across Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21 (including 1 by proxy vote), Against 95 (including 2 by proxy vote), Abstentions 4).

Maggie Chapman moved amendment S6M-14322.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-14322 in the name of Jenny Gilruth (Programme for Government - Eradicating Child Poverty), leave out from "; further notes" to "once and for all" and insert ", but also notes the Child Poverty Action Group's finding that Scottish Government policy is not yet adequate to ensure that child poverty targets are met, and that bold, decisive action is required; believes that part of that bold, decisive action must include increasing the Scottish Child Payment to at least £40 a week by the end of the current parliamentary session, providing accessible employability support, especially for lone parents, and establishing an independent review of childcare in Scotland to ensure the provision of what is most needed, as well as robust rent controls to complement affordable housing; notes with deep concern the apparent change in position from the Scottish Government on free school meal provision for all primary school children, with the Programme for Government only committed to expanding free school meals to those in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment in P6 and P7; calls on the Scottish Government to urgently confirm whether it is still its intention to complete the full roll-out that was previously promised; believes that the previously promised Human Rights Bill for Scotland would have provided the framework for improving Scotland's public services, delivering its minimum core obligations, and thereby eradicating child poverty; expresses its deep dismay that the Human Rights Bill does not appear in the Programme for Government; calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that the burdens of its financial decisions do not fall upon the shoulders of Scotland's most marginalised people, including families in poverty".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 8, Against 113 (including 3 by proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 67 (including 2 by proxy vote), Against 54 (including 1 by proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.12 pm.

No. 25, Tuesday 10 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Father Gerard Hatton, Administrator of St Patrick's Church, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

3. Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-14398—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance)—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Committee Announcement: Kenneth Gibson, on behalf of the Finance and Public Administration Committee, made an announcement on Quality and Consistency of Financial Memorandums.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3 and 4 as noted above.

7. Repealing the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020: The Parliament debated S6M-14113 in the name of Kenneth Gibson— That the Parliament recognises the ongoing and potentially far-reaching implications of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020 (UKIMA) as, it considers, a repeated and systematic undermining of devolution and the Scottish Parliament; considers that, despite the previous UK administration's stated commitment to work through intergovernmental structures during the Brexit process, the UKIMA is one of four instances where UK Conservative ministers chose to disregard the Sewel Convention, following the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020, and the European Union (Future Relationship) Act 2020; understands that the introduction of the mutual recognition and non-discrimination principles obligate Scotland to accept goods and services from other parts of the UK, even if they do not meet Scotland's higher regulatory standards, or correspond with key local policies such as minimum alcohol unit pricing, which has an exemption in the Act but, it considers, can still technically be caught by the UKIMA's non-discrimination principle, or the prohibition of certain single-use plastics, as well as other devolved areas if deemed to undermine barriers

to trade under the UKIMA; considers that UK ministers can now impose market access principles on devolved policy areas without input from the devolved legislature, most concerningly in areas such as healthcare, where the UK Government can subject “healthcare services provided in hospitals” and “other healthcare facilities or at other places” to market principles in Scotland; highlights its concern following the current UK Secretary of State for Health and Social Care’s reported proclamation to “[hold] the door wide open” to private interests in the NHS; considers that UK ministers can now make spending decisions on devolved matters and have already used these powers to replace programmes previously administered via European Structural Funds; understands that the Labour Party, Liberal Democrats, Scottish National Party and Green Party rejected the UKIMA in the House of Commons and that it received the largest government defeat in the House of Lords since 1999; further understands that the UK Government did not seek legislative consent from the devolved legislatures; recalls that the Scottish Parliament voted on a motion for debate refusing consent, which was supported by the Scottish Labour Party, Scottish Liberal Democrats, Scottish Green Party and Scottish National Party, which it understands was only the second instance since the Parliament's establishment in which consent has been withheld, following the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020; understands that, during the passage of the United Kingdom Internal Market Bill, a range of stakeholders, including business and farming organisations, environmental groups, public health charities and professional organisations, raised concerns, which it considers were downplayed or not acknowledged by the UK Government, and notes the calls on the UK Labour administration to repeal the UKIMA, restore respect for the devolution settlement, and ensure that the rights and interests of the people in the Cunninghame North constituency and elsewhere in Scotland are upheld.

The meeting closed at 5.47 pm.

No. 26, Wednesday 11 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands and then NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Free School Meals for all Primary Pupils: Liam Kerr moved S6M-14406—
That the Parliament believes that free school lunches should be provided for all primary school children, including provision in the school holidays, in this parliamentary session, as promised by the Scottish Government.

The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) moved amendment S6M-14406.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14406 in the name of Liam Kerr (Free School Meals for all Primary Pupils), insert at end "; notes, however, that the impact of the austerity agenda pursued by the previous Conservative and current Labour UK administrations has reduced the value of Scotland's budget, meaning that the required combined capital and revenue funding of £256 million is not available to deliver fully during the current parliamentary session; recommits the Scottish Government to full universal delivery for all primary pupils when the budgetary position allows; recognises the progress that has already been made with the delivery of free school meals to all children in P1 to P5, special schools, as well as eligible pupils in P6 to S6; welcomes that the Scottish Government will now make further progress with expansion to P6 and P7 pupils in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment, which will see an additional 26,000 children benefit, and calls on the UK Government to change its fiscal rules to end austerity and allow increased investment in public services to eradicate child poverty."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 62 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Pam Duncan-Glancy moved amendment S6M-14406.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14406 in the name of Liam Kerr (Free School Meals for all Primary Pupils), insert at end ", and regrets the Scottish National Party administration's repeated broken promises to Scotland's children and young people."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 63 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 63 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0 – by casting vote).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 2, Abstentions 60 (including 3 proxy votes)).

3. Ending Peak Rail Fares on ScotRail Trains: Graham Simpson moved S6M-14405—That the Parliament calls on the Scottish Government to reverse its decision to reintroduce peak fares on Scotland's railway.

The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) moved amendment S6M-14405.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14405 in the name of Graham Simpson (Ending Peak Rail Fares on ScotRail Trains), leave out from "calls" to end and insert "notes that the pioneering Scottish Government 12-month trial removal of peak rail fares has not been introduced anywhere else in Britain; regrets that the trial, which cost up to £40 million of Scottish Government support, was only a partial success in encouraging rail use; notes the reluctant decision by the Scottish Government to end the trial due to the fiscal constraints chosen by successive UK administrations; encourages rail passengers to take advantage of the new range of reduced season, flexi and super off-peak tickets, and calls on the Scottish Government to make use of the valuable data from the trial in further developing its rail fare policy."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 62 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Alex Rowley moved amendment S6M-14405.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14405 in the name of Graham Simpson (Ending Peak Rail Fares on ScotRail Trains), insert at end ", and agrees that making public transport more accessible, affordable and reliable is key to supporting more people to use public transport."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).
The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 64 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 62 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament calls on the Scottish Government to reverse its decision to reintroduce peak fares on Scotland's railway and agrees that making public transport more accessible, affordable and reliable is key to supporting more people to use public transport.

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14417—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 17 September 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Languages Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 18 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Creating a Modern, Diverse, Dynamic Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 19 September 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government Response to the Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 24 September 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 25 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Education, Children and Young People Committee Debate: Additional Support for Learning

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 26 September 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 16 September 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14418—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 4 October 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14419—That the Parliament agrees that —

James Dornan be appointed to replace Fulton MacGregor as a member of the Public Audit Committee;

Fulton MacGregor be appointed to replace Gordon MacDonald as a member of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee;

and Michael Matheson be appointed to replace Ben Macpherson as a member of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14420—That the Parliament agrees that Ben Macpherson be appointed to replace Collette Stevenson as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3, 6 and 7 as noted above.

9. Retrofitting and Tenement Maintenance: The Parliament debated S6M-14024 in the name of Graham Simpson— That the Parliament welcomes the publication of the report, Meeting Scotland's Retrofit Challenge: solutions from the industry, jointly published by 14 leading built environment sector organisations; recognises that this paper follows a "Retrofit Roundtable" meeting convened at the Scottish Parliament in May 2023; notes the support for the report's key policy recommendations to establish a Ministerial Oversight Group on Retrofit and to develop a long-term Retrofit Delivery Plan with a joined-up approach to funding, regulating and incentivising retrofit work across Scotland, including in the Central Scotland region; further notes the calls on the Scottish Government to significantly increase the pace and scale of retrofit projects being undertaken across the country; welcomes the publication of the Scottish Law Commission's discussion paper on the proposed scheme for owners' associations; recognises that this discussion paper follows the work of the Tenement Maintenance Working Group, convened at the Scottish Parliament in March 2018, which was established to explore actions that could be taken to improve the condition of Scotland's tenements; acknowledges that the Scottish Law Commission's discussion project responds to the Tenement Maintenance Working Group's recommendation that every tenement building in Scotland should have an owners' association to coordinate work to the building and a corresponding reference received from the Scottish Government to that effect in January 2022, and notes the discussion paper's proposals concerning the functions,

powers and duties of a tenement owners' association, including the role of an association manager, decision-making procedures, liability of owners for costs and the implementation of an annual budgeting system.

10. Motion without Notice: Graham Simpson moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.29 pm.

No. 27, Thursday 12 September 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. The Late Reverend John Ainslie: The Parliament debated S6M-13909 in the name of Bill Kidd— That the Parliament recognises the enormous contribution to the debate on nuclear weapons that was made by the late Reverend John Ainslie in the Glasgow Anniesland constituency, the Parliament and throughout Scotland; celebrates the publication, in an accessible and searchable digital form, of the archive of all of his reports by the Nuclear Information Service, and welcomes the return of the physical papers for safekeeping by the National Library of Scotland.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Programme for Government – Growing Scotland's Green Economy: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-14431—That the Parliament recognises the actions outlined in the Programme for Government 2024-25 to grow the economy, eradicate child poverty, invest in Scotland's public services, and tackle the climate and nature emergencies; welcomes the publication of the Green Industrial Strategy to ensure that Scotland and its communities benefit economically from the global transition to net zero, including the creation of good, well-paid jobs; acknowledges the need to translate Scotland's strengths into competitive advantages in the global race; agrees that actions to promote investment, attract and develop a skilled workforce, support fair work and encourage innovation are essential for transforming Scotland's economy, and recognises that, by laying out concrete actions to accelerate the transition to net zero and position the green economy for long-term success, the Green Industrial Strategy will help build internationally competitive clusters in sectors such as onshore and offshore wind, carbon capture and storage, and green professional services.

Douglas Lumsden moved amendment S6M-14431.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14431 in the name of Kate Forbes (Programme for Government - Growing Scotland's Green Economy), leave out from first "recognises" to end and insert "is disappointed with the actions outlined in the Programme for Government 2024-25, as they fail to set out an ambitious plan to grow Scotland's green economy and tackle the climate and nature emergencies; notes with disappointment the short time available to MSPs, industry experts and vital stakeholders to scrutinise the Green Industrial Strategy, which undermines the Scottish Parliament's ability to hold the Scottish Government to account; expresses dissatisfaction with the Scottish Government in its failure to publish the delayed Energy Strategy and Just

> Transition Plan and its continued opposition to vital oil and gas extraction; condemns the UK Labour administration's windfall tax, which risks 35,000 jobs and reduces the economic value of the oil and gas sector by £13 billion, and calls on the Scottish Government to deliver a jobs first transition and support the Energy Transition Zone in Aberdeen."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 30, Against 95 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-14431.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14431 in the name of Kate Forbes (Programme for Government - Growing Scotland's Green Economy), leave out from first "recognises" to end and insert "believes that one of the Scottish National Party's biggest political failures is its failure to turn Scotland's enormous renewable energy resources into jobs, wealth and social good for communities across Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 56 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Lorna Slater moved amendment S6M-14431.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14431 in the name of Kate Forbes (Programme for Government - Growing Scotland's Green Economy), leave out from first "recognises" to end and insert "acknowledges the urgent need to invest in Scotland's economy to eradicate child poverty, tackle the climate and nature emergencies and to ensure that public services meet the needs of the people of Scotland; agrees on the need for a new vision for the economy, including a Green Industrial Strategy that reinvigorates the manufacturing sector, creates jobs in growing low-carbon industries and builds a skilled workforce; regrets that the Scottish Government's Green Industrial Strategy fails to set an ambitious plan for growth in renewable energy beyond wind, including solar, wave, tidal and green hydrogen, and prioritises continued investment in fossil fuel extraction over long-term sustainability; believes that carbon capture, utilisation and storage remains speculative and that investment in these unproven technologies is a poor use of public funds during a climate crisis, and considers that the Scottish Government must not miss the opportunity to reduce energy demand, by regulating to decarbonise homes and buildings, which will stimulate skills, jobs and innovation in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 7, Against 118 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 90 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 35 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.15 pm.

No. 28, Tuesday 17 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Professor Rowan Cruft, Professor of Philosophy, University of Stirling, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-14533— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 17 September 2024—

after

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Languages Bill

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Securing a Sustainable Future for the Grangemouth Industrial Cluster

(b) Thursday 19 September 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Ministerial Statement: Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2021-2022

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

4. Scottish Languages Bill: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-14484—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Scottish Languages Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Ministerial Statement: The Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Gillian Martin) made a statement and answered questions on Securing a Sustainable Future for the Grangemouth Industrial Cluster.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

7. Celebrating the Federation of Small Businesses' 50th Anniversary: The Parliament debated S6M-13753 in the name of Audrey Nicoll— That the Parliament

congratulates the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) on celebrating its 50th anniversary on 15 September 2024; understands that micro and small businesses comprise almost all enterprises in Scotland, at 98% of the total, and employ 900,000 people with a turnover of £82 billion; further understands that, since its formation in 1974 in response to what it sees as unfair increases in national insurance for the self-employed by the UK Government, which was later repealed, the FSB has gone on to become the largest direct business membership organisation in the UK, and recognises what it considers the vital non-profit, non-party-political business services that it offers, including advice, financial expertise, support and a powerful advocating voice to government at all levels, as well as its aim to achieve changes for 5.5 million small businesses and the self-employed.

8. Motion without Notice: Audrey Nicoll moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.04 pm.

No. 29, Wednesday 18 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Creating a Modern, Diverse, Dynamic Scotland: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-14524—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Government should use all its powers to build a modern, diverse, dynamic nation, and further agrees that it is only with all the powers of a normal independent nation that Scotland would truly be enabled to take its own decisions to fully meet the needs of the people of Scotland and create their best future.

Douglas Ross moved amendment S6M-14524.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14524 in the name of John Swinney (Creating a Modern, Diverse, Dynamic Scotland), leave out from *"*the Scottish Government*"* to end and insert *"*Scotland is a modern, diverse, dynamic nation as part of the UK, and believes that the Scottish Government should use all its powers to improve the lives of people who live in Scotland by prioritising health, education and the other devolved functions, and accept the result of the independence referendum of 18 September 2014, when Scotland voted to remain part of the UK.*"*

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 30, Against 96 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).
Anas Sarwar moved amendment S6M-14524.5—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14524 in the name of John Swinney (Creating a Modern, Diverse, Dynamic Scotland), leave out from *"*with all the powers*"* to end and insert *"*through change in 2026, and governments focused on delivering through cooperation rather than conflict, that the needs of the people of Scotland will be fully met and their best future created.*"*

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 56 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Ross Greer moved amendment S6M-14524.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14524 in the name of John Swinney (Creating a Modern, Diverse, Dynamic Scotland), insert at end *"*, for example, by establishing a constitutional convention to allow the people of Scotland to decide matters such as whether they wish to retain the monarchy or adopt an elected head of state, by becoming a voice for peace and rejecting nuclear weapons, by re-joining the EU, by treating asylum seekers with humanity, and by committing to fairly tax wealth and rejecting 'trickle-down' economics to invest in a rapid and just transition to net zero.*"*

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 56 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).
Alex Cole-Hamilton moved amendment S6M-14524.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14524 in the name of John Swinney (Creating a Modern, Diverse, Dynamic Scotland), leave out from *"*, and further agrees*"* to end and insert *"*by focusing on what really matters to the people of Scotland, including fixing the NHS to ensure fast access to treatment, GPs, dentists and world-class mental health services, lifting up Scottish education, delivering a fair deal for carers, stopping sewage being dumped in rivers and growing Scotland's economy.*"*

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 56 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Ash Regan moved amendment S6M-14524.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14524 in the name of John Swinney (Creating a Modern, Diverse, Dynamic Scotland), insert at end *"*, and considers that, 10 years on from the Scottish independence referendum, the next democratic opportunity must be set, with a commitment to use the Scottish Parliament election list vote as a plebiscite for the people of Scotland to demonstrate their constitutional choice for independence.*"*

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 1, Against 125 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 56 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Government should use all its powers to build a modern, diverse, dynamic nation, and further agrees that it is only with all the powers of a normal independent nation that Scotland would truly be enabled to take its own decisions to fully meet the needs of the people of Scotland and create their best future, for example, by establishing a constitutional convention to allow the people of Scotland to decide matters such as whether they wish to retain the monarchy or adopt an elected head of state, by becoming a voice for peace and rejecting nuclear weapons, by re-joining the EU, by treating asylum seekers with humanity, and by committing to fairly tax wealth and rejecting 'trickle-down' economics to invest in a rapid and just transition to net zero.

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14534—That the Parliament—

(a) the following programme of—

Tuesday 24 September 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: Health and Social Care Winter Preparedness Plan 2024-25

followed by Scottish Government Debate: The UK Budget - Scotland's Priorities

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 25 September 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Education, Children and Young People Committee Debate: Additional Support for Learning

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 26 September 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scotland Stands with Ukraine

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 1 October 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 2 October 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 3 October 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 23 September 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word *"*except*"* the words *"*to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or*"* are inserted.

Douglas Ross moved amendment S6M-14534.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14534 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Business Programme), leave out—

"2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport"

and insert—

"2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Ministerial Statement: Delivering on the Votes of the Parliament on 11 September 2024 to Provide Free School Meals to All Primary School Children in the Current Parliamentary Session and to End Peak Rail Fares".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 57, Against 69, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to.

4. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14535—That the Parliament agrees that the Companies Act 2006 (Scottish public sector companies to be audited by the Auditor General for Scotland) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14536—That the Parliament agrees that—

Jackie Dunbar be appointed to replace Stuart McMillan as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Education, Children and Young People Committee;

Stuart McMillan be appointed to replace Jackie Dunbar as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Criminal Justice Committee;

Christine Grahame be appointed to replace Karen Adam as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, and

Gordon MacDonald be appointed to replace James Dornan as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 4 and 5 as noted above.

7. 10 Years since Scotland's Independence Referendum: The Parliament debated S6M-14344 in the name of Lorna Slater—That the Parliament notes that 18 September 2024 marks 10 years since the referendum on Scottish independence; recognises what it considers to be the historic level of democratic engagement during the campaign, which, it understands, resulted in the highest voter turnout since universal suffrage; understands that support for Scottish independence has

consistently polled at 45% to 50% of Scotland's population in the decade since; considers that the Scottish Parliament has been undermined in recent years by the UK Government, including through Brexit, the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, and the use of an order under section 35 of the Scotland Act 1998; welcomes the commitments made by both the Scottish Government and the recently elected UK Government to reset the relationship between the two governments, but considers that it remains unclear whether either government has set out what would constitute such a reset, and notes the belief that the Parliament and the people of Scotland, including those in the Lothian region, must have the opportunity to shape any improved relationship, including by establishing how the people of Scotland could progress a legal route to independence if that is their wish.

The meeting closed at 6.26 pm.

No. 30, Thursday 19 September 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Addressing Retail Crime and Antisocial Behaviour: The Parliament debated S6M-14053 in the name of Sharon Dowey—That the Parliament notes the view that addressing retail crime and antisocial behaviour should be a priority for both the Scottish and UK governments; acknowledges and deplores the reported significant increase in abuse and violence towards shop workers and rise in shoplifting, which it understands is often the main factor behind abuse and threats, with official data reportedly showing a 21% annual increase in shoplifting incidents; understands that the British Retail Consortium's latest crime survey reveals that there are 1,300 incidents of violence or abuse against retail workers daily, double the number prior to the COVID-19 pandemic; expresses concern over the reported £1.8 billion cost of retail theft in the last reporting year and the £1.2 billion spent by shops on crime prevention measures such as CCTV and body-worn cameras; highlights what it sees as the importance of the Protection of Workers (Retail and Age-restricted Goods and Services) (Scotland) Act 2021 in improving visibility and legal protection for retail workers in Scotland, including in the South Scotland region; notes the Scottish Retail Consortium's call for a greater prioritisation of retail crime by government and law enforcement; further notes the calls on the Scottish Government to provide the police and courts the necessary direction and resources to prosecute offenders; notes the calls for better reporting of incidents by retailers to ensure a fuller picture of the problem, and further notes what it sees as the need for public communication campaigns to explain any new mandated rules on the selling of regulated products in store, which can often be a common trigger for flashpoints, and to make clear that poor customer behaviour will not be tolerated.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Gillian Martin) made a statement and answered questions on Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2021-2022.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Response to the Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment.

7. Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Victims and Community Safety (Siobhian Brown) moved S6M-14485—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.43 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.44 pm.

No. 31, Tuesday 24 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Reverend Moira McDonald, Minister, Corstorphine Old Parish Church, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

3. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) made a statement and answered questions on Health and Social Care Winter Preparedness Plan 2024-25.

4. The UK Budget – Scotland's Priorities: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-14614—That the Parliament recognises the importance of the UK Budget on 30 October 2024 to Scotland's budget; supports the call from prominent economists, including Professor Mariana Mazzucato, Professor Anton Muscatelli, Lord Gus O'Donnell and Professor Simon Wren-Lewis, for the UK Government to use the forthcoming UK Budget to halt "the under-investment that has resulted in a vicious circle of stagnation and decline, whereby low investment leads to both a weaker economy and greater social and environmental problems"; calls on the Chancellor of the Exchequer to replace the current austerity fiscal rules that the UK Government is operating under, in order to allow for greater investment to renew and enhance public infrastructure and deliver projects that support the transition to net zero; believes that the UK Government should reverse its cut to the Winter Fuel Payment, as this cut will impact many of the most vulnerable older people in society, and urges the UK Government to use its first Budget to remove the two-child limit on benefits and deliver greater investment to tackle child poverty, and deliver a sizeable increase in investment in the NHS and schools, which would deliver consequentials for application in these vital public services in Scotland.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-14614.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14614 in the name of Shona Robison (The UK Budget - Scotland's Priorities), leave out from "supports" to end and insert "acknowledges the crucial role of the previous UK Conservative administrations in securing the largest ever block grants for Scotland, in curtailing inflation, guiding the country through and out of the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting businesses through the furlough scheme, and in providing non-domestic rates relief, which the Scottish National Party (SNP) administration chose not to pass on to businesses in Scotland; credits the Conservative administration for ensuring consistent economic growth for the UK, frequently outpacing the rest of the G7, and protecting UK pensions; notes that the current UK Labour administration, despite this legacy, has created a budget deficit by paying above-inflation pay awards to the public sector; condemns the UK Labour administration for scrapping the Winter Fuel Payment, thereby putting 900,000 Scottish pensioners in Scotland at risk this winter, and acknowledges the legacy of 17 years of economic mismanagement by the SNP administration in

> Scotland, which has resulted in stagnant growth, high taxes, underinvestment, spending cuts, and difficulties in attracting skilled workers to Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 80 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-14614.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14614 in the name of Shona Robison (The UK Budget - Scotland's Priorities), leave out from "recognises" to end and insert "believes that Scotland's priorities were reflected in the overwhelming mandate that the people of Scotland gave to the Labour Party on 4 July 2024; recognises that the new UK Labour administration inherited a black hole of £22 billion from the previous Conservative administration; understands that the only way to deliver fairness and opportunity for people is to fix the foundations of the economy; welcomes the renewed commitment from the Chancellor of the Exchequer that there will be no return to austerity; calls on the Scottish Government to work with the UK Government to ensure that the benefits of economic stability and the opportunities of national renewal are felt across Scotland, and further calls on the Scottish Government to reflect the importance of financial competence, economic stability and transparency in its management of Scotland's finances."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 10, Against 98 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Lorna Slater moved amendment S6M-14614.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14614 in the name of Shona Robison (The UK Budget - Scotland's Priorities), insert at end "; believes that, whilst the fiscal levers available to the Scottish Government are inadequate to fully protect public services and communities from UK Government austerity, it must use every power available to address the urgent social, economic and environmental challenges that Scotland faces, and calls, therefore, on the Scottish Government to explore all avenues to fiscal sustainability, including maximal use of existing tax powers, a review of tax reliefs and other subsidies, reform of local government finances, and the creation of new local revenue raising powers, such as the carbon emissions land tax and cruise ship levy, and to reprioritise spending away from programmes that undermine its core missions of tackling child poverty and the climate emergency."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 6, Against 43, Abstentions 59 (including 3 proxy votes)).

Alex Cole-Hamilton moved amendment S6M-14614.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14614 in the name of Shona Robison (The UK Budget - Scotland's Priorities), leave out from "importance of" to end and insert "terrible state of the public finances caused by the mismanagement of the previous UK Conservative administration; believes that the top priority of

the new Labour administration's first UK Budget must be fixing the NHS and social care crisis so that people across the UK can get the care that they need; considers that it would not be right to further squeeze households that have seen their living standards fall, and believes that a fair deal would see the removal of the two-child limit on benefits, the reversal of the cut to the Winter Fuel Payment, and tax revenues raised in a fair way, including by reversing the previous Conservative administration's tax cuts for the big banks, closing loopholes in capital gains tax exploited by the top 0.1% wealthiest people, and taxing the social media giants so that they pay their fair share."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 4, Against 45, Abstentions 59 (including 3 proxy votes)).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 42, Abstentions 0).

5. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-14639— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 26 September 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Ministerial Statement: The Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion

The motion was agreed to.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

7. Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity: The Parliament debated S6M-12935 in the name of Martin Whitfield— That the Parliament congratulates Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity on what it considers to be a successful first six months of its No Time To Wait campaign, which launched a pilot wellbeing and resilience service, The Haven, in September 2023 in Tranent, East Lothian, as an intervention to avert the potential mental health crisis facing children and young people in Scotland; notes that, since it opened, there have been 1,264 visits to The Haven, of which 274 were unique visitors who were directly supported by the service; understands that the service is fully funded by the charity, and aims to complement child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) and to help prevent problems escalating to the point where professional intervention is needed; notes reports that Scotland's mental health crisis affects children across Scotland, impacting their childhoods, their futures and their families' lives, and further notes the belief that, without access to effective early intervention, there is a risk that the

mental health problems of Scotland's children today become the mental health problems of the adults of tomorrow.

The meeting closed at 5.51 pm.

No. 32, Wednesday 25 September 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic, and then on Finance and Local Government, were answered by the Deputy First Minister, a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. Additional Support for Learning: Sue Webber, on behalf of the Education, Children and Young People Committee, moved S6M-14469—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Education, Children and Young People Committee's 2nd Report, 2024 (Session 6), Additional Support for Learning inquiry (SP Paper 585).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

3. Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill: Timetable for Consideration: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14652—That the Parliament agrees to consider the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill as follows—

Stage 1 on Thursday 10 October 2024, and subject to the Parliament's agreement to the general principles of the Bill—

(a) that consideration of the Bill at stage 2 be completed by Tuesday 29 October 2024, and

(b) Stage 3 on Thursday 31 October 2024.

Graham Simpson moved S6M-14652.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14652 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill: Timetable for Consideration), leave out "31 October" and insert "7 November".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 60 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 60 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0 – by casting vote).

The motion was then disagreed to (by division: For 60 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 61 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14640—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 1 October 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 2 October 2024
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care
followed by Scottish Labour Party Business
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.10 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 3 October 2024
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice
followed by Economy and Fair Work Committee Debate: Just Transition Inquiry for Grangemouth and the North East and Moray
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 8 October 2024
2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 9 October 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Green Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 10 October 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 30 September 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14641—That the Parliament agrees that the Environmental Protection (Single-use Vapes) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14642—That the Parliament agrees that Daniel Johnson be appointed to replace Mercedes Villalba as the Scottish Labour Party substitute on the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14643—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between 12.50 pm and 3.00 pm on Thursday 3 October 2024.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 5, 6 and 7 as noted above.

9. Importance of the Scottish Wholesale Sector: The Parliament debated S6M-13436 in the name of Gordon MacDonald—That the Parliament recognises what it considers to be the vital importance of the Scottish wholesale sector; understands that it contributes over £4.3 billion in gross value added (GVA) to the Scottish economy, providing over 35,000 businesses and consumers, including in the Edinburgh Pentlands constituency, with an extensive product range consisting of tens of thousands, with potentially the largest wholesale choice and selection of food and drink of any European country, and supporting over 6,000 local jobs, and welcomes the support from 30 wholesale local food champions that have supported 130 local producers, resulting, it understands, in 30% of wholesalers' turnover coming from Scottish products.

The meeting closed at 5.43 pm.

No. 33, Thursday 26 September 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Month: The Parliament debated S6M-13767 in the name of Rona Mackay—That the Parliament notes that September 2024 is International Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Month; recognises that alcohol exposure in pregnancy may lead to permanent harm to the unborn child, with lifelong consequences; understands that FASD is the most common preventable neurodevelopmental condition in Scotland; further understands that at least 3.2% of individuals in Scotland are affected; notes that the Chief Medical Officer's advice is to avoid alcohol if pregnant or if planning to become pregnant; believes that 40% of pregnancies are currently unplanned; recognises what it sees as the importance of early identification and support of FASD to avert negative outcomes, such as addiction, mental ill health, suicidality and judicial system involvement; considers that, with the right support, individuals can prosper in their educational and life endeavours and reach their own potential; recognises what it sees as the excellent work of the FASD Hub Scotland in supporting those with FASD, their families and professionals who work with them; notes the belief that it is important to increase access to awareness and diagnostic training for practitioners to enable access to diagnostic and support services for those with FASD and their families; further notes the belief that alcohol producers should be mandated to provide clear written pregnancy warnings on their products; highlights what it sees as the important work of the pre-conception strategy for Scotland; understands that there is an economic benefit of £1.4 million for each case of FASD that is prevented, and notes the belief that more must be done to reduce alcohol exposure in pregnancy.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) made a statement and answered questions on The Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion.

6. Scotland Stands with Ukraine: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-14655—That the Parliament reiterates its unwavering solidarity with the people and government of Ukraine in the face of Russia's devastating illegal war; pledges that Scotland will continue to be a welcoming nation for those people who have sought refuge in the country from war and persecution, including refugees, people seeking asylum, people relocated from Afghanistan and displaced people from Ukraine; thanks the people of Scotland for opening their hearts and communities to all; recognises the vital role of those organisations and local authorities that have supported displaced Ukrainians to settle

into Scotland's communities; reaffirms that all Ukrainians who have made Scotland their temporary home will be welcome here for as long as they need, and wishes a speedy and peaceful resolution to the war that ensures Ukrainian sovereignty, democracy, independence and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.53 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.53 pm.

No. 34, Tuesday 1 October 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Dr Musharraf Hussain OBE, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14730— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 1 October 2024—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Delivering the Homes that Scotland Needs

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

4.10 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) made a statement and answered questions on Delivering the Homes that Scotland Needs.

5. Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

6. Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) moved S6M-14710—That the Parliament agrees that the Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 112 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

7. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.09 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

9. Importance of Safe and Fair Sport for Women and Girls: The Parliament debated S6M-14496 in the name of Tess White—That the Parliament recognises the importance of safe and fair sport for women and girls as it marks Scottish Women & Girls in Sport Week, which takes place between 30 September and 6 October 2024; acknowledges the reported concerns of some that emerged during the 2024 Paris Olympics regarding the gender eligibility of two athletes in the women's boxing competition, as well as the participation of a transgender runner in the women's T12 200m and 400m sprints at the Paralympics; highlights the action taken by some governing sports' bodies, including World Athletics, Fina, World Rugby and World Netball, to prevent transgender women from competing in the female category while further research is carried out into physical performance and male advantage; recognises the findings of the report, Violence against women and girls in sports, by the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Girls, including that "males' average punching power has been measured as 162% greater than females" and that "by 30 March 2024, over 600 female athletes in more than 400 competitions have lost more than 890 medals in 29 different sports" as a result of the introduction of a mixed-sex category; further recognises the findings of the BBC Elite British Sportswomen's Study 2024, in which, it understands, more than 100 elite sportswomen said they would be "uncomfortable with transgender women competing in female categories in their sport", but that they reportedly expressed fears over being seen as discriminatory if they went public with their opinions; understands that, across the north east and the rest of Scotland more widely, there is a persistent gender gap in participation rates in sport between females and males; believes that, as society seeks to tackle the barriers that prevent female participation in sport, parliamentarians, public figures and the media should be able to discuss freely the implications of inclusion policies in sport for women and girls without recrimination or condemnation, and further believes that single-sex categories in sport, from grassroots to elite level, should be protected.

10. Motion Without Notice: Tess White moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

11. Celebrating 125 Years of Learning with Fife College: The Parliament debated S6M-12165 in the name of David Torrance— That the Parliament celebrates the 125th anniversary of Fife College, the first ever college to be set up in Fife following the opening of the Lauder Technical College in 1899; understands that local politician and businessman, George Lauder, established the college with funding from his nephew, the famous industrialist, Andrew Carnegie; believes that, for 125 years, the provision of college education in Fife has offered opportunities for thousands of students and benefited the people, communities, and businesses of the area; further believes that the 125th anniversary will be celebrated through a series of special events and initiatives, each of which will pay tribute to what it sees as the incredible legacy of those who laid the groundwork for the success of Fife College all those years ago; notes the launch of a new 125th anniversary scholarship

programme to “empower and support” students in their educational journey, while the college builds upon its relationships with institutions in the USA as it aims to explore mutually beneficial opportunities and continue the legacy of its founding benefactors; welcomes the series of events planned for across Fife, which will highlight its alumni programme to celebrate the achievements of former students who have since gone on to make their mark across the globe; further notes the planned revival of the annual Lauder Lecture, coinciding with the college’s birthday in October 2024; considers that the event will serve as a platform for thought leaders to share insights and knowledge, embodying the spirit of George Lauder's commitment to education; understands that the aims of the college remain the same today as they did 125 years ago, and that they are to provide opportunity for all, to deliver outstanding education and training, to contribute to the economic prosperity of the region and its communities, and to help students, staff and the communities that it serves to be the best that they can be; commends what it sees as the hard work and dedication of all staff, past and present, and wishes everyone at Fife College a bright future.

The meeting closed at 5.54 pm.

No. 35, Wednesday 2 October 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands and then Health and Social Care were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Housing Emergency: Anas Sarwar moved S6M-14719—That the Parliament believes that the Scottish Government has failed to respond adequately to the housing emergency that the Parliament declared in May 2024.

The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) moved amendment S6M-14719.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14719 in the name of Anas Sarwar (Housing Emergency), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "agrees that Scotland is in a housing emergency; notes the Scottish Government's ongoing work with partners, including COSLA and the Housing to 2040 Board, on priorities in tackling the housing emergency; highlights the Scottish Government's commitment to provide £80 million across 2024-25 and 2025-26 to support acquisitions and bring empty social homes back into use, bringing the Affordable Housing Supply Programme investment to almost £600 million this year, and its commitment to £100 million for 2,800 mid-market rent homes; welcomes the investment of £22 million in affordable housing through charitable bonds and the launch of a planning hub to improve capacity and skills; notes the Housing (Scotland) Bill, which includes key measures on preventing homelessness, including action through rent controls, and calls on the UK Government to reverse the 9% capital budget cut, to permanently uprate local housing allowance to the 30th percentile of local rents, and to scrap the so-called bedroom tax in its Autumn Budget."

Miles Briggs moved amendment S6M-14719.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14719 in the name of Anas Sarwar (Housing Emergency), insert at end ", following repeated calls from charities and local authorities to take urgent action to alleviate rising cases of homelessness and to tackle Scotland's affordable housing shortage; notes that homelessness in Scotland has climbed to its worst level in more than a decade, with over 40,000 applications, and that, out of the 33,619 households assessed as homeless, there were over 15,000 children recorded; recognises that housing is a wholly devolved issue that the Scottish National Party (SNP) administration has mismanaged and exacerbated through rent controls and financial mismanagement, such as cutting £200 million from the housing budget; believes that by working together with developers, local authorities and landlords, more houses could be made available to buy and rent across Scotland; acknowledges that the SNP administration's cladding remediation scheme has yet to complete work on any affected properties in Scotland and has only spent £9 million of the £97 million given by the UK Government to fix unsafe cladding; understands that the Scottish Government has failed to provide financial support for residents living in properties built with reinforced

autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) that are at risk; notes that the SNP administration has presided over a collapse in the housebuilding sector, with a 17% decrease in all sector starts and completions in 2023-24; echoes the concerns expressed around land supply and the planning system, and that the Scottish Government has failed to produce a clear plan setting out how it will properly fund and implement the policies contained within the fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4), and calls on the Scottish Government to take responsibility by addressing this national emergency."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 60 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 54 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 8). As a result, amendment S6M-14719.2 was pre-empted.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 59 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 55 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 8).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament agrees that Scotland is in a housing emergency; notes the Scottish Government's ongoing work with partners, including COSLA and the Housing to 2040 Board, on priorities in tackling the housing emergency; highlights the Scottish Government's commitment to provide £80 million across 2024-25 and 2025-26 to support acquisitions and bring empty social homes back into use, bringing the Affordable Housing Supply Programme investment to almost £600 million this year, and its commitment to £100 million for 2,800 mid-market rent homes; welcomes the investment of £22 million in affordable housing through charitable bonds and the launch of a planning hub to improve capacity and skills; notes the Housing (Scotland) Bill, which includes key measures on preventing homelessness, including action through rent controls, and calls on the UK Government to reverse the 9% capital budget cut, to permanently uprate local housing allowance to the 30th percentile of local rents, and to scrap the so-called bedroom tax in its Autumn Budget.

3. Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill: Timetable and Suspension and Variation of Standing Orders: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14742—That, subject to the Parliament's agreement to the general principles of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill, the Parliament agrees, for the purposes of further consideration of the Bill, that—

(a) consideration of the Bill at stage 2 be completed by Tuesday 29 October 2024;

(b) Stage 3 proceedings take place on Tuesday 5 November 2024;

(c) Rule 9.5.3A be suspended;

(d) Rule 9.5.3B be suspended;

(e) Rule 9.6.3A be suspended;

(f) Rule 9.7.8A be suspended;

(g) Rule 9.7.8B be suspended;

(h) Rule 9.7.9 be suspended;

(i) Rule 9.7.9A be suspended;

(j) Rule 9.10.2 be varied to replace the words “fourth sitting” where they first appear with “sixth”, so that the deadline for lodging a stage 2 amendment will be the sixth day before proceedings; and

(k) Rule 9.10.2A be varied to replace the word “fifth” where it first appears with “second”, so that the deadline for lodging a stage 3 amendment will be the second sitting day before proceedings.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14732—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 8 October 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Challenge Poverty Week

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 9 October 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Green Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 10 October 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 29 October 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 30 October 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 31 October 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: Scotland's Commissioner Landscape

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 7 October 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14733—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 11 October 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14734—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 15 November 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14735—That the Parliament agrees that the Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14736—That the Parliament agrees that the Criminal Justice Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.
The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 7 and 8 as noted above.

10. Regulation of the Medical Aesthetics Industry in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-14436 in the name of Stuart McMillan—That the Parliament notes the belief that legislation must be introduced to regulate those operating within the medical aesthetics industry because, at present, only clinics that employ healthcare professionals to offer treatments such as Botox and dermal fillers are regulated by Healthcare Improvement Scotland; considers that this means that lay injectors who are not qualified healthcare professionals are not monitored or regulated by any professional body; recognises the reported growth in demand for medical aesthetics, including in the Greenock and Inverclyde constituency, and believes that regulating the sector would help to improve patient safety; acknowledges the reported physical, mental and emotional impact on members of the public who have endured botched experiences at the hands of lay injectors, and the impact that this can have on the NHS, which, it understands, is where people typically turn to for correctional treatment; considers that these treatments should therefore only be offered to people aged over 18, and that patients should be able to expect that the individual offering these treatments is regulated, and welcomes, therefore, the recent announcement by the Minister for Public Health and Women's Health that the Scottish Government will launch a consultation later in 2024, which, it understands, will include proposals on introducing legislation to regulate the sector in the current parliamentary session.

The meeting closed at 6.08 pm.

No. 36, Thursday 3 October 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Ardrossan Harbour: The Parliament debated S6M-12723 in the name of Katy Clark— That the Parliament understands that it has been seven years since the Scottish Government decided to retain Ardrossan as the service's mainland port for the Arran service, citing connectivity, reliability, overall operational cost to the public purse and socio-economic considerations; further understands that it has been six years since Transport Scotland approved proposals to redevelop the harbour, which it understands includes major works necessary to run the MV Glen Sannox and MV Glen Rosa vessels from the port; understands that a refreshed business case to redevelop the harbour is yet to be finalised; considers that the daily Ardrossan-Brodick service is critical to the economic development of both Ardrossan and the Isle of Arran, and that this is the quickest, shortest route, with supporting infrastructure already in place, and notes the belief that the Scottish Government must provide a clear commitment that Ardrossan will be retained as the mainland port to serve Arran in the long term.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Just Transition Inquiry for Grangemouth and the North East and Moray: Claire Baker, on behalf of the Economy and Fair Work Committee, moved S6M-14689—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Economy and Fair Work Committee's 4th Report, 2023 (Session 6), Inquiry into a Just Transition to net zero for the Grangemouth area (SP Paper 405), and its 4th Report, 2024, (Session 6), Inquiry into a Just Transition for the North East and Moray (SP Paper 556).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.00 pm.

No. 37, Tuesday 8 October 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Aaron Moffat-Jackman, Rector of St. Saviour's Scottish Episcopal Church, Bridge of Allan and St. Modoc's Scottish Episcopal Church, Doune, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. Challenge Poverty Week: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-14820—That the Parliament agrees in this Challenge Poverty Week that the UK Government must reverse the introduction of means testing for the Winter Fuel Payment.

Russell Findlay moved amendment S6M-14820.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14820 in the name of John Swinney (Challenge Poverty Week), leave out from "must" to end and insert "and the Scottish Government must both reverse the introduction of means testing for the Winter Fuel Payment; notes that the Scottish National Party administration has failed to reduce poverty during its 17 years in power; recognises that the best way to tackle poverty is to provide high-quality healthcare and educational and employment opportunities for people across Scotland, with appropriate levels of housing, and condemns the Scottish Government's failure to achieve any of these objectives."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 26, Against 86 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Anas Sarwar moved amendment S6M-14820.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14820 in the name of John Swinney (Challenge Poverty Week), leave out from "agrees" to end and insert "regrets that poverty levels in Scotland are still far too high, with 30,000 more children in Scotland living in poverty compared with 2007; recognises the need to support vulnerable people through the cost of living crisis and over winter with energy bills; welcomes, therefore, the announcement by the UK Government to extend the Household Support Fund, which will deliver an estimated £41 million in Barnett consequential funding, and calls on the Scottish Government to use this funding to deliver a package of support to help low-income pensioners and households by re-establishing the Fuel Insecurity Fund; considers that reducing poverty in the long term will require action across all of the themes of Challenge Poverty Week, as supported by hundreds of anti-poverty charities and third sector organisations across Scotland, and believes that this will require progress in all of the areas of policy that have been devolved to the Scottish Parliament, including ending the housing and homelessness emergency, improving health and education outcomes, making

transport more accessible, supporting people into work and creating good, well-paid jobs in all parts of the country."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 16, Against 96 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 99 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 14, Abstentions 0).

4. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14842— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 10 October 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scotland's Prison Population

followed by Ministerial Statement: Prosecution Guidance on Public Safety and Prison Population

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

6. Raising Awareness of Liver Disease: The Parliament debated S6M-13569 in the name of Clare Haughey—That the Parliament understands that, in the UK, there are more than 10,000 deaths due to liver disease each year, and that there has been a four-fold increase in death rates over the last 50 years; further understands that liver disease is closely linked to health inequalities, with key risk factors such as obesity, alcohol misuse and viral hepatitis most prevalent in the most marginalised and disadvantaged communities, including those in the Rutherglen constituency;

understands that, while 90% of liver disease is preventable, mortality rates for chronic liver disease are now 5.5 times higher in the most deprived areas compared to the most affluent; notes the belief that greater focus on prevention and earlier detection of liver disease is essential to save lives, including through public health policies to reduce the health harms of alcohol and unhealthy food and drinks that are high in fat, salt and sugar, and pays tribute to the British Liver Trust for all of its work in raising awareness of liver disease, including through its Love Your Liver roadshow.

The meeting closed at 5.52 pm.

No. 38, Wednesday 9 October 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Budget Priorities 2025-26: Ross Greer moved S6M-14825—That the Parliament notes that the fiscal levers that are currently available to the Scottish Government are inadequate to fully protect public services and communities from UK Government austerity and economic turmoil, but that the Scottish Government must use every power at its disposal to address the urgent social, economic and environmental challenges that Scotland faces, and calls, therefore, on the Scottish Government to explore all avenues to fiscal sustainability, including seeking opportunities for further powers, such as those over levies and charges, to be devolved to local government for 2025-26, creating new powers, such as a cruise ship levy, exploring how a carbon emissions land tax and a power of general competence could be delivered and ensuring the most effective and progressive use of existing tax powers and tax reliefs and that spending does not undermine the core missions of tackling child poverty and the climate emergency.

The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved amendment S6M-14825.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14825 in the name of Ross Greer (Budget Priorities 2025-26), insert at end ", and calls on the UK Labour administration to scrap the fiscal rules of the former UK Conservative administration."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 51 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-14825.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14825 in the name of Ross Greer (Budget Priorities 2025-26), leave out from "notes" to end and insert "agrees that the fiscal levers currently available to the Scottish Government are more than adequate to deliver the economic growth that is vital to sustain public services; recognises that the current fiscal settlement, provided by the former UK Conservative administration, is the most generous on record, and that the Scottish Government has failed to properly utilise the monies allocated to it, by instead choosing to prioritise wasteful projects, such as the National Care Service; notes that the Scottish Government's financial incompetence, which was exacerbated by the former Bute House Agreement with the Scottish Green Party, has resulted in Scotland becoming a high-tax, low-growth economy that has lost the confidence of the business sector and has resulted in severe public sector spending cuts to fix the Scottish Government's financial black hole, and urges the Scottish Government to show some common sense and ignore the economic and financial illiteracy proposed by the Scottish Green Party, which proposes yet more burdensome taxation and

> anti-growth regulations, and to use the generous fiscal powers that it already has to deliver a Budget that prioritises economic growth and provides for all of Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 27, Against 89 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Michael Marra moved amendment S6M-14825.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14825 in the name of Ross Greer (Budget Priorities 2025-26), leave out from "notes" to end and insert "understands that tackling the social, economic and environmental challenges that Scotland faces and delivering sustainable funding for public services is only possible through delivering sustainable economic growth and an economy that works for everyone in Scotland; recognises the importance of the UK Government's commitment to fix the foundations of the economy, and understands that Scotland will benefit from this approach; understands that the Scottish Government's wasteful spending and failure to plan ahead have led to significant pressures on the Scottish Budget, including £5 billion lost to waste; notes that the Scottish Fiscal Commission has projected a £1.9 billion gap between spending pledges and available funding in the Budget by 2027-28, and believes that, in addition to effectively using the extensive fiscal powers available to it, the Scottish Government should prioritise fiscal competence and transparency in the management of Scotland's finances."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 92 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 4 (including 1 proxy vote)).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 64 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 52 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament notes that the fiscal levers that are currently available to the Scottish Government are inadequate to fully protect public services and communities from UK Government austerity and economic turmoil, but that the Scottish Government must use every power at its disposal to address the urgent social, economic and environmental challenges that Scotland faces; calls, therefore, on the Scottish Government to explore all avenues to fiscal sustainability, including seeking opportunities for further powers, such as those over levies and charges, to be devolved to local government for 2025-26, creating new powers, such as a cruise ship levy, exploring how a carbon emissions land tax and a power of general competence could be delivered and ensuring the most effective and progressive use of existing tax powers and tax reliefs and that spending does not undermine the core missions of tackling child poverty and the climate emergency, and calls on the UK Labour administration to scrap the fiscal rules of the former UK Conservative administration.

3. Free Bus Travel for Asylum Seekers: Maggie Chapman moved S6M-14823—That the Parliament believes that the Scottish Government should extend free bus travel to people seeking asylum as soon as possible and at least before the end of the current parliamentary session.

The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) moved amendment S6M-14823.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14823 in the name of Maggie Chapman (Free Bus Travel for Asylum Seekers), insert at end ", and urges the UK Government to provide adequate financial support to local authorities and asylum seekers to ensure that they are not pushed further into hardship."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 1).

Sue Webber moved amendment S6M-14823.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14823 in the name of Maggie Chapman (Free Bus Travel for Asylum Seekers), leave out from "extend" to end and insert "ensure that there are reliable and affordable bus services in every community across Scotland; acknowledges that the Scottish Government has failed to make the 'public transport network cleaner, smarter and more accessible than ever before', as was the stated aim of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019, and calls on the Scottish Government to introduce a national £2 bus fare for any single ticket on a bus route, to fully support the Community Bus Fund to allow local authorities to propose bus services in their area, and to implement integrated ticketing across all public transport."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 88 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Claire Baker moved amendment S6M-14823.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-14823 in the name of Maggie Chapman (Free Bus Travel for Asylum Seekers), insert at end ", and further believes that public transport should be affordable, accessible and reliable for everyone."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 89 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 20 (including 1 proxy vote)).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament believes that the Scottish Government should extend free bus travel to people seeking asylum as soon as possible and at least before the end of the current parliamentary session; urges the UK Government to provide adequate

financial support to local authorities and asylum seekers to ensure that they are not pushed further into hardship, and further believes that public transport should be affordable, accessible and reliable for everyone.

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14843—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 29 October 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Fiscal Sustainability

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 30 October 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 31 October 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: Scotland's Commissioner Landscape

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 5 November 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 6 November 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 7 November 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 28 October 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14844—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament from 2.00 pm until the conclusion of consideration of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 on Tuesday 29 October 2024.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-14862— That the Parliament agrees that the following changes to committee membership will apply from close of business on Thursday 10 October 2024—

Stephen Kerr be appointed to replace Meghan Gallacher as a member of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee;

Liam Kerr be appointed to replace Russell Findlay as a member of the Criminal Justice Committee;

Roz McCall be appointed to replace Tim Eagle as a member of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee;

Jamie Halcro Johnston be appointed to replace Brian Whittle as a member of the Economy and Fair Work Committee;

Miles Briggs be appointed to replace Liam Kerr as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee;

Douglas Ross be appointed to replace Sue Webber as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee;

Tess White be appointed to replace Meghan Gallacher as a member of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee;

Pam Gosal be appointed to replace Annie Wells as a member of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee;

Craig Hoy be appointed to replace Jamie Halcro Johnston as a member of the Finance and Public Administration Committee;

Brian Whittle be appointed to replace Tess White as a member of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee;

Meghan Gallacher be appointed to replace Miles Briggs as a member of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee;

Alexander Stewart be appointed to replace Pam Gosal as a member of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee;

Tim Eagle be appointed to replace Rachael Hamilton as a member of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee;

Liz Smith be appointed to replace Roz McCall as a member of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee; and

Sue Webber be appointed to replace Oliver Mundell as a member of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3, 5 and 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 6.17 pm.

No. 39, Thursday 10 October 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Challenge Poverty Week 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-14683 in the name of Paul O'Kane— That the Parliament recognises Challenge Poverty Week 2024, which is coordinated by the Poverty Alliance, Scotland's anti-poverty network, and runs from 7 to 13 October; notes that activities, events and actions will take place across Scotland, including in the West Scotland region, which will be aimed at increasing public support for tackling poverty and highlighting the realities of, and solutions to, poverty; acknowledges that Challenge Poverty Week 2023 was the biggest yet, with over 500 organisations taking part; notes that the week emphasises the need for fair funding for the third sector and the importance of a number of key policy asks, including across housing, transport, adequate incomes and food, to help unlock people from the grip of poverty; understands that 21% of people, and 24% of children, are living in the grip of poverty; notes the view that governments, elected members, civil society and communities all have a role to play in solving poverty; is concerned that particular groups of people, including women, lone parents, disabled people and people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds, are disproportionately experiencing poverty; considers that people in Scotland believe in compassion, justice and ending poverty; celebrates the work undertaken by organisations and communities across Scotland to stem what it sees as the rising tide of poverty, and notes the calls for MSPs to attend and support events and activities in their constituencies and regions as part of what it believes is this important campaign.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland's Prison Population.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Lord Advocate (Rt Hon Dorothy Bain KC) made a statement and answered questions on Prosecution Guidance on Public Safety and Prison Population.

7. Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill: The Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-14836—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 94 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 7).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.36 pm.

No. 40, Tuesday 29 October 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Jim Wallace, Rt Hon Lord Wallace of Tankerness KC, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15071— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 29 October 2024

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Legal Advice Relating to Scottish Information Commissioner Decision

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 30 October 2024—

delete

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

and insert

2.00 pm Motion of Condolence

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

delete

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

and insert

5.55 pm Decision Time

(c) Thursday 31 October 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Ministerial Statement: Housing (Scotland) Bill

after

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: Scotland's Commissioner Landscape

insert

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

4. Ministerial Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Legal Advice Relating to Scottish Information Commissioner Decision.

5. Fiscal Sustainability: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-15048—That the Parliament recognises that continued and further action is needed to address the sustainability of Scotland's public finances; supports the creation of a five-year Fiscal Sustainable Delivery Plan, to be delivered alongside the forthcoming Medium-Term Financial Strategy; believes that tackling the social, economic and environmental challenges that Scotland faces is only possible through the delivery of sustainable funding for public services; supports the exploration of all avenues to deliver fiscal sustainability to ensure delivery of the core missions of tackling child poverty and the climate emergency, and agrees that the UK Government's revision of fiscal rules means that it should immediately grant the Scottish Government increased capital, alongside additional borrowing and investment powers, to allow for greater investment to renew and enhance public infrastructure and deliver projects that support the transition to net zero.

Craig Hoy moved amendment S6M-15048.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15048 in the name of Shona Robison (Fiscal Sustainability), leave out from "recognises" to end and insert "realises that a significant change of approach is needed to deliver sustainability in Scotland's public finances; recognises that sustained strong economic growth is essential to this; is deeply concerned that the Scottish National Party administration has failed to deliver the growth- and business-friendly policies needed to realise sustained economic growth; notes with alarm the absence of reform and the growing inefficiency of government and its agencies, and the impact that this has on fiscal sustainability; reiterates the need to prioritise productivity and government efficiency, and to keep social security costs and public sector pay under close review; stresses the importance of proper investment and infrastructure development, and calls on the Scottish Government to use its

> fiscal discretion to ensure that this investment is not jeopardised for any reason."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 83 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 4).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-15048.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15048 in the name of Shona Robison (Fiscal Sustainability), leave out from ", and agrees" to end and insert "; notes the Scottish Fiscal Commission's Fiscal Sustainability Report and the specific challenges that Scotland will face in the next 50 years, including those posed by an ageing population, and required health spending forecast to increase from 35% to 50% of devolved spending, and calls on the Scottish Government to set out an approach to deal with the long-term fiscal challenges presented by demographic, climate and technological change."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21, Against 95 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 66 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 45, Abstentions 4).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

7. Recognising the Dangers of Artificial Intelligence (AI): The Parliament debated S6M-13331 in the name of Emma Roddick—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the fast evolution and potential of artificial intelligence (AI); understands that there have been many warnings from those most closely familiar with AI capabilities who say that the regulation of and limits on AI's use is required to ensure safety; notes reports that Professor Geoffrey Hinton, known as the "godfather of AI", has warned of the need for greater social security investment when AI is entrusted with roles currently carried out by salaried humans, and the need to consider the implications and threat to humanity of AI being given military roles and resources; further notes with concern the conclusions of researchers who report that AI is already acting independently in unexpected ways; acknowledges, for example, that a recent study from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) demonstrated AI models beginning to exhibit deception, apparently becoming aware of and adapting to safety assessments of its operation by deceiving assessors and operating differently while under observation, and notes the belief that, in order to effectively regulate the operation of and reach of AI, including in the Highlands and Islands region, policymakers have a duty to seek to understand how it works, what the dangers are, and how to protect society and vulnerable individuals from harm.

The meeting closed at 6.36 pm.

No. 41, Wednesday 30 October 2024

The meeting opened at 2.30 pm.

1. Motion of Condolence: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-14899—That the Parliament expresses its shock and sadness at the untimely death of Alex Salmond; offers its deep sympathy and condolences to his family and friends; appreciates the many years of public service that he gave as an MP, MSP, and First Minister of Scotland, and recognises the substantial and significant contribution that he made over many decades to public life, Scottish and UK politics and the cause of Scottish independence.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

2. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic and then Finance and Local Government were answered by the Deputy First Minister, a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

3. Funding for Teachers and Schools in Scotland: Miles Briggs moved S6M-15060—That the Parliament believes that the Scottish Government withholding £145 million in funding from local authorities will risk teacher numbers across Scotland declining further; notes that teacher numbers in Scotland have already been declining for two years in a row; acknowledges that many teachers are already struggling to obtain permanent employment; recognises the efforts of the Scottish Teachers for Permanence Campaign, which represents 3,800 teachers searching for permanent work in Scotland; expresses alarm about potential cuts to classroom assistant numbers and the school week due to shortfalls in local authority funding from the Scottish Government, and believes that Scottish Government funding should be used to improve Scotland's schools.

The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) moved amendment S6M-15060.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15060 in the name of Miles Briggs (Funding for Teachers and Schools in Scotland), leave out from first "believes" to end and insert "calls on COSLA to accept the £145.5 million that is being made available by the Scottish Government to maintain teacher numbers, in line with the Budget (Scotland) Act 2024, as voted for by the Parliament."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 62 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 62 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0 – by casting vote).

Pam Duncan-Glancy moved amendment S6M-15060.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15060 in the name of Miles Briggs (Funding for Teachers and Schools in Scotland), insert at end "; further believes that there should be regular and transparent national level data collected on vacancies in teaching roles and the numbers of registered teachers on supply lists, alongside closer monitoring of the proportion of newly qualified teachers who are in teaching roles, and reiterates that the Scottish Government should

publish a comprehensive plan to address gaps in the teaching and school staff workforce as resolved by the Parliament on 15 May 2024."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).

The motion was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 61 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 63 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

4. Using the Upcoming Scottish Budget to Support Economic Growth: Craig Hoy moved S6M-15061—That the Parliament believes that the Scottish Government has failed to deliver sustained levels of economic growth in Scotland; notes that this failure has cost Scotland's public services £624 million in 2022-23 alone; recognises that the Scottish Ministers have increased income tax on people in Scotland by over £1.4 billion since 2016 and have created a damaging tax differential with the rest of the UK; acknowledges that, despite increased taxes and higher spending on devolved public services, this has failed to deliver better outcomes for the taxpayers who fund these services, and calls on the Scottish Government to examine the potential positive impact on jobs and economic growth of beginning to lower tax in the upcoming Scottish Budget.

The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) moved amendment S6M-15061.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-15061 in the name of Craig Hoy (Using the Upcoming Scottish Budget to Support Economic Growth), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "condemns the impact of the former UK Conservative administration's austerity and Brexit on the public finances and the wider economy; recognises that progressive taxation in Scotland has ensured that funding has been available to deliver actions to tackle poverty, like the Scottish Child Payment; notes that the latest available evidence shows that Scotland had positive net inward migration of taxpayers from the rest of the UK and was positive for every tax band; further notes that the process to develop the Scottish Budget for 2025-26 is underway; challenges those who would propose reducing tax rates to identify the public services that they would then cut to deliver the required balanced budget; deplores the call from the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party to introduce an illness tax in the form of prescription charges, and believes that the Baby Box, free prescriptions, free personal care, free eye examinations and free university tuition should be protected and sustained for the future."

Mark Griffin moved amendment S6M-15061.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-15061 in the name of Craig Hoy (Using the Upcoming Scottish Budget to Support Economic Growth), leave out from "the Scottish Ministers" to end and insert "while taxpayers in Scotland are paying more than their counterparts in the rest of the UK, almost one in six people in Scotland are on NHS waiting lists, the latest PISA statistics show that Scotland's education system is falling further behind other countries, and local government services are under severe financial pressure; believes that people are not seeing the necessary improvements to their public services; regrets that the incompetence of the Scottish National Party administration

has led to chaos in the public finances, with emergency in-year budgets for three consecutive years, and calls on the Scottish Government to end 17 years of waste and incompetence in the management of Scotland's finances."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 69 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 52 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 3). As a result, amendment S6M-15061.1 was pre-empted.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 69 including 2 proxy votes), Against 52 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 3).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament condemns the impact of the former UK Conservative administration's austerity and Brexit on the public finances and the wider economy; recognises that progressive taxation in Scotland has ensured that funding has been available to deliver actions to tackle poverty, like the Scottish Child Payment; notes that the latest available evidence shows that Scotland had positive net inward migration of taxpayers from the rest of the UK and was positive for every tax band; further notes that the process to develop the Scottish Budget for 2025-26 is underway; challenges those who would propose reducing tax rates to identify the public services that they would then cut to deliver the required balanced budget; deplores the call from the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party to introduce an illness tax in the form of prescription charges, and believes that the Baby Box, free prescriptions, free personal care, free eye examinations and free university tuition should be protected and sustained for the future.

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15072—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 5 November 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 6 November 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Keeping The Promise

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 7 November 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Brexit Impacts on Scotland's Rural Economy

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 12 November 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 13 November 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 14 November 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee Debate: UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 4 November 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15073—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Education (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 20 December 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15074—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Land Reform (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 28 March 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15075—That the

Parliament agrees that consideration of the Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 29 November 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Stage 2 Extension: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15076—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be extended to 28 February 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

10. Consideration of SSI: Alexander Burnett, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15078—That the Parliament agrees that nothing further be done under the Local Services Franchises (Traffic Commissioner Notices and Panels) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/229)*, that is to say, that the instrument be annulled*.

The motion was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 62 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 62 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0– by casting vote).

11. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15079—That the Parliament agrees that the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022 (Extension of Temporary Justice Measures) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Approval of SI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15080—That the Parliament agrees that the Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (Amendment) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

13. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15081—That the Parliament agrees that the Public Procurement (International Trade Agreements) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

14. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15094—That the Parliament agrees that Elena Whitham be appointed to replace Ruth Maguire as a member of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

15. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 1, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 6.51 pm.

No. 42, Thursday 31 October 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Invasive Non-native Species in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-13402 in the name of Audrey Nicoll—That the Parliament notes the publication of the Scottish Environment LINK report, *Invasive Non-native Species in Scotland: A Plan for Effective Action*, which collates the thinking of Scotland's environmental non-governmental organisations regarding invasive non-native species; understands that invasive non-native species constitute one of the five principal direct drivers of global biodiversity loss and that invasive non-native species are among the most significant pressures on Scotland's biodiversity; recognises the reported significant negative impacts that invasive non-native species have for Scotland's marine, terrestrial and freshwater environments, including in the Aberdeen South and North Kincardine constituency; highlights reports of the financial impact of invasive non-native and non-native species on Scotland's economy; notes the view that it is necessary to effectively tackle invasive non-native species as a prerequisite to successful nature restoration in Scotland; believes that the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund is providing critical funds to initiate and develop projects, working with communities and volunteers to prevent the establishment, and control the spread, of invasive non-native species, and considers that this is allowing the recovery of biodiversity across Scotland, including river restoration projects addressing invasive non-native plants, controlling invasive rhododendron in Scotland's rainforest and safeguarding internationally important seabird islands from non-native mammals through island biosecurity action.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) made a statement and answered questions on Housing (Scotland) Bill.

6. Scotland's Commissioner Landscape: Michael Marra, on behalf of the Finance and Public Administration Committee, moved S6M-15086—That the Parliament welcomes the Finance and Public Administration Committee's 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6), Scotland's Commissioner Landscape: A Strategic Approach (SP Paper 642); agrees with the recommendation that a dedicated committee should be established to carry out a "root and branch" review, with the purpose of creating a clear strategic framework to underpin and provide more coherence and structure to the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) supported body landscape, and further agrees that, while this review is undertaken, there should be a moratorium on creating any new SPCB supported bodies, or expanding the remit of existing bodies.

The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) moved amendment S6M-15086.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15086 in the name of Kenneth Gibson (Scotland's Commissioner Landscape), leave out from "and further agrees" to end and insert "which should complete its work by June 2025, and further agrees that, while this review is undertaken, there should be a moratorium on creating any new SPCB supported bodies, or expanding the remit of existing bodies, while recognising that, for proposals within bills that have already been introduced, these are now for the Parliament to take a decision on, respecting the lead committees' roles in scrutinising legislation within their remits."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 84 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 25 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 7).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-15086.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15086 in the name of Kenneth Gibson (Scotland's Commissioner Landscape), leave out from "; agrees with" to end and insert ", and notes the recommendation that a dedicated committee should be established to carry out a 'root and branch' review, to be concluded by June 2025, with the purpose of creating a clear strategic framework to underpin and provide more coherence and structure to the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) supported body landscape."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 24 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 92 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Ross Greer moved amendment S6M-15086.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15086 in the name of Kenneth Gibson (Scotland's Commissioner Landscape), after "body landscape" insert ", to be concluded no later than June 2025".

After debate, the amendment was pre-empted as a result of amendment S6M-15086.3 being agreed to.

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 92 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 24 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament welcomes the Finance and Public Administration Committee's 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6), Scotland's Commissioner Landscape: A Strategic Approach (SP Paper 642); agrees with the recommendation that a dedicated committee should be established to carry out a "root and branch" review, with the purpose of creating a clear strategic framework to underpin and provide more coherence and structure to the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) supported body landscape, which should complete its work by June 2025, and further agrees that, while this review is undertaken, there should be a moratorium on creating any new SPCB supported bodies, or expanding the remit of existing bodies,

while recognising that, for proposals within bills that have already been introduced, these are now for the Parliament to take a decision on, respecting the lead committees' roles in scrutinising legislation within their remits.

7. Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill - UK Legislation: The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) moved S6M-15088—That the Parliament agrees that all relevant provisions of the Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 18 July 2024, so far as these matters alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 4).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6 and 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.18 pm.

No. 43, Tuesday 5 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Dr Graham K Blount, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15226—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Tuesday 5 November 2024—

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

4.45 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

4. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15206—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 45 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 1 hour and 20 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

13 (For 81 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—
14 (For 7, Against 102 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were not moved: 5 and 15.

6. Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill: The Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-15168—That the Parliament agrees that the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 105 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 7).

7. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (George Adam), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.37 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

9. Celebrating One Parent Families Scotland 80th Anniversary: The Parliament debated S6M-14922 in the name of Karen Adam—That the Parliament congratulates One Parent Families Scotland on reaching the remarkable milestone of its 80th anniversary, and commends the charity for its unwavering dedication to empowering single parents to realise their full potential; recognises what it sees as the charity's crucial role in offering a comprehensive range of support services, including family, employability, young parent support, welfare rights, and financial advice through its five family centres in Dundee, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow and North Lanarkshire, as well as its national lone parent helpline and digital services; acknowledges that the charity, originally established in the 1940s as the Scottish Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, was founded with a mission to keep unmarried mothers and their children together; celebrates the charity's extraordinary growth into an impactful organisation, employing 97 dedicated staff members, supporting over 8,000 parents, children, and young people each year, and providing what it considers to be life-changing welfare rights and financial advice that has, it understands, benefited nearly 4,000 families to date, resulting in financial gains for families exceeding £1.6 million; recognises that one in four families with children in Scotland are single-parent households, with 90% of these led by women; believes that, despite significant progress since the 1940s, gender inequality continues to fuel discrimination against many single mothers; understands the unique challenges faced by single parents combining the roles of sole carer and provider without the support of another adult, often facing a higher risk of poverty than other households; applauds the charity for its tireless advocacy for single parents at every level of government, working to create lasting solutions to what it sees as the widespread poverty that many face, and celebrates what it considers to be the remarkable resilience of single parents and the exceptional strength that they demonstrate every day in raising their families.

10. Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and World Pancreatic Cancer Day 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-14784 in the name of Clare Adamson—That the Parliament marks Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, which takes place every November, and World Pancreatic Cancer Day, which takes place on 21 November 2024; believes that, for decades, pancreatic cancer has been left behind, receiving

just 3% of the UK cancer research budget; considers that an increase in long-term investment in such research could transform persistent low survival rates; welcomes Pancreatic Cancer UK's recent announcement of nearly £600,000 in funding for research taking place in Scotland into early diagnosis and treatment for the disease; acknowledges that pancreatic cancer is tough to detect and diagnose and understands that, once diagnosed, only three out of 10 people get any treatment, the lowest proportion of all cancer types; acknowledges that half of people die within three months of diagnosis; believes that, once diagnosed, people often face obstacles getting the information and care that they need to be well enough to have treatment, with scarce patient experience data and many people feeling "written off", with no support plan in place or help to manage symptoms; understands that, at present, there are shortages in the availability of pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy (PERT), directly affecting the quality of life for people living with pancreatic cancer and other conditions; commends the health professionals and pancreatic cancer charities coming together to develop holistic support and guidance on what to do if a patient is running low or cannot get PERT; further commends all of the charities and activist organisations, and their dedicated supporters, on what it sees as their tireless efforts to improve outcomes for people with this condition, and wishes everyone involved with Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and World Pancreatic Cancer Day every success in raising awareness of this devastating disease.

The meeting closed at 6.04 pm.

No. 44, Wednesday 6 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Keeping The Promise: The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes) moved S6M-15205—That the Parliament reaffirms its collective commitment to Keep The Promise by 2030.

Roz McCall moved amendment S6M-15205.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15205 in the name of Natalie Don-Innes (Keeping The Promise), insert at end "; notes with concern the findings of The Promise Oversight Board's second report, which raised doubts about Scotland's progress towards delivering The Promise by 2030; acknowledges the February 2024 report from Who Cares? Scotland highlighting that *in one local authority area* over 83% of social workers experienced sickness-related absences in 2023; is concerned that local authorities lack adequate resources to ensure sufficient staffing, thus impacting support for care experienced children, young people and families; notes The Promise Oversight Board's call for a focused approach to effective implementation, sufficient resources, and workforce recruitment and retention; understands that care experienced pupils are often removed from school to attend social work meetings and hearings, resulting in 1,304,088 days of missed school across 22 reporting local authorities; acknowledges Who Cares? Scotland's October 2024 report, which found that income gaps for care experienced individuals have grown from between 25% and 29% to as much as 38%, amounting to nearly £10,000; highlights persistent health inequalities among care experienced people, who face greater risks of chronic illnesses like hepatitis, depression, lung cancer and heart disease due to adverse childhood experiences, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that funding reaches those in need to implement effective, empowering solutions for care experienced individuals.."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 53 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 57 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Martin Whitfield moved amendment S6M-15205.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15205 in the name of Natalie Don-Innes (Keeping The Promise), insert at end ", and welcomes the Scottish Government's commitment that the proposed The Promise Bill will be in place before the end of the current parliamentary session, and its commitment to productive cross-party engagement on the Bill's contents."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).

After debate, the motion, as amended, was agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament reaffirms its collective commitment to Keep The Promise by 2030, and welcomes the Scottish Government's commitment that the proposed The Promise Bill will be in place before the end of the current parliamentary session, and its commitment to productive cross-party engagement on the Bill's contents.

3. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to ensure resilience across the Clyde and Hebrides ferry network this winter, in light of the announcement that the MV Caledonian Isles will continue to be out of service until at least the end of the year, was answered by Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop).

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15227—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 12 November 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scotland's Planning System - Supporting Investment and Economic Growth and Delivering Quality Homes

followed by Scottish Government Debate: The Women's Health Plan 2021- 2024 - Progress and Next Steps

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 13 November 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 14 November 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee Debate: UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 19 November 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 20 November 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 21 November 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 11 November 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15228—That the Parliament agrees that the Rural Development (Continuation of Operation) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 27).

6. Approval of SI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15229—That the Parliament agrees that the Scotland Act 1998 (Specification of Devolved Tax) (Building Safety) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15230—That the Parliament agrees that the Upper Tribunal for Scotland Bus Registration Appeals (Composition) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15231—That the Parliament agrees that the Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Transport Tribunal) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15232—That the Parliament agrees that—

Jackie Dunbar be appointed to replace Stephanie Callaghan as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee; and

Kevin Stewart be appointed to replace Jackie Dunbar as a member of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15233—That the Parliament agrees that Daniel Johnson be appointed to replace Claire Baker as a member of the Economy and Fair Work Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15234—That the Parliament agrees that—

Meghan Gallacher be appointed to replace Pam Gosal as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee;

Stephen Kerr be appointed as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Criminal Justice Committee;

Oliver Mundell be appointed as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee;

Pam Gosal be appointed to replace Liz Smith as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Economy and Fair Work Committee;

Rachael Hamilton be appointed as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee;
Annie Wells be appointed to replace Sue Webber as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee;

Graham Simpson be appointed as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee;

Sue Webber be appointed to replace Graham Simpson as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee;

Brian Whittle be appointed as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee; and

Roz McCall be appointed to replace Miles Briggs as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party substitute on Social Justice and Social Security Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15235—That the Parliament agrees that Claire Baker be appointed to replace Daniel Johnson as the Scottish Labour Party substitute on the Economy and Fair Work Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

13. Office of the Clerk: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15236—That the Parliament agrees that the Office of the Clerk be closed on Tuesday 24 (am), Friday 27, Monday 30 and Tuesday 31 December 2024.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

14. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 as noted above.

15. Tackling Sibling Sexual Abuse in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-12918 in the name of Fulton MacGregor—That the Parliament commends the recent paper, Tackling Sibling Sexual Abuse in Scotland, published by the Cross Party Group on Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse; notes with concern the lack of Scotland-specific data regarding sibling sexual abuse (SSA); understands that SSA is the most common form of intra-familial child sexual abuse; acknowledges research that suggests that it is estimated that at least twice as many children are sexually abused by a child sibling than by a parent; recognises that many survivors who talk of their experiences of rape or sexual assault perpetrated by a sibling find that their abuse can be met by disbelief or minimisation by adults and professionals as “sexual experimentation” or “natural curiosity”; understands that SSA is less likely to be disclosed than other forms of sexual abuse, due to shame, fears of punishment or blame, or not being believed; further understands that the consequences of SSA may include post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, substance and alcohol misuse, eating disorders and relationship difficulties throughout life; believes that there is credible evidence that SSA often goes unrecognised or is minimised by professionals, which it considers is adverse to the needs of survivors and their families; acknowledges what it considers the complex issue of SSA whereby perpetrators are often underage themselves and may be in need of additional support; notes the support for any measures to highlight the prevalence of sibling sexual abuse, its impact and what parents can do if they are concerned about sexual behaviour between siblings; further notes the belief that it is valuable to launch a reference group bringing together key agencies and those with lived experience to consolidate learning, identify best practices and steer future policy and practice so that scalable, proportionate and trauma-informed responses are available to address this issue, and notes the belief that it is beneficial to establish dedicated training courses for social workers and other safeguarding professionals, including those in the Coatbridge and Chryston constituency, specifically on disclosure and communicating with children when there are concerns about SSA.

The meeting closed at 5.53 pm.

No. 45, Thursday 7 November 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. North Lanarkshire School Bus Campaign: The Parliament debated S6M-15006 in the name of Gillian Mackay—That the Parliament notes with regret the reported reduction to school buses in North Lanarkshire; understands that, following the reported reduction, pupils who live less than three miles from school have to walk or get a service bus; notes that there have been reports of buses not stopping or being too full for pupils to get on; recognises that some parents believe that many of the proposed alternative walking routes are unsuitable, especially during the winter where some are unlit; understands that there are plans to extend this reduction to include primary school pupils; congratulates parents from across North Lanarkshire on their campaign, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to engage with North Lanarkshire Council to urgently resolve this issue, and to work with all local authorities to ensure that travelling to school is safe and affordable, including through school transport guidance, the promotion of municipal bus provision and ambitious investment in safe active travel routes to school.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Brexit Impacts on Scotland's Rural Economy: The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved S6M-15253—That the Parliament recognises the ongoing harm caused by Brexit to Scotland's rural economy, such as barriers to trade, loss of EU funding and post-Brexit labour shortages; acknowledges that these barriers have severely impacted Scotland's world-class food and drink sector, which is of particular importance to Scotland's rural and island communities, and calls on the UK Government to consider changes to the current Brexit arrangements that would address these barriers and impacts, including through the pursuit of a comprehensive veterinary agreement with the EU.

Tim Eagle moved amendment S6M-15253.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15253 in the name of Mairi Gougeon (Brexit Impacts on Scotland's Rural Economy), leave out from "the ongoing" to end and insert "that those working in Scotland's diverse agricultural sector are the custodians of the countryside, and that they are vital for the economy and ensuring that food security is protected; believes that many of the issues facing rural and island communities stem back many years as a result of what it believes to be the failures of several Scottish National Party administrations; understands that such issues include the lack of affordable homes, poor local infrastructure and transport options, and issues with accessing health and social services; recognises the need for common sense solutions to support

> Scotland's rural and island communities; expresses concern at the announcements from the UK Government about changes to agricultural property relief and the integration of agricultural funding into Scotland's block grant, and calls on the Scottish Government to prioritise the real issues facing those in rural and island communities as opposed to dealing in grievance politics."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 26, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Colin Smyth moved amendment S6M-15253.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15253 in the name of Mairi Gougeon (Brexit Impacts on Scotland's Rural Economy), insert at end "; welcomes the UK Government's commitment to reset the UK's relationship with the EU, and calls on the Scottish Government to prioritise the use of all the levers already at its disposal to improve the economy of Scotland's rural areas, through supporting jobs, providing housing, progressing infrastructure and improving transport links."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 25, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament recognises the ongoing harm caused by Brexit to Scotland's rural economy, such as barriers to trade, loss of EU funding and post-Brexit labour shortages; acknowledges that these barriers have severely impacted Scotland's world-class food and drink sector, which is of particular importance to Scotland's rural and island communities; calls on the UK Government to consider changes to the current Brexit arrangements that would address these barriers and impacts, including through the pursuit of a comprehensive veterinary agreement with the EU; welcomes the UK Government's commitment to reset the UK's relationship with the EU, and calls on the Scottish Government to prioritise the use of all the levers already at its disposal to improve the economy of Scotland's rural areas, through supporting jobs, providing housing, progressing infrastructure and improving transport links.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.10 pm.

No. 46, Tuesday 12 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Natalie Beal, Prison Governor and Chair of the Prison Governors Association Scotland, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

3. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland's Planning System – Supporting Investment and Economic Growth and Delivering Quality Homes.

4. The Women's Health Plan 2021-2024 – Progress and Next Steps: The Minister for Public Health and Women's Health (Jenni Minto) moved S6M-15382—That the Parliament acknowledges the longstanding health inequalities faced by women and believes that it is vital that services and health outcomes are improved for women and girls; notes the progress made through implementation of the Women's Health Plan as a first step towards addressing these inequalities, in particular the appointment and work of the first Women's Health Champion; thanks hard-working NHS staff and all those who have contributed to the progress to date; welcomes the commitment from the Scottish Government to work with women and girls across Scotland in developing the next iteration of the plan, and thanks everyone who has contributed their lived experience to the priorities of the Women's Health Plan.

Annie Wells moved amendment S6M-15382.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15382 in the name of Jenni Minto (The Women's Health Plan 2021-2024 - Progress and Next Steps), leave out from "acknowledges" to end and insert "agrees that 17 years of Scottish National Party (SNP) administration mismanagement of healthcare in Scotland has worsened longstanding health inequalities faced by women and girls, while challenges facing women's health services continue to go unaddressed; notes that thousands of women across Scotland have missed out on life-saving screenings for breast and cervical cancer, and that some breast cancer screening centres are at risk of being downgraded or closed entirely under drastic NHS budget cuts by the Scottish Government; further notes that women in the west of Scotland have been forced to pay for their own ovarian cancer treatment due to long and unacceptably high delays; believes that the Scottish Government has failed to recognise and address the underlying preventable factors that contribute to poor mental health for women and girls; notes that the SNP administration made the decision to cut the mental health budget by nearly £20 million for 2024-25, despite the number of people in Scotland who reported to have a mental health condition doubling between 2011 and 2022; acknowledges that women's life expectancy is lower than it was before the COVID-19 pandemic, with Scotland ranked 22 out of 29 European nations for female lifespan in the 10 years up to 2022; urges the Scottish Government to restore the provision of consultant-led maternity services in rural areas, such as Moray and Caithness, so that women are no longer forced to travel hundreds of

> miles away from home to give birth; believes that the Scottish Government should abandon its proposed centralisation plans for specialist neonatal units in NHS Scotland, which includes downgrading services at University Hospital Wishaw, Ninewells Hospital in Dundee, and Victoria Hospital in Kirkcaldy, potentially endangering the lives of vulnerable babies and placing additional stress on new and expectant mothers alike; calls on the Scottish Government to prioritise women's reproductive health, as it currently takes an average of 8.5 years for a woman to get an official diagnosis for endometriosis, despite the fact that one in 10 women in Scotland live with this debilitating condition; believes that the Scottish Government should take steps to reduce cardiology waiting lists, which are at a record high in Scotland, as women are more likely than men to receive the wrong cardiac diagnosis and will receive half as many heart treatments; criticises the SNP administration for continuing to put gender ideology before the safety of women and girls by backing Rape Crisis Scotland, despite an independent review discovering that survivors were being let down, and calls on the Scottish Government to address the specific healthcare needs of women, ensuring that Scotland's NHS is efficient, reliable and accessible for all women, always."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 5).

Carol Mochan moved amendment S6M-15382.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15382 in the name of Jenni Minto (The Women's Health Plan 2021-2024 - Progress and Next Steps), insert at end "; is concerned by the slow progress in addressing stubbornly high health inequalities experienced by women, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that the next plan sets out concisely when and how each of its actions will be fully implemented across Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament acknowledges the longstanding health inequalities faced by women and believes that it is vital that services and health outcomes are improved for women and girls; notes the progress made through implementation of the Women's Health Plan as a first step towards addressing these inequalities, in particular the appointment and work of the first Women's Health Champion; thanks hard-working NHS staff and all those who have contributed to the progress to date; welcomes the commitment from the Scottish Government to work with women and girls across Scotland in developing the next iteration of the plan; thanks everyone who has contributed their lived experience to the priorities of the Women's Health Plan; is concerned by the slow progress in addressing stubbornly high health inequalities experienced by women, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that the next plan sets out concisely when and how each of its actions will be fully implemented across Scotland.

5. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15430—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 14 November 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Ministerial Statement: Ministerial Events

The motion was agreed to.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

7. Protecting Communities from Antisocial Behaviour and Antisocial Driving: The Parliament debated S6M-15156 in the name of Alex Cole-Hamilton—That the Parliament notes with concern that many communities in Scotland, including those in the Edinburgh Western constituency such as South Queensferry, have been affected by antisocial behaviour and antisocial driving; understands that this kind of behaviour can have an impact on quality of life, businesses and community spaces; notes with concern the findings of the report, Still living a nightmare: Understanding the experiences of victims of anti-social behaviour, which has been published by Baroness Newlove and highlights the severe impact of unresolved antisocial behaviour on victims across the UK, including significant mental health issues; acknowledges and notes praise for the Silent Crime campaign for its work in raising awareness of what it believes are these often overlooked issues; recognises the hard work undertaken by Police Scotland and local authorities to tackle this behaviour, particularly around antisocial driving, and notes calls for the Scottish Government to create a national taskforce, which can examine and identify targeted measures to address this behaviour, including whether legislation can be tightened.

The meeting closed at 5.59 pm.

No. 47, Wednesday 13 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Reversing the Family Farm Tax: Tim Eagle moved S6M-15400—That the Parliament calls on the UK Government to reverse its decision to impose a so-called family farm tax on agricultural businesses.

The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved amendment S6M-15400.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15400 in the name of Tim Eagle (Reversing the Family Farm Tax), insert at end "and urgently commit to undertake and publish impact assessments on the cumulative impact of its budget proposals on farmers and crofters in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 93 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Rhoda Grant moved amendment S6M-15400.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15400 in the name of Tim Eagle (Reversing the Family Farm Tax), leave out from "calls" to end and insert "agrees that the Conservative Party should apologise to the country for its fiscal recklessness, which left the public finances in a dire state and required the Autumn Budget to put the country back on a sound footing, and recognises that, despite this, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has continued to put in place inheritance tax reliefs for family farms potentially worth up to £3 million and increased the Scottish devolved budget by £3.4 billion in 2025-26."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 19 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 100 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 93 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament calls on the UK Government to reverse its decision to impose a so-called family farm tax on agricultural businesses and urgently commit to undertake and publish impact assessments on the cumulative impact of its budget proposals on farmers and crofters in Scotland.

3. Scotland's Housing Emergency: Meghan Gallacher moved S6M-15401—That the Parliament believes that the Scottish Government should redraft the

Housing (Scotland) Bill, as it fails to address the key factors that created the housing emergency.

The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved amendment S6M-15401.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15401 in the name of Meghan Gallacher (Scotland's Housing Emergency), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "welcomes the Scottish Government's Housing (Scotland) Bill, which delivers a package of support for tenants across Scotland, including rent controls and homelessness prevention duties."

Mark Griffin moved amendment S6M-15401.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15401 in the name of Meghan Gallacher (Scotland's Housing Emergency), insert at end "; calls on the Scottish Government to recognise the housing emergency in the redrafted legislation, and further calls on it to include the requirement for the Scottish Ministers to produce a strategy for the increased supply of houses in Scotland, and to report annually on its progress."

Maggie Chapman moved amendment S6M-15401.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15401 in the name of Meghan Gallacher (Scotland's Housing Emergency), leave out from "redraft" to end and insert "not amend the Housing (Scotland) Bill to weaken the proposed system of rent controls, which must be able to keep rent increases below inflation if they are to improve affordability and allow for rent freezes during a housing emergency."

After debate, amendment S6M-15401.3 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 60 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 57 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 1). As a result, amendments S6M-15401.2 and S6M-15401.1 were pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 66 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 52 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 1).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament welcomes the Scottish Government's Housing (Scotland) Bill, which delivers a package of support for tenants across Scotland, including rent controls and homelessness prevention duties.

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15423—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 19 November 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Scottish Government Debate: The Impact of the UK Government's Budget on Scotland's Rural Economy
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 20 November 2024
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Impact of National Insurance Increase on Public Services
followed by Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: Emergency Bill Motion
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.15 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 21 November 2024
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport
followed by Stage 1 Debate: Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 26 November 2024
2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 27 November 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 28 November 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.15 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.15 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Housing (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Housing (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 18 November 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

Liam Kerr moved amendment S6M-15423.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15423 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Business Programme), leave out—
> "Stage 1 Debate: Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill"
> and insert—
> "Scottish Government Debate: Scotland's Prisoner Population".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 70 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Martin Whitfield moved amendment S6M-15423.1—

> As an amendment to the motion S6M-15423 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Business Programme) leave out from "*followed by* Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: Emergency Bill Motion" to "Stage 1 Debate: Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill and insert—
>
> "*followed by* Business Motions
>
> *followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions
>
> *followed by* Approval of SSIs (if required)
>
> 5.15 pm Decision Time
>
> *followed by* Members' Business
>
> Thursday 21 November 2024
>
> 11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
>
> 11.40 am General Questions
>
> 12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
>
> *followed by* Members' Business
>
> 2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
>
> 2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport
>
> *followed by* Scottish Government Business".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 51 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to (by division: For 68 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 51 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

5. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15424—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Scottish Languages Bill at stage 2 be completed by 20 December 2024.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15425—That the Parliament agrees that the Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 61 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 57 (including 1 proxy vote)).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15426—That the Parliament agrees that the Town and Country Planning (Amendment of National Planning Framework) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15427—That the Parliament agrees that the Masterplan Consent Area Scheme (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15428—That the Parliament agrees that the Free-Range Egg Marketing Standards (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15429—That the Parliament agrees that Gordon MacDonald be appointed to replace Kevin Stewart as a member of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 as noted above.

12. Rural Roads Infrastructure: The Parliament debated S6M-15207 in the name of Douglas Lumsden—That the Parliament considers that driving is an essential part of daily life for those living in rural communities; believes that those communities deserve the infrastructure to allow connectivity that is safe and enables access to vital services; notes the view that tackling potholes will increase road safety and connectivity, and thereby improve the quality of roads across Scotland; further notes the belief that, to achieve such connectivity within the North East Scotland region, the Scottish Government must honour the longstanding commitment made in 2007 to dual the A90 north of Ellon, in order to make safe the reported accident hotspots such as the Cortes and Toll of Birness junctions, and

notes the calls on the Scottish Government to commit to a timescale for when these works will be completed.

The meeting closed at 6.51 pm.

No. 48, Thursday 14 November 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Day of the Imprisoned Writer: The Parliament debated S6M-14698 in the name of Ruth Maguire—That the Parliament recognises 15 November 2024 as the Day of the Imprisoned Writer, a day when people across the world, including in the Cunninghame South constituency, stand in solidarity with writers who have been persecuted, exiled, imprisoned and killed for exercising their right to free expression; notes with grave concern what it sees as the growing threats to free expression in a world increasingly marked by conflict and war, where writers, it considers, are often the first targets of repression; recognises what it considers to be the alarming rise of authoritarian regimes that use censorship, imprisonment and violence to silence dissenting voices, with a particular focus on the plight of female writers, who, it understands, face compounded risks of persecution; emphasises the reported growing number of female writers who are being imprisoned for, it believes, courageously campaigning for equal rights, freedom from discrimination, and access to education and healthcare; acknowledges what it sees as the critical role that writers play in exposing the truths of war, authoritarianism and social injustice; condemns the widespread use of imprisonment, torture and extrajudicial killings to intimidate and eliminate writers, as documented by organisations such as PEN International, Amnesty International, the Committee to Protect Journalists, ARTICLE 19, and Reporters Without Borders; notes the calls for governments worldwide to uphold their duty to protect the right to free expression for all, to ensure justice for writers who have been murdered, persecuted and imprisoned, and to address what it sees as the global climate of impunity that undermines trust in justice systems and emboldens further attacks; further notes the support for the ongoing efforts to secure protection for persecuted and imprisoned writers, and honours and commemorates those writers who have lost their lives or freedom for exercising their right to freedom of expression.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary (Neil Gray) made a statement and answered questions on Ministerial Events.

6. UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement: Clare Adamson, on behalf of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee, moved S6M-15093—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee's 2nd Report, 2024 (Session 6), UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement: Barriers to trade in goods and opportunities to improve the UK-EU trading relationship (SP Paper 639).

7. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.01 pm.

No. 49, Tuesday 19 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.17 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: William More, Head of Operations in Scotland, Aid to the Church in Need (UK), led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

3. The Impact of the UK Government's Budget on Scotland's Rural Economy: The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved S6M-15508—That the Parliament is disappointed that the Chancellor of the Exchequer chose not to work with the Scottish Government before her Budget on 30 October 2024, nor to consult with farmers, crofters and other rural stakeholders about the Budget's effects on Scotland's rural economy, including breaking the vital link between funding for Scotland's farmers and its land mass, and the changes to agricultural property relief, which will affect succession planning in farms throughout Scotland; is concerned at the apparent failure of the UK Government to fully assess the impacts of those budget changes on Scotland's rural economy or to publish any such assessments, and calls on the UK Government to urgently do so.

Jamie Halcro Johnston moved amendment S6M-15508.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15508 in the name of Mairi Gougeon (The Impact of the UK Government's Budget on Scotland's Rural Economy), insert at end "; recognises that ring-fenced agriculture funding has been delivered by previous UK administrations for over 50 years; urges both the UK and Scottish governments to work together to ensure certainty for Scotland's farmers, crofters and rural stakeholders by delivering multi-year ring-fenced funding for agriculture, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that all agriculture funding is allocated to the sector and not diverted for use in other portfolio areas."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 33, Against 85 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 1).

Colin Smyth moved amendment S6M-15508.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15508 in the name of Mairi Gougeon (The Impact of the UK Government's Budget on Scotland's Rural Economy), leave out from "is disappointed" to end and insert "welcomes the increase to the Scottish devolved budget of £1.5 billion in 2024-25 and £3.4 billion next year, which will deliver the highest ever devolved budget settlement of £47.7 billion in 2025-26 as a result of the UK Government's Budget; agrees that the Scottish Government should use the record devolved settlement in the forthcoming Scottish Budget to ensure fair funding to Scotland's farmers and crofters to support food security, sustainable farming and environmental restoration, and to invest in Scotland's public services and infrastructure, recognising the long-term challenges facing rural and island communities in

housing, public transport, including ferries, education, health and social care, poverty and depopulation, and further agrees that restoring public finances is vital to provide certainty and security of funding for Scotland's farmers and crofters and to support Scotland's rural and island communities."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 20 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 101 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 94 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

4. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15539 — That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Wednesday 20 November 2024—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Improving Transitions for Young Disabled People

delete

5.15 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

(b) Thursday 21 November 2024—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Ministerial Statement: National Care Service

The motion was agreed to.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

6. Celebrating the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership: The Parliament debated S6M-13967 in the name of Gordon MacDonald— That the Parliament celebrates the work of the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership (SEHP) and its reported success in bringing almost 11,000 long-term empty properties back into use

since its establishment in 2010; understands that 1,875 long-term empty homes were brought back into use in 2023-24 alone, a record annual figure for the partnership; recognises the role of the SEHP in facilitating collaborative work between Shelter Scotland, local authorities and the Scottish Government, which it understands has invested over £3.7 million in the partnership to date; notes the view that joint efforts to bring long-term empty properties back into use must continue, with over 46,000 properties reportedly still identified as empty or void across Scotland, including 7,200 in the City of Edinburgh Council area; further notes the belief that initiatives such as a reduction in VAT by the UK Government for repairs and improvements could facilitate the investment required to support households into a further 46,000 short-term unoccupied and vacant homes, whether council home voids, housing association stock awaiting repairs, or private properties lying empty; believes that SEHP's recent milestone is a vital step towards achieving the Scottish Government's ambition to tackle the housing emergency and provide a further 110,000 affordable homes by 2032; understands that over 131,000 social and affordable homes have been provided by Scottish National Party administrations since 2007 and that this is the highest figure per head of population in the UK; further understands that more than 21,000 homes have already been delivered against the 2032 target; highlights that over £600 million is reportedly being committed to the Affordable Housing Supply Programme in 2024-25, despite what it sees as unprecedented pressure on Scotland's public finances as a result of rising costs and the budgetary decisions of the UK Government, and notes the calls on the UK Government to use its upcoming Budget to reverse what it sees as harmful cuts to Scotland's capital funding allocation, to enable the Scottish Government to invest further in the provision of warm, affordable housing for all.

The meeting closed at 5.46 pm.

No. 50, Wednesday 20 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic and then Finance and Local Government were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes) made a statement and answered questions on Improving Transitions for Young Disabled People.

3. Impact of National Insurance Increase on Public Services: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved S6M-15529—That the Parliament believes that the UK Government should fully reimburse the over £500 million costs of employer national insurance contributions to the delivery of public services in Scotland as a result of the UK Autumn Statement; recognises that, if the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not fully reimburse these costs, it will have a detrimental impact on the services that the people of Scotland rely on, and notes with concern the wider impact of the increase in employer national insurance contributions on the education, hospice and charitable sectors, not least for those who deliver services such as social care.

Craig Hoy moved amendment S6M-15529.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15529 in the name of Neil Gray (Impact of National Insurance Increase on Public Services), leave out from "should" to end and insert "increasing employer national insurance contributions will have a detrimental impact on all sectors of Scotland's economy, including the public, private and voluntary sectors; further believes that it will harm the ability of the NHS in Scotland to deliver services and will undermine social care and third sector organisations involved in public sector delivery; recognises that the rise in employer national insurance contributions is a breach of the Labour Party's manifesto promise, which stated that it will not increase national insurance; acknowledges that this tax rise on jobs will disproportionately impact Scotland due to a higher number of public sector workers and higher public sector pay levels; notes that the Scottish Government's policy decisions have already increased the tax burden on hardworking people and businesses in Scotland; calls on the UK Government to reverse its increase to employer national insurance contributions, and further calls on the Scottish Government to use its Budget on 4 December 2024 to start the process of reversing the increased tax burden that it has imposed on Scotland's economy."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 90 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 3).

Jackie Baillie moved amendment S6M-15529.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15529 in the name of Neil Gray (Impact of National Insurance Increase on Public Services), leave out from "believes" to

end and insert "understands that the decisions taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Autumn Statement were necessary to fix the foundations of the economy and fund public services; welcomes the increase to the Scottish devolved budget of £1.5 billion in 2024-25 and £3.4 billion next year, which will deliver the highest ever devolved budget settlement in 2025-26; recognises that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has committed to providing funding to the public sector to support it with additional costs associated with changes to employer national insurance contributions, and calls on the Scottish Government to engage with organisations in the education, care and charitable sectors in the deployment of this additional funding, and to use its Budget to guarantee the sustainable delivery of frontline public services."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 102 (including 3 proxy votes, Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 73 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

4. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-15530—That the Parliament agrees that the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill be treated as an Emergency Bill.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 67 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 4).

5. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: Timetable and Procedures for Consideration: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15545—That, subject to the Parliament's agreement that the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill be treated as an Emergency Bill, the Parliament agrees to consider the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill as follows—

Stage 1 on Thursday 21 November 2024;

and, subject to the Parliament's agreement of the general principles of the Bill, Stages 2 and 3 on Tuesday 26 November 2024.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 92 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 31, Abstentions 0).

6. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15540—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 26 November 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Committee of the Whole Parliament — Stage 2 Proceedings: Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

8.00 pm Decision Time

Wednesday 27 November 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 28 November 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions

2.15 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Ministerial Statement: A96 Corridor Review Publication

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Housing (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Housing (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 3 December 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 4 December 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 5 December 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 25 November 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15553 — That

the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 21 November 2024—

after

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill

insert

followed by Financial Resolution: Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill

The motion was agreed to.

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15541—That the Parliament agrees that the Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15542—That the Parliament agrees that—

Clare Haughey be appointed to replace Jackie Dunbar as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Education, Children and Young People Committee;

Clare Adamson be appointed to replace Elena Whitham as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee; and

Jackie Dunbar be appointed to replace Gordon MacDonald as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 8 and 9 as noted above.

11. World COPD Day: The Parliament debated S6M-14806 in the name of Marie McNair—That the Parliament recognises that 20 November 2024 is World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Day, with this year's theme being Know Your Lung Function; understands that the day takes place to raise awareness of COPD and how to spot the symptoms, which include shortness of breath, a persistent chesty cough with phlegm, frequent chest infections and persistent wheezing; further understands that this lung disease causes restricted airflow and breathing problems and that it is a condition that most commonly affects people who smoke or have smoked, those who have been exposed to dust fumes or chemicals in work, and those who had chest trouble or asthma in childhood; notes with concern that, currently, the condition is estimated to affect over 140,000 people in Scotland who have had a diagnosis and that tens of thousands are living without a proper diagnosis; understands the importance of the five fundamentals of COPD care, which are smoking cessation advice, flu and pneumococcal vaccines, access to

pulmonary rehabilitation, co-development of a self-management plan and treatment for co-morbidities; welcomes the work of groups such as Asthma + Lung Scotland, which provides advice and support to people living with COPD, and commends community groups, such as the Clydebank Asbestos Group, which provide support to people living with asbestos-related illnesses, which can include COPD.

The meeting closed at 6.19 pm.

No. 51, Thursday 21 November 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Increasing Stroke Awareness: The Parliament debated S6M-15065 in the name of Roz McCall—That the Parliament notes reports that nearly 11,000 people in Scotland have a stroke every year, including in the Mid Scotland and Fife region; further notes the belief that raising public awareness of stroke signs and the need for immediate action is essential to improving health outcomes for stroke survivors; understands that the FAST (Face, Arms, Speech, Time) stroke awareness campaign undertaken by Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland, which launched on World Stroke Day on 29 October 2024, is aimed at increasing awareness among the public of the need for urgent medical attention for stroke; further understands the importance of repetition in any public health campaign; regrets that there has been no sustained government-backed campaign in Scotland, it understands, since before the COVID-19 pandemic; notes the calls from campaign groups to review public health messaging surrounding awareness of stroke symptoms, including the work of the BE-FAST (Balance, Eyes, Face, Arms, Speech, Time) campaign, which some academic research suggests detects 95.6% of strokes and is the acronym currently favoured by Harvard Medical School and Yale School of Medicine; notes the calls on the Scottish Government to work with Public Health Scotland and NHS boards to trial BE-FAST, in order to assess its effectiveness using data, which, it considers, would allow for informed decisions to be taken regarding the efficacy of current public health messaging, and further notes the hope that all stroke awareness campaigns can continue to increase awareness of the need for urgent medical attention should a patient present with any symptoms associated with stroke.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport (Maree Todd) made a statement and answered questions on National Care Service.

6. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-15531—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 69 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 49 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 3).

7. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-15551—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament

resulting from the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 92 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 30, Abstentions 0).

8. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.10 pm.

No. 52, Tuesday 26 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev. Teri C Peterson, Minister at Gourock, St John's Church of Scotland, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2A, 2, 4 and 5.

The following amendment was moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 3.

4. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time shall begin at 9.00 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-15603— That the Parliament agrees that the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 67 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 54 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

6. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15624—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 28 November 2024—

after

2.15 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Supporting Older People with Increasing Energy Costs

and after

followed by Financial Resolution: Housing (Scotland) Bill

insert

followed by Appointments of Commissioners of the Scottish Land Commission

The motion was agreed to.

7. Decision Time: There were no divisions as a result of today's business.

The meeting closed at 9.03 pm.

No. 52a, Tuesday 26 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.20 pm.

1. Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill - Stage 2: The Bill was considered at Stage 2 by a Committee of the Whole Parliament.

The following amendment was agreed to (without division): 21.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

1 (For 43, Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
2 (For 26, Against 71 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 20 (including 1 proxy vote))
3 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 71 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
4 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 71 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
6 (For 51 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 67 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
8 (For 29, Against 71 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 20 (including 1 proxy vote))
12 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
13 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 66 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 4)
15 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
23 (For 53 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 65 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
24 (For 54 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 66 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
26 (For 50 (including 1 proxy vote)), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)

The following amendment was moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 10.

The following amendments were not moved: 5, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29 and 30.

The following provisions were agreed to without amendment: 1, 2 and 4, the schedule, sections 5, 6 and 7 and the long title.

Section 3 was agreed to as amended.

The Committee completed Stage 2 consideration of the Bill.

The meeting closed at 5.30 pm.

No. 53, Wednesday 27 November 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Addressing the Crisis in Social Care Now: Jackie Baillie moved S6M-15613—That the Parliament notes that the Scottish Government formally committed to introduce a National Care Service (Scotland) Bill in September 2021; further notes that the Scottish Government's proposed amendment to part one of the Bill setting out the establishment of a National Care Service board has been roundly rejected by stakeholders; understands that the cost to date is £30 million, without a single penny being spent directly on care; urges the Scottish Ministers to accept that the Bill now has no realistic prospect of success in its current form; calls on the Scottish Government to take immediate steps to alleviate the crisis in social care, including delivering sufficient support for health and social care partnerships, and further calls on the Scottish Government to set out a timetable, before the Parliament's Christmas recess, for progressing reforms, including a right to respite care, Anne's Law, ethical commissioning, collective bargaining and the establishment of a National Social Work Agency.

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved amendment S6M-15613.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15613 in the name of Jackie Baillie (Addressing the Crisis in Social Care Now), leave out from "formally committed" to end and insert "introduced the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill in June 2022 to address the substantial concerns highlighted from the Feeley review, which noted poor and variable levels of social care around the country and the need for nationally enforceable standards of care; further notes that the Bill includes a right to respite care, Anne's Law and ethical commissioning; welcomes that the Scottish Government is developing a collective bargaining approach for social care in collaboration with local government, trade unions and social care providers and its continued commitment to establishing a National Social Work Agency; acknowledges the open letter from disabled people's organisations, which states that wholesale reform is so urgently needed; agrees that the service users, their families and carers should be the focus of a National Care Service; deplores that the increase in employer national insurance contributions from the UK Government will negatively impact on care services by increasing the cost to third parties contracted to deliver adult and children's social care services by almost £90 million and, according to COSLA estimates, to local government by £265 million, and agrees that, if the UK Labour administration does not reimburse this in full, it is the provision of these services that will feel the brunt."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 60 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 63 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0).

Sandesh Gulhane moved amendment S6M-15613.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15613 in the name of Jackie Baillie (Addressing the Crisis in Social Care Now), after "directly on care" insert ", despite over 6,000 people in Scotland currently waiting for a social care assessment to enable them to live independently at home or in the community".

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 55 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 33 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 90 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 1).

3. Tackling Abuse of Bus Drivers: Claire Baker moved S6M-15612—That the Parliament is deeply grieved by the death of Keith Rollinson following an assault at his place of work; agrees that workplace abuse is not acceptable and notes the serious concerns raised about levels of abuse in the recent mass survey of bus drivers in Scotland, carried out by Unite the Union; supports the union's campaign to improve driver safety, including its call for a public transport safety summit involving key stakeholders; calls on the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland to take swift action to address antisocial behaviour and violence towards bus drivers, including exploring the potential for legislative measures to protect transport workers against assault, threats and abuse; notes the increase in the rate of incidents following the extension of the bus travel scheme; supports fully the provision of free bus travel for young people and children aged under 22 and notes the multiple benefits that it brings, but acknowledges that this comes with responsibilities, and calls on the Scottish Government to remove access to concessionary bus passes from individuals who repeatedly carry out antisocial behaviour.

Mark Ruskell moved amendment S6M-15612.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15612 in the name of Claire Baker (Tackling Abuse of Bus Drivers), leave out from "; notes the increase" to end and insert ", alongside support for restrictions on all individuals who cause serious and repeated antisocial behaviour from accessing bus services, and further calls on bus operators to fully invest in measures to support the safety of transport workers and passengers, including on-board CCTV."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 7, Against 118 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 117 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 1, Abstentions 7).

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15625—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 3 December 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 4 December 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Budget 2025-26

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

4.20 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 5 December 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces Community in Scotland

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Empowering Young People's Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 10 December 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 11 December 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 12 December 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Health, Social Care and Sport Committee Debate: Remote and Rural Healthcare Inquiry

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 2 December 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15626—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 28 March 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2 and 3 as noted above.

7. Marking the 40th Anniversary of the Miners' Strike: The Parliament debated S6M-12169 in the name of Richard Leonard—That the Parliament notes that 12 March 2024 marks the 40th anniversary of the official start of the 1984-85 miners' strike; considers that this strike was, without parallel, the most significant industrial dispute since the 1926 general strike; believes that miners took action in defence of jobs, communities and a very way of life; considers that the full force of the state was deployed against the miners and their trade union, the National Union of Mineworkers, but that they stood steadfast for a full year; believes that the strike could not have endured without public support, including from women's groups, the lesbian and gay community, trade unions and workers across the world; deplores what it sees as the injustices towards miners and their communities during and since the strike; notes the belief that there is continuing need for investment in mining communities, and further notes the call for a public inquiry into the policing of the strike.

8. Motion Without Notice: Richard Leonard moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.
The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.34 pm.

No. 54, Thursday 28 November 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. 25 Years of Tweeddale Youth Action: The Parliament debated S6M-14645 in the name of Christine Grahame— That the Parliament congratulates Tweeddale Youth Action (TYA) on celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2024; notes that TYA, based in Peebles, provides a range of services to local young people, in addition to youth club drop-ins, excursions and holiday programmes, and also running the innovative Food Punks and Bike Punks initiatives; understands that Food Punks, a catering enterprise providing training to young people, has recently secured its first permanent premises on Peebles High Street, where it hopes to open a pizza shop, which will provide further hospitality training and employment opportunities for young people; further understands that Bike Punks also continues to go from strength to strength, with a workshop based in Innerleithen, tying in to the strong mountain biking presence in the area, which provides training on welding and repairing bicycles; believes that TYA has shown a genuinely innovative approach to improving the lives of local young people over its 25 years, which would not have been possible without the continuing hard work of the team of dedicated TYA staff, volunteers and trustees; wishes everyone involved the very best for the future, and recognises the contribution of youth work across Scotland in improving outcomes for young people.

4. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions: Questions were answered by members of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) made a statement and answered questions on Supporting Older People with Increasing Energy Costs.

7. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) made a statement and answered questions on A96 Corridor Review Publication.

8. Housing (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) moved S6M-15605—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Housing (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 31, Abstentions 4).

9. Housing (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) moved S6M-15211—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Housing (Scotland) Bill, agrees to—
(a) any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act, and
(b) any charge or payment in relation to which Rule 9.12.4 of the Parliament's Standing Orders applies arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Appointments of Commissioners of the Scottish Land Commission: The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved S6M-15637—That the Parliament notes the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee's consideration and recommendation of three appointments to the Scottish Land Commission at its meeting on 12 November 2024; welcomes the Committee's recommendation that the Parliament approves the appointment of Dr Lucy Beattie and Dr Calum MacLeod as Land Commissioners to the Scottish Land Commission and the appointment of Robert Black as Tenant Farming Commissioner to the Scottish Land Commission, and approves the appointments as required by section 10 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 87 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 31, Abstentions 0).

11. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 8, 9 and 10 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.21 pm.

No. 55, Tuesday 3 December 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rt Rev Frank Dougan, Bishop of the Diocese of Galloway, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15709— That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Tuesday 3 December 2024—

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.20 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

4. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the findings of Audit Scotland's report, NHS in Scotland 2024, that the Scottish Government has no clear plan to deliver its NHS vision, was answered by Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray).

5. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15685—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 50 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 1 hour 25 minutes

Groups 7 and 8: 1 hour 45 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 19.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

1 (For 89 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

21 (For 51 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 60 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 7)
22 (For 50 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 67 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
5 (For 27, Against 88 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
17 (For 46 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
23 (For 55 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 59 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 3.

The following amendments were not moved: 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 18 and 24.

7. Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-15683—That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 117 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

8. Motion without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.56pm.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

10. Findings of the Cross-Party Group on Beer and Pubs Report, What Does "Brand Scotland" Mean for the Scottish Beer and Pub Sector?: The Parliament debated S6M-14749 in the name of Craig Hoy—That the Parliament notes the publication of the findings of the Cross-Party Group on Beer and Pubs' report, What does "Brand Scotland" mean for the Scottish Beer and Pub sector?; believes that Scotland should be a highly desirable country to live, work, study, visit, trade and invest; understands that the Scottish beer and pub sector contributes significantly to Brand Scotland; welcomes the inquiry carried out by MSPs, who took written and oral evidence from a wide section of witnesses, including breweries, pub operators, trade groups and research organisations; understands that witnesses told the inquiry about the dynamic and vibrant contribution that the sector makes to communities and the economy across Scotland, including in the South Scotland region, with over 100 breweries and 4,340 pubs employing 65,000 people and contributing £1.8 billion in wider economic benefits; notes what it sees as the largely unacknowledged and

unique benefits that Scotland's pubs and breweries provide, including preventing social exclusion, boosting tourism, supporting local festivals, music, arts and sport, and acting as a catalyst for local events and charity fundraising; further notes, with concern, reports that Scotland's pubs are closing at a faster rate than elsewhere in the UK, with investment being diverted as, it understands, a lack of certainty makes it difficult to plan ahead, including as a result of regulatory proposals, complex and time consuming planning processes, employment challenges and business rates; notes that the report calls for a new hospitality strategy that aligns with Brand Scotland, which includes a review of business rates, the promotion of employment opportunities and a recognition of the need for a period of regulatory calm, and which should be developed in partnership with the sector, trade representatives and the Scottish Government, and further notes the calls for MSPs to commit to implementing these changes for the social and economic wellbeing of the Scottish hospitality sector.

The meeting closed at 5.48 pm.

No. 56, Wednesday 4 December 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Budget 2025-26.

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15710—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 10 December 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: 2025 National Improvement Framework and Long-term Strategy for Scottish Education

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Pathways to Global Human Rights: Towards a Stronger Human Rights Culture in Scotland

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 11 December 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 12 December 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Health, Social Care and Sport Committee Debate: Remote and Rural Healthcare Inquiry

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 17 December 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 18 December 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Education (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Education (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 19 December 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

12.45 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

1.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 9 December 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15711—That the Parliament agrees that the Budget (Scotland) Act 2024 Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.
The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15712—That the Parliament agrees that the Disability Assistance (Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 4 and 5 as noted above.

7. The Open University Supports the Scots Language: The Parliament debated S6M-15571 in the name of Emma Harper—That the Parliament recognises that the Open University (OU) in Scotland, in conjunction with Education Scotland, has produced the first of its kind professional learning course for teachers on the Scots language; welcomes the partnership working between both organisations; understands that over 200 teachers have signed up to the course since January 2024 using Scottish Government-funded places; further understands that the course creates a Scotland-wide community of practice where teachers realise the transformative role of embedding Scots language and culture in the classroom; recognises what it sees as the educational, as well as equality, diversity and inclusion, benefits of embedding Scots in the classroom; believes that, with teachers participating from across 12 different secondary subject areas and all primary

curricular areas, this demonstrates the strong interdisciplinary potential of teaching Scots; wishes all of the participants every success with their studies; applauds the OU's first research study into the needs and experiences of adult learners of the language, often New Scots, and notes its work in developing Scots and Gaelic language community education for refugees and migrants in the South Scotland region and across the country, as well as the OU's pioneering collaboration with NHS Education Scotland aimed at embedding the Scots language in health and social care to enhance staff and service users' experiences.

8. Powering Futures - Putting Young People at the Heart of the Energy Transition: The Parliament debated S6M-14602 in the name of Michael Matheson—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the important work of Powering Futures, which, it understands, has put young people at the heart of the energy transition, giving them the knowledge, skills and experience of real-life scenarios so that they are equipped to respond to the energy transition; notes that Powering Futures connects business and education to empower young people across Scotland, including in the Falkirk West constituency, to respond to the challenges of an energy transition; understands that, since Powering Futures launched in 2020, it has engaged with over 3,000 young people across Scotland and 150 businesses; notes that 45 schools across Scotland are currently participating in Powering Future's education programme, with a further 100 schools registered to participate in 2024, and believes that Powering Futures is doing important work to connect different sectors with schools and young people through the SCQF Level 6 accredited programme, which results in young people gaining a SCQF Level 6 qualification.

The meeting closed at 5.26 pm.

No. 57, Thursday 5 December 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Publication of the Marie Curie Report, Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024: The Parliament debated S6M-15411 in the name of Paul Sweeney—That the Parliament welcomes the publication of the Marie Curie report, Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024; understands that the report is taken from research carried out by Marie Curie and Loughborough University; notes that the report has found that one in four working age people and one in six pension age people in Scotland face poverty at the end of life; understands that terminal illness exacerbates existing inequality; notes the report's findings that symptoms of terminal illness can result in higher energy costs, costs for housing adaptations and force people to leave the labour market and rely on social security support; considers that these challenges are not confined to the dying person, but also affect family and unpaid carers who, it believes, are too often left to carry out the bulk of caring duties due to what it sees as inadequate support; notes the belief that more must be done to target support to those who are facing dying, death and bereavement, and further notes the calls for governments to consider the report and work with Marie Curie to prevent people in Scotland, including those in the Glasgow region, from dying in poverty.

4. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15709—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 5 December 2024—

after

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Empowering Young People's Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

insert

followed by Financial Resolution: Scottish Languages Bill

The motion was agreed to.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

6. Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces Community in Scotland: The Minister for Higher and Further Education; and Minister for Veterans (Graeme Dey) moved S6M-15734—That the Parliament recognises and acknowledges the importance of Scotland's veterans and Armed Forces community and greatly values the significant contribution that it continues to make to society; further recognises that the contribution of veterans and their families continues and grows as they move

back into the communities that they served, with their experiences positively enriching society and providing a valuable talent pool for employers, and agrees that the Scottish Government, cognisant of the important ongoing work of the Scottish Veterans Commissioner, should continue to work with partners across the public, private and third sectors to ensure that the veterans and Armed Forces community receives the best possible support and access to services.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Empowering Young People's Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls: The Minister for Equalities (Kaukab Stewart) moved S6M-15735—That the Parliament recognises the international 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign 2024; further recognises the vital contribution that the sector has made this year to tackle violence against women and girls, in particular the role that it has played in supporting children and young people who have experienced violence, abuse and exploitation; welcomes this year's debate at the Scottish Youth Parliament, which challenged politicians to ensure that the youth voice is central to action to address gender-based violence; recognises the importance of working with young people to ensure that their experience and expertise are harnessed to build a future that is equally safe; further recognises and champions the importance of education as an early and ongoing strand of prevention; condemns misogyny and all forms of violence against women and girls, and acknowledges the significant harm that they cause to individuals and wider society.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Scottish Languages Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-15752— That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Scottish Languages Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Establishment of a Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15753—

That the Parliament shall establish a committee of the Parliament as follows:

Name of Committee: SPCB Supported Bodies Landscape Review Committee

Remit: To consider, review and report on the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) supported bodies landscape in accordance with the Parliament's resolution of 31 October 2024 and develop a clear strategic framework to underpin and provide coherence and structure to the SPCB supported bodies landscape by the end of June 2025, including—

(a) creating effective accountability and scrutiny mechanisms;

(b) formalising strengthened criteria for creating new supported bodies; and

(c) identifying and addressing any barriers to sharing services and offices.

Duration: Until 30 September 2025.

Number of members: 5.

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party.

Membership: Murdo Fraser, Richard Leonard, Ben Macpherson, Ash Regan, Lorna Slater.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6, 7, 8 and 9 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.03 pm.

No. 58, Tuesday 10 December 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Sila Collins-Walden, Quaker, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

3. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) made a statement and answered questions on 2025 National Improvement Framework and Long-term Strategy for Scottish Education.

4. Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30.

5. Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill: The Minister for Victims and Community Safety (Siobhian Brown) moved S6M-15783—That the Parliament agrees that the Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 119 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

6. Pathways to Global Human Rights: Towards a Stronger Human Rights Culture in Scotland: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-15782—That the Parliament recognises 10 December 2024 as Human Rights Day; supports this year's theme of "Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now"; agrees that human rights present a route to a more peaceful, equitable and sustainable world; recognises that this year marks the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Council of Europe, and supports its vital mission to uphold human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe; celebrates important steps to advance rights in Scotland, including the commencement of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024; commends the role of human rights organisations, human rights defenders and wider civil society in driving change and challenging everyone to do better, and reaffirms its own commitment to strengthen, respect, protect and fulfil human rights through both practical action and future legislation.

Tess White moved amendment S6M-15782.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15782 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (Pathways to Global Human Rights: Towards a Stronger Human Rights Culture in Scotland), leave out from "that this year" to end and insert "the important work of bodies, organisations and charities in Scotland, across the UK and around the world that act to uphold human rights and protect those who are vulnerable; acknowledges the steps to advance rights in Scotland, including the commencement of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024; notes, however, concerns among civil

society regarding the Scottish Government's engagement over the draft Disability Equality Plan, as well as other measures to improve and progress human rights in Scotland, which, it believes, the Scottish Government has not delivered; highlights a report from the Scottish Human Rights Commission published in November 2024, which emphasises the 'significant' human rights challenges for people in rural and remote areas of Scotland; recognises that a number of women's groups continue to have serious concerns about the Scottish Government's approach to the rights and safety of women and children; calls on the Scottish Government to work in a careful and considered way with public bodies and the third sector, in light of recent criticism over the way that it has engaged on policy matters, and urges it to take urgent and meaningful action on issues affecting human rights, including Scotland's national housing emergency and access to vital public services such as health and social care."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 89 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. Opposition to the Post Office Closure Plan: The Parliament debated S6M-15654 in the name of Kenneth Gibson—That the Parliament notes the opposition to the proposal set out in the Post Office's Transformation Plan on 13 November 2024 to consult on closing its 115 remaining crown branches; understands that these proposals would involve the closure of 10 branches in Scotland, including the branch in Saltcoats town centre; notes the opposition of the Communication Workers Union, which has characterised the proposal as being "as tone deaf as it is immoral"; believes that crown branches provide a range of vital services that are not available in all Post Offices; notes the view that, at a time when more and more shops and services are leaving the high street, there is a case for more crown branches, not fewer, and conveys its sympathy to the estimated 1,000 Post Office employees whose jobs are now at risk.

The meeting closed at 5.49 pm.

No. 59, Wednesday 11 December 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic and then Finance and Local Government were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Delivering a Common Sense Budget for Scotland: Craig Hoy moved S6M-15792—That the Parliament believes that the draft Scottish Budget 2025-26 will not deliver good value for taxpayers; notes its continuation of the Scottish National Party administration's high-tax agenda, which has damaged economic growth in Scotland; condemns funding for free bus travel for asylum seekers, which could have instead been used to provide 6,600 pensioners in Scotland with a full Winter Heating Payment, and calls on the Scottish Government to cut income tax to 19% for those earning up to £43,662, introduce full business rates relief for pubs and restaurants across Scotland for 2025-26, and raise the threshold at which house buyers pay residential Land and Buildings Transaction Tax to £250,000.

The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved amendment S6M-15792.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15792 in the name of Craig Hoy (Delivering a Common Sense Budget for Scotland), leave out from “believes” to end and insert “welcomes steps in the draft 2025-26 Budget to introduce a universal Winter Heating Payment and create the systems necessary to effectively scrap the two-child benefit cap in 2026, and looks forward to further engagement between the Scottish Government and the parties represented in the Parliament in advance of the next stage in the budget process.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 73 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 21).

Michael Marra moved amendment S6M-15792.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-15792 in the name of Craig Hoy (Delivering a Common Sense Budget for Scotland), leave out from “believes” to end and insert “rejects wholly any attempt to pit vulnerable groups in Scottish society against one another for political ends; welcomes an additional £5 billion of investment in Scotland as a result of the UK Labour administration's Budget; regrets that the Scottish National Party (SNP) administration has had to use its draft Budget for 2025-26 to correct many of the mistakes that it made in its Budget for 2024-25; notes that the Auditor General, the Institute for Fiscal Studies and the Fraser of Allander Institute have variously criticised the SNP administration's failure to reform public services, and further notes with concern the SNP administration's failure to address the challenges to long-term fiscal sustainability and its absence of a vision to improve outcomes for people across Scotland.”

After debate, the amendment was pre-empted as a result of amendment S6M-15792.3 being agreed to.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 94 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament welcomes steps in the draft 2025-26 Budget to introduce a universal Winter Heating Payment and create the systems necessary to effectively scrap the two-child benefit cap in 2026, and looks forward to further engagement between the Scottish Government and the parties represented in the Parliament in advance of the next stage in the budget process.

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15808—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 17 December 2024

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 18 December 2024

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Education (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Education (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 19 December 2024

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

12.45 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

1.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Tuesday 7 January 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 8 January 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: National Performance Framework - Review of National Outcomes

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 9 January 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Disability Commissioner (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 16 December 2024, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15809—That the Parliament agrees that the Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 73 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 49, Abstentions 0).

5. Approval of SI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15810—That the Parliament agrees that the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Approval of SI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15811—That the Parliament agrees that the Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 4, 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. Reversal of £10 Million Funding for Changing Places Toilets: The Parliament debated S6M-14427 in the name of Jeremy Balfour—That the Parliament expresses its shock that the Scottish Government has, it understands, gone back on its pledge to invest £10 million to increase the number of Changing Places toilets across Scotland; notes that this promise was made originally in 2021 by the former First Minister as part of the 2021-22 Programme for Government, and was repeated numerous times by multiple ministers over the following years; understands that Changing Places toilets are not a luxury facility, but are vital for many profoundly disabled people to take part in society, including those in the Lothian region; considers that this is the latest in a long list of examples of the Scottish Government not taking seriously the needs of disabled people and allowing them to pay the price of what it sees as Scottish National Party (SNP) financial mismanagement; echoes

the disappointment that has been expressed by many individuals and organisations in response to the announcement, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to honour the promise that it made to disabled people.

The meeting closed at 6.08 pm.

No. 60, Thursday 12 December 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Kingdom Off Road Motorcycle Club Awarded £90,000 of Funding: The Parliament debated S6M-14008 in the name of David Torrance—That the Parliament congratulates Kingdom Off Road Motorcycle Club on securing £90,000 of funding from Foundation Scotland's Tackling Inequalities Fund; understands that the Fife-based motorbike charity will use the money over a three-year period to go towards supporting local young people and harnessing their energy through the adrenaline-inducing sport; acknowledges the club's aim to make safe, off-road motorcycling more accessible for people of all ages in a bid to reduce the antisocial and illegal use of off-road motorcycles; understands that the club works in partnership with Police Scotland and other organisations and has sustained an 80% reduction in antisocial behaviour over the last couple of years; commends the club on the opportunities that it provides for people, as well as the reported social impact that it has had in the Fife area, and wishes the club the very best for the future.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

5. Remote and Rural Healthcare Inquiry: Clare Haughey, on behalf of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, moved S6M-15767—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee's 13th Report, 2024 (Session 6), Remote and Rural Healthcare Inquiry (SP Paper 654).

The motion was agreed to.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.03 pm.

No. 61, Tuesday 17 December 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Dr Alexander Leslie Milton, Minister, St. Andrew's High Parish Church, Musselburgh, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15917— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 17 December 2024—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government Response to the Martins Review on the Use of Mobile Messaging Apps and Non-corporate Technology

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.40 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Response to the Martins Review on the Use of Mobile Messaging Apps and Non-corporate Technology.

5. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15884—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 and 2: 1 hour 10 minutes

Groups 3 and 4: 1 hour 25 minutes

Groups 5 to 7: 1 hour 45 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 34, 35, 36, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33.

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 7.

The following amendments were not moved: 3, 37, 9 and 8.

The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved a motion without notice under Rule 9.8.5A to move the first time limit by up to 30 minutes. The motion was agreed to.

7. Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-15875—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 111 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

9. Celebrating 10 Years of Same-sex Marriage in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-15775 in the name of Emma Roddick—That the Parliament celebrates 10 years since the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014 came into force, legalising same-sex marriage in Scotland; welcomes what it sees as the decade of love, respect and freedom of choice that has followed the implementation of the Act on 16 December 2014; understands that over 9,300 same-sex marriages have been recorded by National Records of Scotland to date; recognises what it sees as the bravery and tenacity of LGBTQI+ and equalities campaigners who brought about the conditions for change, and who, it considers, continue to advance the rights of minorities; further recognises what it sees as the ongoing international struggle for marriage equality, with, it understands, same-sex marriage being legal in only 36 states across the globe; considers that Scotland is one of the most LGBTQI+ friendly nations in Europe, with strong LGBTQI+ legal equality and the world's first LGBT-inclusive curriculum, and notes the calls on the Scottish Parliament to stay determined in its defence of the rights and wellbeing of LGBTQI+ people in Scotland, including in the Highlands and Islands region, and to act as a progressive global exemplar in the face of what it sees as reactionary political currents.

The meeting closed at 6.31 pm.

No. 62, Wednesday 18 December 2024

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Education (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) moved S6M-15876—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Education (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 96 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 21).

3. Education (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) moved S6M-15897—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Education (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15918—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 7 January 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Tackling Child Poverty and Inequality Through the Scottish Budget

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 8 January 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scotland's Secure Accommodation Capacity

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: National Performance Framework - Review of National Outcomes

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 9 January 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Building a Migration System that Supports Scotland's Economy, Public Services and Communities

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 14 January 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 15 January 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

7.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 16 January 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee Debate

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 6 January 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15919—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 4 April 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15920—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 4 April 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15921—That the Parliament agrees that the Regulated Roles (Prohibitions and Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-15922—That the Parliament agrees that the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Leases (Automatic Continuation etc.) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3, 7 and 8 as noted above.

10. A Safe, Accessible and Sustainable Holyrood Park for the 21st Century: The Parliament debated S6M-15634 in the name of Lorna Slater—That the Parliament welcomes the recently published Strategic Plan for Holyrood Park; recognises what it sees as the benefits of the park to people, nature and heritage; notes the support for the vision for the park, set out in the plan, of an evolving landscape combining human action and natural processes to create a fundamentally sustainable 21st century landscape that responds to the climate emergency, community aspirations, and natural and heritage conservation priorities, all while retaining and strengthening its iconic status for Edinburgh and Scotland; understands that the legislation relating to the park was passed in 1971, and notes the belief that it is in desperate need of updating to meet the new vision for the park, as set out in the strategy; further understands that the implementation of the strategy will aim to conserve and restore nature in the park, refresh the network of paths and trails, provide a safe place for people to gather, meet, play and relax, and will explore opportunities to expand active travel within the park, and notes the belief that all of these aims would be furthered by ending through motor traffic in the park.

The meeting closed at 5.50 pm.

No. 63, Thursday 19 December 2024

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

4. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

5. Repairing Potholes on Scotland's Roads: The Parliament debated S6M-14155 in the name of Pam Gosal— That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the degrading state of Scotland's roads, due to potholes; understands that, between April 2023 and February 2024, 108,256 potholes were recorded in 29 out of 32 Scottish local authorities, including 2,463 potholes in East Dunbartonshire and 1,867 potholes in West Dunbartonshire; further understands that the number of potholes recorded by local authorities has increased by 15% since the fiscal year 2021-22; acknowledges the findings of a report from the RAC, which has shown that the state of roads was the main concern of six in 10 drivers across the UK, and that pothole damage costs drivers an average of £460, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to take meaningful action to repair Scotland's roads by providing local authorities with the funding that they need to repair potholes.

The meeting closed at 1.59 pm.

No. 64, Tuesday 7 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Jess Pepper, Director, Climate Café® CIC (Hosts of the Global Climate Café® Network), led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16025—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 7 January 2025—

after

followed by Topical Questions

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Health and Social Care Response to Winter

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Ministers.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) made a statement and answered questions on Health and Social Care Response to Winter.

5. Tackling Child Poverty and Inequality Through the Scottish Budget: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-16003—That the Parliament notes the investments outlined in the draft Scottish Budget for 2025-26 that focus on eradicating child poverty as a national mission and the single greatest priority for the Scottish Government, including continued investment in key policies such as funded early learning and childcare, concessionary travel for those under 22, employability services and social security; further notes increased investment in the Affordable Housing Supply Programme and investment in breakfast clubs and to support the expansion of free school meals; recognises that the Scottish Government's efforts to tackle child poverty are being undermined by the social security policies of the UK Government; welcomes the Scottish Government's commitment to spend £3 million to develop the systems to deliver the mitigation of the two-child cap in 2026; acknowledges analysis from the Child Poverty Action Group estimating that abolishing the two-child limit could lift 15,000 children in Scotland out of poverty; recognises that the measures in the draft Scottish Budget 2025-26 will help to drive progress towards this national mission, and calls on the UK Government to match the ambition of the Scottish Government and abolish the two-child limit and benefit cap at the earliest possible opportunity.

Russell Findlay moved amendment S6M-16003.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16003 in the name of John Swinney (Tackling Child Poverty and Inequality Through the Scottish Budget), leave out from “the investments” to end and insert “that the Scottish Government has

> failed to reduce child poverty during 17 years of Scottish National Party administration; recognises that the poverty-related attainment gap between the most and least deprived pupils has grown according to the most recent statistics and that the Scottish Government will fail to meet its previously stated target of closing that attainment gap by 2026; acknowledges that Scottish Government policies, which seek to take a more lenient approach to young offenders, have contributed to vulnerable young people in deprived communities being targeted by organised gangs to carry out criminality; believes that the draft Scottish Budget 2025-26 will continue to harm Scotland's economic growth, which is desperately needed if the country is to tackle child poverty, and calls on the Scottish Government to rethink the draft 2025-26 Scottish Budget by providing workers and businesses across Scotland with a tax cut that will help induce the economic growth that Scotland needs."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 30, Against 92 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-16003.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16003 in the name of John Swinney (Tackling Child Poverty and Inequality Through the Scottish Budget), leave out from first "notes" to end and insert "agrees that child poverty should be a national mission for the Scottish Government and more widely across the Parliament, but deeply regrets that, after almost 18 years of a Scottish National Party (SNP) administration, there are 30,000 more children in poverty; acknowledges that child poverty rates across the UK have risen under the economic mismanagement of the previous UK Conservative administration; recognises that Scotland has its own legally binding child poverty reduction targets, which the SNP administration is likely to miss, despite successive First Ministers declaring action on child poverty to be a priority; acknowledges an additional £5 billion of investment in Scotland as a result of the UK Labour administration's Budget; regrets that the SNP administration has had to use its draft Budget for 2025-26 to correct many of the mistakes that it made in its Budget for 2024-25; is deeply concerned by the Scottish Government's decision to cut measures that act as barriers to poverty; agrees that there is a need to take a multi-faceted approach, and therefore welcomes the work of the UK Labour administration to strengthen workers' rights, review universal credit, build a fairer social security system, and deliver a pay rise for 200,000 of the lowest-paid people in Scotland with a genuine living wage; welcomes the establishment of a cross-government Child Poverty Ministerial Taskforce by the UK Government; encourages the Scottish Government to work collaboratively to tackle the root causes of poverty across Scotland, and recognises that, to end poverty, action needs to be taken to get the economy moving, to get public services working, and to create more, decent well-paid jobs."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 20, Against 102 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 72 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 50, Abstentions 0).

6. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16026—That the Parliament agrees that Stuart McMillan be appointed to replace James Dornan as a member of the Public Audit Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. The Importance of Medical Technology for Patients with Diabetes: The Parliament debated S6M-13791 in the name of Foysol Choudhury—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the vital importance of medical technology, especially real-time continuous glucose monitoring (rt-CGM), for patients with diabetes; notes the Stanford University study that highlighted that type 1 diabetics, and those who use insulin to manage their condition, make about 180 more decisions each day about their health than those without diabetes, and that access to diabetes technology helps to reduce this burden; welcomes the recent SIGN guidance to improve the accessibility of such technology to patients via NHS Scotland; understands that many patients are not able to access rt-CGM or are being forced to switch to a product less suitable for their needs; is concerned about the impact that changes to product use and a lack of access to medical technology is having on patients and the potential impact on diabetes complications; recognises what it sees as the value of sustainable multi-year funding and lifecycle cost benefit analysis in diabetes care, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to consider what action can be taken to protect patients, including those in the Lothian region, and maximise the availability of cost-saving medical technology.

The meeting closed at 6.07 pm.

No. 65, Wednesday 8 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland's Secure Accommodation Capacity.

3. Report on the National Performance Framework: Review of National Outcomes: Kenneth Gibson, on behalf of the Finance and Public Administration Committee, moved S6M-15708—That the Parliament notes the findings and recommendations in the Finance and Public Administration Committee's 10th Report, 2024 (Session 6), Report on the National Performance Framework: Review of National Outcomes (SP Paper 685), and the responses from other committees, as referenced in annexe B to the report.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16027—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 14 January 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: Winter Heating Payment

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Valuing Culture: Scotland's Support to the Culture Sector

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 15 January 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
7.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 16 January 2025
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport
followed by Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee Debate: Inquiry into the A9 Dualling Programme
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Tuesday 21 January 2025
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Scottish Government Business
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 22 January 2025
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 23 January 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 13 January 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16028—That the Parliament agrees that the Burial (Management) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16029—That the Parliament agrees that the Burial and Cremation (Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. St Mirren Announces Landmark Partnership with UWS: The Parliament debated S6M-14331 in the name of George Adam—That the Parliament

congratulates St Mirren on its landmark partnership with the University of the West of Scotland (UWS); understands this partnership will enable the two Paisley-based institutions to work together to develop the relationship between sport and academia in Scotland, enriching the learning and research opportunities available to UWS students and staff and supporting St Mirren to improve standards across all facets of the club; praises St Mirren on its commitment to Paisley and the community, and acknowledges what it sees as the excellent example that it sets as a fan-owned community-focused football club.

The meeting closed at 5.33 pm.

No.66, Thursday 9 January 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Expanding Scotland's Connectivity from Edinburgh and Beyond: The Parliament debated S6M-15883 in the name of Ash Regan—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the importance of enhancing connectivity for communities, economic empowerment and Scotland's global competitiveness; welcomes the reported ambition of Edinburgh Airport in seeking US preclearance status to streamline international travel and support economic growth; notes the view that there is a pressing need to address reported current access congestion by creating a second entry via Gogar, to ensure that the airport remains accessible and fit for purpose; further notes the view that it is urgent to ensure that Glasgow, as a major city, is not left behind due to a lack of an integrated and efficient transport system; notes the calls for strategic investment in developing port infrastructure in Dundee, Aberdeen, Gourock and Leith to enhance maritime connectivity and economic opportunities; further notes the view that there is a need to upgrade major road routes, including addressing critical safety and capacity issues on the A9 in the Highlands, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to prioritise sustainable and inclusive infrastructure development that connects Scotland internally and to the world, supporting growth and opportunity for all.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Building a Migration System that Supports Scotland's Economy, Public Services and Communities: The Minister for Equalities (Kaukab Stewart) moved S6M-16034—That the Parliament recognises the social, economic and cultural contribution made to Scotland by those who have chosen to live here; notes the establishment of Scotland's Migration Service at a cost of up to £1.5 million in the draft Budget 2025-26 to help employers, investors and individuals navigate the UK immigration system; further notes that the Parliament has previously endorsed a motion calling for the development of a differentiated, more flexible migration policy tailored to meet Scotland's specific needs, and calls on the UK Government to accept the Rural Visa Pilot proposal and to work directly and constructively with the Scottish Government to ensure that the needs of Scotland's employers, communities and public services are fully reflected within the immigration system.

Jeremy Balfour moved amendment S6M-16034.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16034 in the name of Kaukab Stewart (Building a Migration System that Supports Scotland's Economy, Public Services and Communities), leave out from first "notes" to end and insert "understands that Scotland receives 6% of net migration to the UK, which is

lower than its 8.4% population share; notes that the Scottish Government has made Scotland an unattractive destination to move to through a combination of higher taxes on skilled professionals, a lack of investment in rural economies, a failure to provide adequate transport routes, an inability to provide enough homes in key areas, and a neglect of public services; further notes that the Scottish Government's failures have led to depopulation from some of Scotland's more rural parts, and asserts that immigration is a matter reserved to the UK Parliament and not in the jurisdiction of the Scottish Parliament."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 27, Against 90 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Rhoda Grant moved amendment S6M-16034.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-16034 in the name of Kaukab Stewart (Building a Migration System that Supports Scotland's Economy, Public Services and Communities), leave out from "the establishment" to end and insert "that there have previously been successful models of differentiated migration schemes, tailored to Scotland's specific needs, such as Fresh Talent; recognises the impact of rural depopulation on Scotland's communities and their sustainability, including the survival of the Gaelic language; calls on the Scottish Government to use its existing powers to encourage population retention and internal migration where it would benefit Scotland's communities and economy; understands that the conditions in Scotland's rural and island communities are challenging due to the centralisation of services and the degradation of infrastructure, and that migration alone will not fix these systemic problems, and calls on the Scottish Government to build homes, provide high quality public services, provide local education and ensure sustainable transport links in rural and island communities in order to ensure that populations are sustainable in the long term."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 24, Against 93 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Maggie Chapman moved amendment S6M-16034.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-16034 in the name of Kaukab Stewart (Building a Migration System that Supports Scotland's Economy, Public Services and Communities), insert at end "; remains committed to ensuring that all migrants in Scotland have all of their rights fulfilled; recognises the pervasive and increasingly hostile anti-migrant rhetoric from some politicians and media sources; believes that further action is required by both the UK and Scottish governments to support people displaced due to the climate crisis, and calls on the UK Government to remove the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) conditions that limit the support and services available to many, especially those seeking asylum."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 21).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 67 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 22)
Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament recognises the social, economic and cultural contribution made to Scotland by those who have chosen to live here; notes the establishment of Scotland's Migration Service at a cost of up to £1.5 million in the draft Budget 2025-26 to help employers, investors and individuals navigate the UK immigration system; further notes that the Parliament has previously endorsed a motion calling for the development of a differentiated, more flexible migration policy tailored to meet Scotland's specific needs; calls on the UK Government to accept the Rural Visa Pilot proposal and to work directly and constructively with the Scottish Government to ensure that the needs of Scotland's employers, communities and public services are fully reflected within the immigration system; remains committed to ensuring that all migrants in Scotland have all of their rights fulfilled; recognises the pervasive and increasingly hostile anti-migrant rhetoric from some politicians and media sources; believes that further action is required by both the UK and Scottish governments to support people displaced due to the climate crisis, and calls on the UK Government to remove the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) conditions that limit the support and services available to many, especially those seeking asylum.

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.17 pm.

No. 67, Tuesday 14 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Malcolm Macleod, Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) made a statement and answered questions on Winter Heating Payment.

4. Valuing Culture: Scotland's Support to the Culture Sector: The Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) moved S6M-16092—That the Parliament celebrates arts and culture in Scotland in all their diverse forms, past, present and emerging; recognises the transformational impact that they can have on people's lives across Scotland; welcomes the economic contribution that the cultural and creative industries workforces make to society and the economy; acknowledges the importance of the community culture sector, and commends the innovative local organisations, in both rural and urban areas, for the work that they do to support participation in cultural pursuits; considers that a strong and successful culture sector is central to the prosperity of the nation; welcomes that, against a backdrop of cultural funding being cut by the UK Government, the draft Scottish Government Budget for 2025-26 increases frontline culture funding by £34 million, and believes that Scotland's cultural communities can be supported to continue to develop and innovate in exhibition, performance and participation in Scotland's artistic life.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-16092.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16092 in the name of Angus Robertson (Valuing Culture: Scotland's Support to the Culture Sector), leave out from second "welcomes" to end and insert "recognises the important contribution that volunteers make to the vitality of Scotland's culture sector; acknowledges that the culture sector has been subjected to repeated budgetary mismanagement by the Scottish Government and that the draft Budget 2025-26 still leaves the sector in a precarious position; notes that large music venues are not supported by the provisions on business rates relief in the draft Budget; recognises that key cultural areas, such as libraries and music tuition, still face cuts due to the constraints facing local authority budgets; notes that Creative Scotland remains under review by the Scottish Government, and trusts that public funds will not in future be used to support pornographic material, and urges the Scottish Government to foster innovation and participation in Scotland's culture sector to ensure that it remains vibrant for generations to come."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 88 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Neil Bibby moved amendment S6M-16092.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16092 in the name of Angus Robertson (Valuing Culture: Scotland's Support to the Culture Sector), leave out from second "welcomes" to end and insert "acknowledges the scale of the crisis that the culture sector has been suffering over a number of years; notes that the Scottish Government has not held a debate on support for the culture sector in the current parliamentary session until now; welcomes the intention to increase the culture budget by £34 million in 2025-26, following the record budget settlement of £47.7 billion to the Scottish Government from the UK Labour administration; notes the observation by the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee that the culture sector's 'confidence remains low due to the lack of clarity from the Scottish Government regarding its priorities for the additional investment', and believes that Scotland's cultural communities must be supported to continue to develop and innovate in exhibition, performance and participation in Scotland's artistic life."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 24, Against 64 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 28).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 69 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 23, Abstentions 26).

5. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-16112— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Wednesday 15 January 2025—

delete

7.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.45 pm Decision Time

(b) Thursday 16 January 2025—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government's Response to the UK Covid-19 Inquiry Module 1 Report

The motion was agreed to.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

6. Introduction of NOVA Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-15972 in the name of Meghan Gallacher— That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the importance of having a service of support and guidance for veterans, such as those in the Central Scotland region, including those in the justice system; understands that, whilst veterans are not more likely to commit a crime than civilians, they are more likely to engage with the justice system; further understands that, in England, Op NOVA has a decade of experience working in partnership with health and justice systems to support veterans in living healthy, stable and crime-free lives, and that it provides emotional and practical support to veterans at all points of the justice system, including pre-arrest, arrest, post-arrest and those serving a custodial sentence; considers that, having been built on the foundations of Forces Employment Charity's Project Nova, it has an evidence base and proven framework to deliver life-changing support to veterans with established partnerships in the justice sector; notes the belief, therefore, that NOVA Scotland would be crucial in enabling veterans to live stable lives by providing access to practical and emotional support across a variety of areas, and further notes the calls for the Scottish Government to look at measures to introduce NOVA Scotland.

The meeting closed at 5.46 pm.

No. 68, Wednesday 15 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic and then Finance and Local Government were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16102—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 1 hour 15 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 1 hour 40 minutes

Groups 7 and 8: 1 hour 50 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

3. Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill- Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.
The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 10, 11, 4, 16, 17, 5, 6, 1, 7, 8, 2, 3 and 9.

The following amendment was disagreed to (by division)—

14 (For 46, Against 70 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 12, 28.

The following amendments were not moved: 13, 15, 18, 24, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26 and 27.

4. Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-16093—That the Parliament agrees that the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 116 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 1).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16113—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 21 January 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Compensation for WASPI Women

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 22 January 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 23 January 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 28 January 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 29 January 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 30 January 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: Scottish Budget 2025-26

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 20 January 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the

Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16114—That the Parliament agrees that the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (additional amount: transactions relating to second homes etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 (SSI 2024/367) be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 88 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 29, Abstentions 0).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16115—That the Parliament agrees that the Electronic Monitoring (Use of Devices and Information) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16116—That the Parliament agrees that the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exclusions and Exceptions) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16117—That the Parliament agrees that—

Katy Clark be appointed to replace Daniel Johnson as a member of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee; and

Mark Griffin be appointed to replace Katy Clark as a member of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16118—That the Parliament agrees that Carol Mochan be appointed to replace Mark Griffin as the Scottish Labour Party substitute on the Social Justice and Social Security Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 as noted above.

12. Compensation for the WASPI Women: The Parliament debated S6M-15947 in the name of Kenneth Gibson—That the Parliament notes the belief that women born in the 1950s, also known as the Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI), who were not properly informed of the rise in their state pension age, thousands of whom are in the Cunninghame North constituency, should be compensated by the UK Government.

13. Motion without Notice: Kenneth Gibson moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 7.08 pm.

No. 69, Thursday 16 January 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Scottish Human Rights Commission's Spotlight Project into Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the Highlands and Islands: The Parliament debated S6M-15705 in the name of Rhoda Grant—That the Parliament welcomes the Scottish Human Rights Commission's spotlight project into Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the Highlands and Islands; understands that it was commissioned in April 2023 and undertook a targeted programme of work to assess the realisation of economic, social and cultural rights for people living across the Highlands and Islands, which concluded in early 2024 and published its report, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the Highlands and Islands, in November 2024; believes that this report has been widely welcomed by community groups, charities and organisations across the Highlands and Islands; is concerned, in particular, by the Commission's urgent calls to tackle the rooflessness, hunger and access to health issues across the Highlands and Islands; is further concerned that, according to the report, across all rights examined, there is not a single human right that meets all the conditions of adequacy under international law, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to act on this report and review its current policies to address the concerns raised by this report.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Deputy First Minister (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government's Response to the UK Covid-19 Inquiry Module 1 Report.

6. Inquiry into the A9 Dualling Programme: Jackson Carlaw, on behalf of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee, moved S6M-16085—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee's 2nd Report, 2024 (Session 6), Inquiry into the A9 Dualling Programme (SP Paper 669), including the recommendation that a dedicated committee should be established to provide oversight and maintain momentum on scrutiny of long-running, multi-session infrastructure projects, such as the A9 dualling programme.

The motion was agreed to (DT)

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

8. Improving Access to Health and Social Care in Rural Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-14408 in the name of Tim Eagle—That the Parliament

considers that people living in remote and rural areas face unique challenges when it comes to accessing health and social care; understands that the recruitment and retention of staff, poor infrastructure, and the inability to access certain services are all common issues that impact health and social care in rural and remote areas; notes what it sees as the failure of the Scottish Government to deliver infrastructure investment in the Highlands and Islands region and elsewhere, including the failure to deliver a new Belford Hospital in Fort William, complete upgrades to Dr Gray's Hospital in Elgin, and build a replacement hospital for the Isle of Barra, among other delayed projects; understands that many communities in rural areas face a reduction of services, such as the reduced access to NHS dentistry in Dunoon and loss of care home beds across the Highlands and Islands region; believes that all of these factors contribute to the wider issue of rural depopulation, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to properly invest in health and social care in rural and remote areas and deliver better health outcomes for residents.

9. Motion without Notice: Tim Eagle moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.21 pm.

No. 70, Tuesday 21 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Chris Hellawell, Director, Edinburgh Tool Library, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Minister.

3. Compensation for WASPI Women: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-16160—That the Parliament calls on the UK Government to compensate Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) women as recommended by the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-16160.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16160 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (Compensation for WASPI Women), insert at end "; acknowledges that the UK Government has apologised to women who have been impacted as a result of maladministration, and agrees that the UK Government should look at all options for remedy, particularly for those most adversely impacted."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 52, Against 72 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-16184—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 23 January 2025—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government response to Fatal Accident Inquiries into the Deaths of Katie Allan and William Brown

followed by Ministerial Statement: Future of the National Care Service

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

6.10 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

6. European Showmen's Union Congress 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-16016 in the name of David Torrance—That the Parliament welcomes the European Showmen's Union (ESU) to Edinburgh for its 43rd national congress from 21 to 23 January 2025; understands the event will bring together delegates from 17 countries to celebrate the ties between The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain and its European counterparts to discuss current topics, such as safeguarding the industry and the preservation and promotion of European fairgrounds, and to promote friendly cooperation and international understanding; notes that the international industry meeting, which takes place every two years, is being held in Britain for the first time; further notes that the ESU was founded to promote cooperation between the member countries and to create a common voice for the fairground industry and the future of the fairgrounds as a cultural asset; understands that it is one of the oldest European professional organisations, with over 70,000 members; believes that hosting the Congress in Edinburgh will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase Scotland's rich heritage and the history of Scotland's showpeople communities, highlighting their contributions to European and international cultural exchanges, and commends the ESU for what it sees as its continued commitment to supporting the livelihoods of showmen and showwomen and ensuring that their voices are represented in policy discussions at all levels.

The meeting closed at 5.53 pm.

No. 71, Wednesday 22 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

2. Delivering School Environments Where it is Safe for Pupils to Learn and Teachers to Teach: Miles Briggs moved S6M-16170—That the Parliament notes the ongoing concern at reported cases of violence against pupils and staff, and disruption in schools, and the need for action to help restore positive learning environments in which all young people and teachers are safe to learn and teach in a respectful and supported setting; welcomes the publication of the joint national action plan with COSLA in August 2024, which set out a range of actions needed to be taken at both local and national levels to address violence in schools, alongside the Scottish Government's action plan on tackling violence and verbal abuse in schools; calls on ministers to bring forward an update to the Parliament on how these actions are being taken forward; further calls on ministers to review the reporting and publication of data on incidents relating to violence and harassment in schools; notes the disparity in the availability of early years provision across Scotland and the potential long-term impacts on children's development and educational outcomes; calls for a review to identify and mitigate negative influences on learning environments in primary schools, including factors affecting pupil behaviour and engagement; further calls on the Scottish Government to support children and young people impacted by violence and disruption in schools and to facilitate an environment in which all young people are safe to learn, develop and grow; notes the publication of the Scottish Government guidance on mobile phones in schools, and calls on ministers to take forward a national policy on a ban on mobile phones in classrooms and the provision of single-sex toilets and accessible toilets in all schools; acknowledges the recent passing of a law banning children under 16 from using social media in Australia, and calls on ministers to undertake a review in Scotland of the negative impact of social media on young people and the growing body of evidence suggesting that “over-exposure” to mobile phones and social media can result in pupils experiencing limited concentration, isolation and poor mental health, as well as the potential for a similar ban in Scotland.

The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes) moved amendment S6M-16170.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16170 in the name of Miles Briggs (Delivering School Environments Where it is Safe for Pupils to Learn and Teachers to Teach), leave out from first “calls on ministers” to end and insert “recognises the importance of the Scottish Government and local authorities working together to facilitate an environment in which all young people are safe to learn, develop and grow; notes the Scottish Government national guidance on mobile phones in schools, which empowers headteachers to take decisions on banning mobile phone use in schools; agrees with the importance of ensuring that children are protected from online harms; notes the importance of ensuring that children and young people are able to share their perspective on

their education, and calls on all partners to continue working closely with the Scottish Government to improve behaviour and relationships in schools."

Pam Duncan-Glancy moved amendment S6M-16170.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-16170 in the name of Miles Briggs (Delivering School Environments Where it is Safe for Pupils to Learn and Teachers to Teach), leave out from "the disparity" to end and insert "that the GMB union has described the environment in schools as a 'national emergency', and that reports from NASUWT state that teachers in Scotland 'fear for their safety'; further notes the concerns raised by teaching unions, such as EIS, that teachers are working, on average, 11 hours per week unpaid; is concerned about the evidence of the impact of violence, particularly on women and girls, in schools; believes that this situation is not sustainable; considers that adequate staffing is required to create a safe environment in schools, and calls on the Scottish Government to publish a comprehensive plan to address gaps in the teaching and school staff workforce, as voted for by the Parliament on 15 May 2024; believes that long waits and gaps in the provision of public services, such as child and adolescent mental health services, educational psychology and speech and language therapy, have a detrimental impact on the school environment, and particularly children with additional support needs; welcomes the Equally Safe delivery plan, which gives direction to the Equally Safe at School programme; supports the finding in the Education, Children and Young People Committee's report on additional support for learning that the Scottish Government and the Scottish Futures Trust should work with local authorities 'to ensure that schools are designed as accessible and welcoming environments for all', and believes that this should include classroom design as well as the availability of single-sex, accessible and Changing Places toilets, and calls on ministers to consider the growing body of evidence suggesting that 'over-exposure' to social media can result in pupils experiencing limited concentration, isolation and poor mental health, and to bring forward a national policy on how best to address this in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 31, Abstentions 25). As a result amendment S6M-16170.2 was pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 69 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 30, Abstentions 26).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament notes the ongoing concern at reported cases of violence against pupils and staff, and disruption in schools, and the need for action to help restore positive learning environments in which all young people and teachers are safe to learn and teach in a respectful and supported setting; welcomes the publication of the joint national action plan with COSLA in August 2024, which set out a range of actions needed to be taken at both local and national levels to address violence in schools, alongside the Scottish Government's action plan on tackling violence and

verbal abuse in schools; recognises the importance of the Scottish Government and local authorities working together to facilitate an environment in which all young people are safe to learn, develop and grow; notes the Scottish Government national guidance on mobile phones in schools, which empowers headteachers to take decisions on banning mobile phone use in schools; agrees with the importance of ensuring that children are protected from online harms; notes the importance of ensuring that children and young people are able to share their perspective on their education, and calls on all partners to continue working closely with the Scottish Government to improve behaviour and relationships in schools.

3. Ensuring that Communities are at the Heart of the Electricity Consenting Process: Douglas Lumsden moved S6M-16171—That the Parliament opposes the UK and Scottish governments' jointly proposed reforms to the consenting process under the Electricity Act 1989, which risk silencing the voices of communities by removing the right to a public inquiry on consent decisions; notes with concern that the Scottish Government has allowed pylons and other electricity infrastructure to be built without the consent of local communities; acknowledges that community groups often do not have the resources to oppose electricity infrastructure, and calls on the Scottish Government to consider how this could be addressed, and implores both governments to abandon these plans and to ensure that community voices are at the heart of the consenting process going forward.

The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes) moved amendment S6M-16170.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16170 in the name of Miles Briggs (Delivering School Environments Where it is Safe for Pupils to Learn and Teachers to Teach), leave out from first “calls on ministers” to end and insert “recognises the importance of the Scottish Government and local authorities working together to facilitate an environment in which all young people are safe to learn, develop and grow; notes the Scottish Government national guidance on mobile phones in schools, which empowers headteachers to take decisions on banning mobile phone use in schools; agrees with the importance of ensuring that children are protected from online harms; notes the importance of ensuring that children and young people are able to share their perspective on their education, and calls on all partners to continue working closely with the Scottish Government to improve behaviour and relationships in schools.”

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-16171.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16171 in the name of Douglas Lumsden (Ensuring that Communities are at the Heart of the Electricity Consenting Process), leave out from “opposes” to end and insert “agrees that the fastest and more secure way to deliver lower energy bills, create future energy jobs in Scotland and deliver energy security is to move to clean power; welcomes the UK Government's mission to establish a net zero electricity system by 2030; acknowledges that this will require the development of new energy infrastructure; considers it crucial that communities close to energy generation benefit from that infrastructure; welcomes, therefore, the creation of GB

> Energy and the commitment that it will support communities to take a stake in local renewable energy projects through the Local Power Plan, and calls on the UK and Scottish governments to work together to support the development of renewable energy supply chains in Scotland to create long-term, sustainable jobs as part of the energy transition."

Liam McArthur moved amendment S6M-16171.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16171 in the name of Douglas Lumsden (Ensuring that Communities are at the Heart of the Electricity Consenting Process), leave out from "opposes" to end and insert "understands that the UK and Scottish governments' jointly proposed changes to the Electricity Act 1989 and the consenting process have recently been issued for consultation, and recognises the importance of listening to the views of communities and other stakeholders before any changes are made; believes that delays to the delivery of vital transmission infrastructure risk holding back essential investment to decarbonise all sectors of the economy and the opportunity to put areas, including the north east and Highlands and Islands, at the forefront of the UK's renewables revolution, but that the grid changes required must give due respect to the environment, landscape, cultural history, wellbeing and property rights of local people; notes that the outcome of the consultation has yet to be published, and calls, therefore, on both of Scotland's governments to ensure that any concerns raised through the consultation are appropriately addressed and that concerted action is taken to build community support, secure a consensus around the grid changes that need to be made, and provide greater clarity to the public about why upgrades to the electricity network are important for Scotland's economy, energy security and climate obligations, whilst also ensuring that developers fulfil their obligations and duties."

After debate, amendment S6M-16170.3 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 63 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 55, Abstentions 7 (including 1 proxy vote)). As a result amendments S6M-16171.1 and S6M-16171.2 were pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 35, Abstentions 7 (including 1 proxy vote)).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament believes that communities must be at the heart of the renewable energy transition, and that it is vital that they share in the significant benefits that will be created, in contrast with how Scotland's communities have been failed for decades under successive UK administrations' energy policies; notes the ongoing representations by the Scottish Government to the UK Government around the need for energy market reform; further notes that Scotland has some of the most stringent environmental impact regulations anywhere in the world and that the planning and consenting system is designed to ensure that local communities have their say; notes that the proposed reforms have long been the established position in England, which the previous UK Conservative administration did not alter in its 14 years in office, and understands that the proposals would require developers to consult

communities much earlier in the planning process, which will ensure that affected communities can more meaningfully influence the process of project development.

4. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its position is on whether Neil Gray corrected the Official Report of 14 November 2024 at the earliest opportunity, as required by the Scottish Ministerial Code, in light of its response to an FoI request, dated 13 December 2024, confirming that there were no recorded minutes or notes for some events attended by ministers, including one attended by Neil Gray, was answered by the Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16185—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 28 January 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 29 January 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 30 January 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Ministerial Statement: Creative Scotland Multi-Year Funding

followed by Finance and Public Administration Committee Debate: Scottish Budget 2025-26

followed by Appointment of Board Members to Environmental Standards Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 4 February 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 5 February 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 6 February 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 27 January 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16186—That the Parliament agrees that—

Keith Brown be appointed as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee; and

Evelyn Tweed be appointed to replace Colin Beattie as a member of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3 and 6 as noted above.

8. Celebrating the Continued Social, Cultural and Economic Importance of Robert Burns: The Parliament debated S6M-16078 in the name of Oliver Mundell—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the lasting impact of Scotland’s national bard, Robert Burns, including the significant contribution that his works continue to make at home and around the world; notes with interest and admiration the efforts of many across Scotland and the world to ensure that his legacy is celebrated; acknowledges, in particular, a number of initiatives in Dumfries and Galloway that have progressed since Burns' Night 2024; congratulates the Ellisland Farm project, which is led by the former MSP, Joan McAlpine, on receiving an initial grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund of almost £500,000 towards developing and restoring the farm and museum; believes that the restoration scheme has the potential to be a gamechanger for the region and to redefine the Burns' visitor experience; acknowledges what it sees as the growing partnership between Annandale Distillery and the Globe Inn; notes the 10th anniversary of the distillery and its Man O’ Words Whisky, which takes its inspiration from Burns, and welcomes the return of the Big Burns Supper in Dumfries.

The meeting closed at 6.25 pm.

No. 72, Thursday 23 January 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister, Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Promoting the Role of Women in Scotland's Journey to Net Zero: The Parliament debated S6M-15413 in the name of Michelle Thomson—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the importance of women in business as Scotland strives to achieve net zero targets; understands that there is a need to stimulate more innovation and entrepreneurship amongst STEM-based sectors to contribute directly to building capacity in Scotland, including in the Falkirk East constituency, and recognises that the wider business sectors also have a role to play in achieving net zero; welcomes the July 2024 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) report, and particularly the analysis provided by Glasgow, Edinburgh and Strathclyde universities regarding female entrepreneurship in Scotland; celebrates the finding that women are starting and running new businesses at virtually the same rate as men for the first time in Scotland, and that, globally, the female to male gap in entrepreneurship rates is narrowing, and believes that Scotland is leading the way by this measure; considers, therefore, that women entrepreneurs and business leaders will be a vital resource in leading Scotland's economy towards growth and net zero, but believes that, post-school, the number of females entering STEM-related education, employment or business start-ups remains weak; understands that a 2023 report by Women's Enterprise Scotland expressed concern that approximately 60% of women-led businesses are somewhat disengaged from achieving net zero, either because of a lack of confidence or a belief that it does not apply to their operations; further understands that a fear of failure is a key cultural barrier to further developing entrepreneurial activity in Scotland at a time when innovation and entrepreneurship will, it believes, be vital to meeting the challenge of achieving net zero, and notes the calls for both effective representation of women in all net zero policy forums and further research into the contribution of women directly in STEM-based businesses and wider business sector activity as net zero is pursued.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government response to Fatal Accident Inquiries into the Deaths of Katie Allan and William Brown.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport (Maree Todd) made a statement and answered questions on Future of the National Care Service.

7. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16187—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 1 hour 5 minutes

Groups 4 to 6: 1 hour 40 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 4, 15, 16, 7, 8, 9, 1, 2, 3 and 11.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

5 (For 100 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 9 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
6 (For 103 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 7 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

12 (For 27 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
13 (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 84 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
17 (For 26 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
18 (For 28 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 84 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Amendment 23 was moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn.

The following amendments were not moved: 14, 19, 10, 20, 21 and 22.

The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved a motion without notice under Rule 9.8.5A to move the first time limit by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill: Christine Grahame moved S6M-16120—That the Parliament agrees that the Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 114 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 0).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 9 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 6.16 pm.

No. 73, Tuesday 28 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Mirrin Kirkpatrick and Sarah-Jane McKeown, Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

3. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn) moved S6M-16264— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 28 January 2025—

after

followed by Topical Questions

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Response to Storm Éowyn

The motion was agreed to.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) made a statement and answered questions on Storm Éowyn.

5. Urgent Questions: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government, in light of the reported details of abuse that came to light during sentencing at Glasgow High Court yesterday, what its position is on whether child safeguarding in Scotland has failed, was answered by the Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes).

6. Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved S6M-16237—That the Parliament welcomes the investment in Scotland's public services through the draft Scottish Budget 2025-26; notes that £21.7 billion for health and social care investment and over £15 billion in funding for local authorities is being provided; calls on the UK Government to fully fund the additional cost of its increase in employer national insurance contributions, noting the significant impacts on public services, including social care, if it does not fund it in full; notes the importance of the public service reform programme to drive future financial sustainability, and celebrates the key role that the Scottish public service workforce plays in delivering these services across Scotland.

Craig Hoy moved amendment S6M-16237.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget), leave out from “welcomes” to end and insert “notes that the performance of public services has declined despite significant funding increases and the hard work of those on the frontline; believes that this decline is due to a failure of leadership from the Scottish National Party administration; is concerned by the significant rise in

> senior-level civil servants and the failure to deliver meaningful public sector reform; acknowledges that, despite the decline in public services' performance, rises in Scottish income tax will see the public pay £1.7 billion more in taxation in 2025-26, and calls on the Scottish Government to start delivering value for money for taxpayers by cutting income tax to 19% for those earning up to £43,662, providing full non-domestic rates relief for pubs and businesses across Scotland and increasing the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax zero-rate threshold to £250,000, to reduce the cost of buying a home."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 26, Against 86 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 1).

Michael Marra moved amendment S6M-16237.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget), leave out from "calls" to end and insert "understands that the additional investment in Scotland's public services has been made possible by the UK Government's Autumn Budget, which delivered record funding for the Scottish Government and provided an additional £5.2 billion; believes that the future of Scotland's public services can only be guaranteed through measures to improve fiscal sustainability through public service reform and regrets the lack of progress being made by the Scottish Government in this area; recognises the role that workers in Scotland's public sector play in delivering vital services and regrets that the workforce and public are being failed by years of Scottish National Party mismanagement, which has created major challenges across the public sector in Scotland and left one in six people in Scotland on NHS waiting lists, and calls for the Scottish Government to take meaningful action to reform public services so that they work for users and staff across Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 20, Against 90 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Gillian Mackay moved amendment S6M-16237.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget), leave out from "notes the importance" to "sustainability" and insert "further calls on the UK Government to fully fund the increase in employer national insurance contributions in commissioned services and arm's-length external organisations; notes the importance of the public service reform programme to drive future financial sustainability; further notes the success of the four-day week pilot trialled by South of Scotland Enterprise, and calls on the Scottish Government to expand the four-day working week within the public sector workforce".

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 63 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 46, Abstentions 4).

Alex Cole-Hamilton moved amendment S6M-16237.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget), insert at end "; notes that Scottish Liberal Democrat priorities have been reflected in the first draft of the Budget through the inclusion of the reinstatement of a winter heating payment for pensioners, extra funding for social care, additional funding for local healthcare to make it easier to see a GP or NHS dentist, funding for new specialist support across the country for people with long COVID, chronic fatigue syndrome and other similar conditions, the right for family carers to earn more without having support withdrawn, business rates relief for the hospitality sector, funding to build more affordable homes, enhanced support for local authorities operating ferry services, and the resumption of the work required to replace the Belford Hospital in NHS Highland and the Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion in NHS Lothian; calls for further investment in drug and neonatal services, hospices, support for the young people with complex and additional needs attending Corseford College, and colleges, so that they can deliver the skills that the economy and public services need, and further calls for local authorities to receive a fair share of the money for additional employer national insurance contributions when it is received by the Scottish Government.

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 59 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 45, Abstentions 8 (including 1 proxy vote).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 67 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 46, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament welcomes the investment in Scotland's public services through the draft Scottish Budget 2025-26; notes that £21.7 billion for health and social care investment and over £15 billion in funding for local authorities is being provided; calls on the UK Government to fully fund the additional cost of its increase in employer national insurance contributions, noting the significant impacts on public services, including social care, if it does not fund it in full; further calls on the UK Government to fully fund the increase in employer national insurance contributions in commissioned services and arm's-length external organisations; notes the importance of the public service reform programme to drive future financial sustainability; further notes the success of the four-day week pilot trialled by South of Scotland Enterprise; calls on the Scottish Government to expand the four-day working week within the public sector workforce; celebrates the key role that the Scottish public service workforce plays in delivering these services across Scotland; notes that Scottish Liberal Democrat priorities have been reflected in the first draft of the Budget through the inclusion of the reinstatement of a winter heating payment for pensioners, extra funding for social care, additional funding for local healthcare to make it easier to see a GP or NHS dentist, funding for new specialist support across the country for people with long COVID, chronic fatigue syndrome and other similar conditions, the right for family carers to earn more without having support withdrawn, business rates relief for the hospitality sector, funding to build more affordable homes, enhanced support for local authorities operating ferry services, and the resumption of the work required to replace the Belford Hospital in NHS Highland and

the Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion in NHS Lothian; calls for further investment in drug and neonatal services, hospices, support for the young people with complex and additional needs attending Corseford College, and colleges, so that they can deliver the skills that the economy and public services need, and further calls for local authorities to receive a fair share of the money for additional employer national insurance contributions when it is received by the Scottish Government.

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

8. Brexit Harm to Scotland, Five Years Since the UK Left the EU: The Parliament debated S6M-16143 in the name of Clare Adamson—That the Parliament notes that January 2025 marks five years since the UK left the EU; recognises that people in Scotland voted to remain within the EU and that there was a majority vote for remain in every one of Scotland's local authority areas, and considers that, despite this, Scotland was removed from the EU against the democratic wishes of the people of Scotland; believes that Brexit has caused, and continues to cause, substantial harm to the Scottish and UK economies; acknowledges reports that there is an estimated loss of £2.3 billion every year in public revenues for Scotland as a result of Brexit; notes with concern that the Office for Budget Responsibility has reportedly estimated that Brexit will reduce the overall trade intensity of the UK economy by 15% in the long term; understands that a recent study from the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics found that goods exports from the UK dropped by £27 billion in 2022 alone as a result of Brexit; further understands that the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply revealed problems with supply chains and trade routes, exacerbated by Brexit, which could see imports cost between 5% and 20% more, fuelling a new cost of living crisis; considers that Brexit continues to pose significant barriers to people coming to live and work in Scotland, including in vital public services; believes that Brexit is impacting young people's right to live, work and study in 27 European nations, and denying future generations a wealth of economic, social and cultural opportunities, and notes the belief that Scotland should rejoin the EU to rebuild strong ties with fellow Europeans and to ensure that businesses, students and workers in Scotland, including in the Motherwell and Wishaw constituency, can benefit from access to the world's largest single market and the rich cultural, social and economic benefits that membership of the EU brings.

The meeting closed at 6.00 pm.

No. 74, Wednesday 29 January 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Supporting Scotland's Health and Social Care Workforce: Jackie Baillie moved S6M-16252—That the Parliament deeply regrets that there is a continuing crisis in both the NHS and social care; recognises that staff are the backbone of the NHS and that the Scottish Government has failed to effectively workforce plan; understands that the consequences of this failure are that patients are suffering from poorer outcomes, hard-working staff are experiencing moral injury, and NHS graduates are not being employed, and calls on the Scottish Government to urgently bring forward a 10-year health and social care workforce plan that meets the needs of the people of Scotland.

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved amendment S6M-16252.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16252 in the name of Jackie Baillie (Supporting Scotland's Health and Social Care Workforce), leave out from "there is a continuing crisis" to end and insert "current high wait times mean that too many are waiting too long for treatment; thanks hardworking NHS and social care staff who provide extraordinary care across the country; recognises that there are crises facing too many parts of the NHS; notes investment of over £11 billion in the NHS workforce and an estimated £950 million to ensure that adult social care workers, including those in the third and private sectors, are paid at least the real Living Wage; recognises that the biggest threat to the health and social care workforce comes from the UK Government's decision to increase employer national insurance contributions, and demands that the UK Labour administration reimburse the Scottish Government in full; supports the calls for the publication of a medium-term approach to health and social care reform, including workforce planning, before the Parliament's 2025 summer recess, and believes that the aim of the medium-term reforms must be to ensure that everyone can access the treatment and care that they require, in the right place, at the right time."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 61 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 53, Abstentions 7 (including 1 proxy vote)).

Sandesh Gulhane moved amendment S6M-16252.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16252 in the name of Jackie Baillie (Supporting Scotland's Health and Social Care Workforce), insert at end "; notes that the Scottish National Party administration has failed to deliver improvements to social care in Scotland, despite wasting nearly £30 million and years of civil servants' time on its failed National Care Service, and calls

on Neil Gray to resign as Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, following his disastrous tenure in office."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 51 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 68, Abstentions 1).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 61 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 53, Abstentions 7 (including 1 proxy vote)).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament deeply regrets that current high wait times mean that too many are waiting too long for treatment; thanks hardworking NHS and social care staff who provide extraordinary care across the country; recognises that there are crises facing too many parts of the NHS; notes investment of over £11 billion in the NHS workforce and an estimated £950 million to ensure that adult social care workers, including those in the third and private sectors, are paid at least the real Living Wage; recognises that the biggest threat to the health and social care workforce comes from the UK Government's decision to increase employer national insurance contributions, and demands that the UK Labour administration reimburse the Scottish Government in full; supports the calls for the publication of a medium-term approach to health and social care reform, including workforce planning, before the Parliament's 2025 summer recess, and believes that the aim of the medium-term reforms must be to ensure that everyone can access the treatment and care that they require, in the right place, at the right time.

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16265—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 4 February 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 5 February 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government
followed by Ministerial Statement: Implementing the Medication Assisted Treatment Standards
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Addressing Child Poverty Through Education
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 6 February 2025
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport
followed by Ministerial Statement: Simplifying the Post-School Education and Skills Funding Body Landscape in Scotland
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Improving Miscarriage Care
followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Great British Energy Bill - UK Legislation
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.30 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 18 February 2025
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Scottish Government Business
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 February 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 February 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 3 February 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16266—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Leases (Automatic Continuation etc.) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 19 September 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16267—That the

Parliament agrees that consideration of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 28 March 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16268—That the Parliament agrees that the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2 and 6 as noted above.

8. Holocaust Memorial Day 2025, For a Better Future: The Parliament debated S6M-16002 in the name of Jackson Carlaw—That the Parliament recognises that 27 January 2025 will mark Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD); understands that the Holocaust was the brutal, barbaric and inhumane murder of six million Jewish men, women and children from 1941 to 1945 in concentration and death camps, mass shootings and ghettos; acknowledges that HMD takes places on 27 January each year as the date represents the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, which was the largest concentration camp; notes that the official theme for HMD 2025 is “For a better future”; recognises that there are many actions that people can take to make a contribution towards achieving a better future for all, such as confronting prejudice, reinforcing the importance of learning about both the Holocaust and the more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur, and challenging Holocaust denial, distortion and trivialisation whenever such narratives arise; acknowledges that 2025 marks both 80 years since Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated and the 30th anniversary of the genocide in Bosnia; accepts that the Holocaust is an incredibly dark chapter in human history, and considers that HMD is a crucially important event in the annual calendar, which aims to highlight why its lessons can never be forgotten and why a zero tolerance approach must always be taken against antisemitism and all forms of prejudice.

9. Motion Without Notice: Jackson Carlaw moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.23 pm.

No. 75, Thursday 30 January 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Scottish Engineering's Engineering Skills Gap Analysis for Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-16148 in the name of Alex Rowley — That the Parliament notes the publication of Scottish Engineering's report, Engineering Skills Gaps Analysis for Scotland; is concerned by the findings of the report, the production of which aims to allow industry and government to work in partnership to maximise the opportunities for Scotland's economy, and its society as a result; notes that the results in the report are derived from the output of a survey of 70 engineering companies based on their operations in Scotland; is concerned with the findings of the report that skills pipeline gaps for existing industry are "an immediately stark situation" with "no allowance for the additional demands" of offshore wind, grid infrastructure investment, decarbonising heat energy or green hydrogen production; notes the view from the survey that "unless there is a rapid change in the required skills investment there is a considerable risk of damage to incumbent industry [and a] risk to inward investors of failure to reach the skilled staffing levels they require, with negative impact on their projects, and reputational risk to Scotland's ability to accommodate such opportunity"; further notes the view that the Scottish and UK governments must encourage the next generation of skilled workers and make the funding and resources needed available to provide the apprenticeships of today for the jobs of tomorrow, and notes the calls in the Mid Scotland and Fife region and across the country for the Scottish Government to take action to foster a new partnership between schools, colleges, universities and industry to ensure that young people are aware and able to take advantage of the opportunities available in Scotland's industrial sector, and that the future of Scottish industry is secured for the benefit of people across Scotland.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) made a statement and answered questions on Creative Scotland Multi-Year Funding.

6. Scottish Budget 2025-26: Kenneth Gibson, on behalf of the Finance and Public Administration Committee, moved S6M-16239—That the Parliament notes the pre-budget scrutiny undertaken by the Finance and Public Administration Committee, and other parliamentary committees.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Appointment of Board Members to Environmental Standards Scotland : The Acting Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Allan) moved S6M-16275—That the Parliament notes the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee's consideration of the re-appointment of four board members to the board of Environmental Standards Scotland at its meeting on 26 November 2024; welcomes the committee's recommendation that the Parliament approves the re-appointment of Marie Fallon and Dr Paul McAleavey for a further four years, and Dr Richard Dixon and Dr Annalisa Savaresi for a further three years, in accordance with schedule 1, paragraph 2(5) and (6) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021, and approves the appointments as required by schedule 1, paragraph 2(2) of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6 and 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.00 pm.

No. 76, Tuesday 4 February 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Senga Ishaq, Humanist Society Scotland, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-16299—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 74 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 30, Abstentions 21).

4. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

5. The Lockerbie Bombing, A Father's Search for Justice: The Parliament debated S6M-16005 in the name of Christine Grahame—That the Parliament notes the publication of Dr Jim Swire's book, *The Lockerbie Bombing, A Father's Search for Justice*, which has been serialised on television; recognises what it sees as Dr Swire's painful but steady commitment to uncovering the facts behind the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, which, shortly after 7.00 pm on 21 December 1988, was destroyed by a bomb over the town of Lockerbie, killing all 243 passengers, 16 crew and 11 Lockerbie residents, a total of 270 fatalities, including his much loved daughter, Flora; understands that Dr Swire, with many others, considers that the conviction of Abdelbaset al-Megrahi, under Scots law at Camp Zeist, is insecure; believes that the failure of subsequent Scottish courts to allow any appeal, despite two referrals by the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission, on the grounds that there may have been a miscarriage of justice, gives concern; notes the view that, until there is a full and independent inquiry and full disclosure at a UK level into all aspects of this, the worst terrorist attack in the UK, the integrity of the conviction, and indeed Scots law, will remain in question, and commends Dr Jim Swire for never giving up on his search for the truth and for those responsible for the murder of his daughter and the other 269 people whose lives were so cruelly ended.

The meeting closed at 5.30 pm.

No. 77, Wednesday 5 February 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic and then Finance and Local Government were answered by the Deputy First Minister and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) made a statement and answered questions on Implementing the Medication Assisted Treatment Standards.

3. Addressing Child Poverty Through Education: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) moved S6M-16330—That the Parliament notes the critical contribution made by education in eradicating child poverty, which is a national mission and the single greatest priority for the Scottish Government; notes recent analysis by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, which highlights that Scotland will see a reduction in child poverty levels in the years ahead due to Scotland-specific policies, such as the Scottish Child Payment; further notes that the Scottish Government has committed to making further progress, and agrees that there is a collective responsibility for every local authority, and educational organisation and body in Scotland, to work together with the Scottish Government to address child poverty; commends Scotland's teachers and schools for their work to close the poverty-related attainment gap, and recognises that progress has been made, and that this programme will require more funding certainty over the longer term; welcomes the further investment in tackling child poverty through education in the draft Scottish Budget for 2025-26, including within schools through the expansion of free school meals, the uprating of the school clothing grant, continued funding for the Scottish Attainment Challenge and investment in Bright Start Breakfasts, as well as the around £1 billion investment in funded early learning and childcare and the £3.5 million investment in new skills pathways for colleges, and agrees that all MSPs across the Parliament have a responsibility to promote the interests of children and young people and to work together to share ideas and innovation to address child poverty through education.

Miles Briggs moved amendment S6M-16330.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16330 in the name of Jenny Gilruth (Addressing Child Poverty Through Education), leave out from “welcomes” to end and insert “acknowledges that more than a quarter of children in Scotland live in poverty; recognises that, while investment in tackling child poverty through education is important, it must be accompanied by a focus on improving educational standards; notes that, while the Scottish Government has spent £1 billion on early years and childcare, there remains a significant disparity in the availability of early years provision across Scotland, which risks deepening inequalities and limiting parental employment opportunities, and has long-term consequences for children's development and educational outcomes; further notes with concern that education in Scotland has gone backwards in Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) international rankings; acknowledges that the attainment gap in primary pupils' reading, writing,

literacy and numeracy remains similar to pre-COVID-19-pandemic levels and has failed to close; regrets that the pledge to provide universal free school meals for primary pupils has not been fulfilled; expresses concern over the rising level of violence in schools, which negatively impacts both attainment and wellbeing; calls on the Scottish Government to provide greater support for teachers and local authorities to tackle this issue; further calls for a review of policies to improve the identification of and support for care experienced and young carer pupils in schools, ensuring that they receive the necessary assistance to succeed in education, and believes that the Scottish Government's main priority should be ensuring that every child, no matter their background, has the best start in life."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 88 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 4).

Pam Duncan-Glancy moved amendment S6M-16330.3—

As an amendment to motion S6M-16330 in the name of Jenny Gilruth (Addressing Child Poverty Through Education), leave out from ", which is" to end and insert "; commends Scotland's teachers and schools for their work; notes that the poverty-related attainment gap has not improved in P1 and is the widest it has ever been at Higher level; further notes that the Scottish Government's failure to plan for the school workforce has meant that teachers are often overworked and children are unsupported; expresses its disappointment at what it sees as the Scottish National Party's broken promise of rolling out free school meals to all P6 and P7 pupils; believes that education should set young people on the path to opportunities for their future and can help lift people out of poverty; understands that 'Scotland's colleges play a particularly important role in supporting learners from more deprived communities to access learning', as described by Audit Scotland, but that the 'financial health of the sector has deteriorated since 2021-22'; welcomes that 100,000 people in Scotland have already received a pay rise thanks to the UK Labour administration's New Deal for Working People; acknowledges recent analysis by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation on the extent of child poverty in Scotland, which observed deficiencies in the key data used to calculate poverty rates and found that 'we will need to go further to reach the 2030-31 targets', and calls on the Scottish Government to work with the UK Department for Work and Pensions to ensure that accurate data is available for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and other organisations to accurately assess the extent of child poverty in Scotland and the impact of policy interventions on it."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 19, Against 102 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 73 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 48, Abstentions 0).

4. **Urgent Question:** An urgent question**,** to ask the Scottish Government whether it has any data showing the number of children or parents who were aware

that results from the Health and Wellbeing Census could be accessed by third-party researchers, was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16340—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 18 February 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: Community Wealth Building Progress and Future Ambition

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Employer National Insurance Contributions

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 February 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Protecting the Powers of the Scottish Parliament

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Renters' Rights Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 February 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scottish Income Tax Rate Resolution 2025-26
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Independent Review of Sentencing and Penal Policy
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 25 February 2025
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 26 February 2025
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs
followed by Scottish Green Party Business
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.10 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 27 February 2025
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 17 February 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16341—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 23 May 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16342—That the Parliament agrees that the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3 and 7 as noted above.

9. Save Local Libraries: The Parliament debated S6M-16155 in the name of Mark Ruskell—That the Parliament notes what it sees as the vital role that local libraries play in their communities, acting as central hubs for borrowing, learning, community engagement and sourcing advice and support; believes that the closure of libraries leaves communities without these vital services, and that this is particularly damaging for rural areas where libraries can be heavily relied on; considers that library closures have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations, including children, older residents and people with limited access to digital resources; notes the reported concerns raised by communities around the proposed closure of libraries across Scotland, including the threatened closure of those in the Perth and Kinross Council area; understands that local authorities have a legal obligation to provide public library services; believes that mobile libraries are often not suitable alternatives; considers that library services require adequate public funding to remain viable and have a critical role to play in achieving the Scottish

Government's priorities, including eradicating child poverty; believes that a closed library is unlikely to reopen, permanently limiting opportunities for the communities they once served, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to help protect the future of Scotland's libraries.

10. Motion Without Notice: Mark Ruskell moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.21 pm.

No. 78, Thursday 6 February 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Report on Alcohol Use Disorder in the Justice System: The Parliament debated S6M-15657 in the name of Elena Whitham—That the Parliament notes the publication of the Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems' paper, *Alcohol (In)justice: Position on people with an alcohol use disorder in the justice system*; is concerned that it is estimated that almost two-thirds, 63%, of people in prison have an alcohol use disorder, with almost half of those, 31%, possibly dependent on alcohol; is further concerned that the risk of death from alcohol causes is three times higher in men and nine times higher for women who have been in prison than for the general population; understands that the paper sets out why and how people with alcohol use disorders who come into contact with the justice system should have the best opportunities to access treatment and support, and that this could reduce reoffending and pressures on the justice system, tackle inequalities, improve the health and lives of the people concerned and the lives of their families and wider communities; believes that there are examples of innovative practice across Scotland, including Glasgow's Alcohol Court; acknowledges that the paper further sets out several potential standards that could be implemented across the justice system, and understands that accountability for such standards is required in order to make a difference to the health and lives of people in Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley and across Scotland with alcohol problems who are being dealt with by the justice system.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Higher and Further Education; and Minister for Veterans (Graeme Dey) made a statement and answered questions on Simplifying the Post-School Education and Skills Funding Body Landscape in Scotland.

6. Improving Miscarriage Care: The Minister for Public Health and Women's Health (Jenni Minto) moved S6M-16353—That the Parliament recognises the devastating impact that miscarriage and stillbirth can have on women and their families, and extends its condolences to all those who have been affected; acknowledges the importance of good stillbirth care and that improvements continue to be made by NHS boards and through the stillbirth national bereavement care pathway; notes that, although miscarriage care in Scotland is generally considered to be of high quality, there is still more to do to standardise and end the variation in the care and support delivered across Scotland; welcomes efforts from NHS boards to further improve miscarriage care following recommendations in The Lancet series, Miscarriage Matters, and Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and

NICE guidelines around the use of progesterone; thanks hardworking NHS staff and all those who have contributed to the progress to date for their care and professionalism when caring for women experiencing miscarriage; welcomes the publication of the Delivery Framework for Miscarriage Care in Scotland and the Progesterone Pathway as key steps in implementing a graded model of care that will ensure that women receive tailored support from their first miscarriage; supports the provision of dedicated facilities for women experiencing unexpected pregnancy complications, miscarriage or still birth, and believes that it is vital that everyone in society, including employers, works together to break the stigma surrounding miscarriage and stillbirth to ensure that women and their families can access the information, care and support that is right for them.

The motion was agreed to (DT)

7. Great British Energy Bill - UK Legislation: The Acting Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Allan) moved S6M-16346—That the Parliament agrees that all relevant provisions of the Great British Energy Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 25 July 2024 and subsequently amended, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 88 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 1).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6 and 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.38 pm.

No. 79, Tuesday 18 February 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Mr Adrian Ferguson, Perth Gospel Hall, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16518— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 18 February 2025—

after

followed by Ministerial Statement: Community Wealth Building Progress and Future Ambition

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Securing a Future for Grangemouth

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.15 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 19 February 2025—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: The Promise Oversight Board Report 3: Progress and Next Steps Towards Keeping The Promise

(c) Thursday 20 February 2025

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

after

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Independent Review of Sentencing and Penal Policy

insert

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Great British Energy Bill- UK Legislation

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.15 pm Decision Time

Tess White moved amendments S6M-16518.1—

> leave out first “5.15 pm Decision Time” and insert—
>
> “*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Public Sector Workers’ Access to Single Sex Spaces
>
> 5.45 pm Decision Time”.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 47, Against 64 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Employment and Investment (Tom Arthur) made a statement and answered questions on Community Wealth Building Progress and Future Ambition.

5. Ministerial Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Securing a Future for Grangemouth.

6. Employer National Insurance Contributions: The Minister for Employment and Investment (Tom Arthur) moved S6M-16488—That the Parliament recognises the significant adverse impacts of the UK Government's intended changes to employer national insurance contributions (ENICs) on Scotland's businesses, third sector, public services and wider economy; believes that the impacts are likely to result in higher costs, job losses, increased prices and cause some charities and businesses to close altogether; notes the potential disproportionate impact of the changes on consumer-facing sectors of Scotland's economy, such as retail, tourism and hospitality businesses, organisations providing social care and third sector organisations commissioned to provide public services; agrees with the significant concerns expressed by 50 organisations in Scotland, including COSLA and the STUC, who, along with the Scottish Government, wrote to the UK Government describing the risk to the vital services that they provide due to these additional costs, and calls on the UK Government to reverse this decision and not raise ENICs as planned in April 2025.

Craig Hoy moved amendment S6M-16488.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16488 in the name of Tom Arthur (Employer National Insurance Contributions), insert at end “; warns that the increase to ENICs is a tax on jobs that will negatively impact employers and employees;

> acknowledges that, as a direct consequence of Scottish Government policy, the Scottish public sector is disproportionately exposed to increases in labour costs because the Scottish public sector is proportionately larger than in the rest of the UK and its salary costs impose a heavier burden on taxpayers; considers, therefore, that budget decisions by both the Scottish and UK governments will hurt taxpayers, consumers and workers in Scotland and will negatively impact growth, and supports common-sense Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party proposals for tax cuts to grow Scotland's economy and give workers and businesses much-needed relief."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 92 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-16488.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16488 in the name of Tom Arthur (Employer National Insurance Contributions), leave out from "recognises" to end and insert "welcomes the record £5.2 billion of additional funding for Scotland delivered as a result of the UK Government's Autumn Budget; agrees with the STUC that the additional positive measures that are set out in the draft Scottish Budget 2025-26 are 'dependent on UK Government funding'; regrets that the fiscal changes called for by the Scottish Government would significantly reduce the level of funding available to Scotland's public services; understands that the First Minister has publicly advocated for a cut to Scotland's budget of £636 million; regrets that the Scottish National Party administration's failure to grow Scotland's economy has negatively impacted the level of funding available in the Scottish Budget over many years; understands that decisions around the level of staffing in Scotland's public services are devolved to the Scottish Government, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that the record funding delivered by the UK Government reaches the frontline services that need it most."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21, Against 99 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 93 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 20, Abstentions 7).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

8. Opportunities and Challenges for Scotland's Fishing Sector in 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-16282 in the name of Beatrice Wishart—That the Parliament commends the hard-working fishermen of island and coastal communities, including in the Shetland Islands constituency; understands that, as published in the most recent Marine Economic Statistics in December 2024, fishing contributed £335 million to Scotland's economy in 2022, including £83.3 million from Shetland; notes the dangerous nature of the open sea and the at-sea dangers of manmade infrastructure, as well as from other fishing vessels conducting dangerous procedures and manoeuvres; further notes concern in the sector about increasing competition for marine space and the calls to establish designated cable corridors as

a means of addressing spatial squeeze and promoting co-operation; recognises the cultural and economic significance of fishing to Scotland; highlights fish as what it sees as a sustainable, low-carbon source of protein; understands that the Scottish Government has not held a debate on fisheries since 2022, and notes the belief that action to address spatial squeeze in Scotland's seas is in the long-term interests of the fishing sector as well as the wider Scottish economy.

The meeting closed at 6.32 pm.

No. 80, Wednesday 19 February 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes) made a statement and answered questions on The Promise Oversight Board Report 3: Progress and Next Steps Towards Keeping The Promise.

3. Protecting the Powers of the Scottish Parliament: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-16511—That the Parliament notes the publication of the UK Government's consultation and review of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, which sets out that it will "not consider whether to repeal the UK Internal Market Act or any part of it"; recalls that both the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Senedd refused to give the Act legislative consent; notes the position of the Welsh Government, which opposes the Act, believing it to be "an unwarranted attack on devolution"; reaffirms its decision regarding the Act on 3 October 2023, and calls for it to be repealed.

Rachael Hamilton moved amendment S6M-16511.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16511 in the name of Kate Forbes (Protecting the Powers of the Scottish Parliament), leave out from ", which sets" to end and insert "; recognises the fundamental importance of the UK internal market to Scotland's businesses, investment and jobs, given that trade with the rest of the UK accounts for over 60% of Scotland's total exports, worth over £52 billion annually; believes that the integrity of the UK internal market is essential to economic stability, consumer confidence and business certainty across Scotland; notes that the Scottish Government has consistently failed to make effective use of the extensive powers already devolved to the Scottish Parliament by presiding over declining public service performance and failing to roll out devolved benefits on time; further notes that, rather than constructively engaging with the opportunities afforded by devolution, the Scottish National Party administration has prioritised constitutional grievance over delivering for the people of Scotland, and condemns the Scottish Government for its attacks on the powers of the Scottish Parliament through its leaking of crucial policies to the press before being announced to the Parliament, passing legislation that bypasses proper parliamentary scrutiny and failing to answer questions from parliamentarians about important topics that are in the public interest."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 74 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 17).

Neil Bibby moved amendment S6M-16511.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-16511 in the name of Kate Forbes (Protecting the Powers of the Scottish Parliament), leave out from first "notes" to end and insert "welcomes the publication of the UK Government's consultation and review of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, which is broader in scope and being carried out earlier than required by law; notes the change of UK administration in July 2024 and welcomes its commitment to resetting the relationship between the UK Government and devolved governments and its intention to uphold its responsibilities under the Windsor Framework; welcomes the immediate commitment from the UK Government to delivering the joint common framework programme ahead of the review; believes that changes to the Act, co-operation between governments, respect for devolution and ensuring that there are no barriers to trade between Scotland and the rest of the UK are all essential; further believes that the interests of supporting Scotland's businesses and economic growth should be paramount; welcomes that the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee is due to take evidence on the review, and awaits its findings, and encourages Scotland's businesses, and other stakeholders, to take part in the review by 3 April 2025."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 23, Against 97 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 73 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 47, Abstentions 0).

4. Renters' Rights Bill - UK Legislation: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) moved S6M-16499—That the Parliament agrees that the relevant provisions of the Renters' Rights Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 11 September 2024, which restrict the behaviour of private landlords, in relation to those with children and those who are benefit claimants, namely clauses 49, 52, 54, 137, 139, 142 and 145 of the Renters' Rights Bill, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and alter the executive competence of Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16519—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 25 February 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 26 February 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Green Party Business

followed by Appointment of Member of the Standards Commission for Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 27 February 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Increasing Investment in Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 4 March 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 5 March 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 6 March 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Committee Debate: Tackling Drug Deaths and Drug Harm

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 24 February 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16520—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Housing (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 29 May 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Stage 2 Consideration of a Bill: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16521—That the Parliament agrees that stage 2 of the Housing (Scotland) Bill be taken as follows—

(a) under Rule 9.7.1(b) and 9.7.4—

(i) the Social Justice and Social Security Committee to consider in the following order—

(A) part 5

(B) sections 48 to 50 in part 6

(ii) the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee to consider in the following order—

(A) parts 1 to 4

(B) part 6 (except sections 48 to 50)

(C) part 7, with the schedule being considered immediately after the section that introduces it

(D) the long title

(b) any amendments specifically on matters relating to the part 5 homelessness prevention provisions or the part 6 fuel poverty provisions, except any such amendments to the schedule or the long title, are to be considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee; and

(c) all amendments not covered by paragraphs (a) and (b) are to be considered by the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee.
The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16522—That the Parliament agrees that the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023 Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16523—That the Parliament agrees that the Registers of Scotland (Fees and Plain Copies) Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 as noted above.

11. Tackling the Rise in Rural Crime and Equipment Theft in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-16304 in the name of Rachael Hamilton—That the

Parliament acknowledges the reported concerns regarding rising rural crime and its impact on communities across Scotland, including in the Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire constituency; notes that, according to NFU Mutual, the cost of rural crime in Scotland increased by 34.9% between 2022 and 2023, rising from £1.4 million to £1.8 million, contributing to a UK-wide cost of £58.8 million; recognises that 91% of those surveyed by NFU Mutual believe that rural crime is becoming more organised; notes that equipment and machinery theft, including agricultural machinery, construction equipment and power tools, has a significant financial and operational impact on farmers and businesses across urban and rural Scotland; acknowledges what it considers the effectiveness of technical preventative measures such as the CESAR scheme, tracking devices, immobilisers, PIN-protected GPS systems, and mechanical immobilisers, which it understands are more widely used in other parts of the UK; understands that the Equipment Theft (Prevention) Act 2023 was passed with cross-party support in the UK Parliament to address these issues; notes the belief that there is an opportunity to strengthen equipment and machinery crime prevention in Scotland, and further notes the calls on the Scottish Government to engage with industry experts, Police Scotland and victims to explore further action to tackle this type of crime.

The meeting closed at 5.53 pm.

No. 81, Thursday 20 February 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister, Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. The Ongoing Impact of PFI/PPP on Scotland's Public Finances: The Parliament debated S6M-16287 in the name of Kenneth Gibson—That the Parliament believes that the total unitary charge payments associated with Public Private Partnership/Private Finance Initiative (PPP/PFI) contracts that were paid across the public sector in Scotland from 2006-07 to 2022-23 amounted to £14.173 billion; understands that PFI/PPPs are long-term contractual arrangements between a public sector entity and a private sector provider, which were introduced by the Conservative UK administration in 1992 and then expanded by Labour following its 1997 election victory; believes that the total PFI and PPP unitary charge payments to be paid across the public sector in Scotland in 2025-26 will be £1.25 billion, the highest in a single year, with the remaining cost associated with PFI/PPP being £14.699 billion from 2023-24; understands that, by 2038, North Ayrshire Council will have paid £440.1 million for four schools that were built for £83 million; notes that research carried out by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research shows that successive UK administrations have made payments to private companies associated with PFI contracts at, on average, more than three times the cost of construction, with said companies distributing £300 million in dividends to investors from £1 billion in profits between 2005 and 2022; recognises that the scheme was abandoned by the UK Government in 2018, 11 years after being replaced with an alternative model known as non-profit distributing (NPD) by the Scottish Government to limit excessive private sector profits; notes with concern media reports that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rachel Reeves MP, is considering relaunching the PPP funding model frequently used by Tony Blair's Labour administration; considers PFI/PPP to have had a disastrous impact on Scotland's public finances, and notes the calls for the UK Government to end what it sees as its obsession with PFI/PPP.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Scottish Rate Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-16531—That the Parliament agrees that, for the purposes of section 11A of the Income Tax Act 2007 (which provides for Income Tax to be charged at Scottish rates on certain non-savings and non-dividend income of a Scottish taxpayer to be charged above the personal allowance), the Scottish rates and limits for the tax year 2025-26 are as follows—

(a) a starter rate of 19%, charged on income up to a limit of £2,827,

(b) the Scottish basic rate is 20%, charged on income above £2,827 and up to a limit of £14,921,

(c) an intermediate rate of 21%, charged on income above £14,921 and up to a limit of £31,092,

(d) a higher rate of 42%, charged on income above £31,092 and up to a limit of £62,430,

(e) an advanced rate of 45%, charged on income above £62,430 and up to a limit of £125,140, and

(f) a top rate of 48%, charged on income above £125,140.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0).

6. Independent Review of Sentencing and Penal Policy: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-16532—That the Parliament notes that Scotland has one of the highest proportions of prisoners in Western Europe; recognises the action that has been taken to establish a sustainable prison population and shift the balance between the use of custody and justice in the community, while protecting the public from harm; acknowledges the need for an independent review of sentencing and penal policy to consider how imprisonment and community interventions are used; further acknowledges the key role that the third sector can play in the effective delivery of justice services that reduce reoffending, and support rehabilitation and reintegration into society; agrees that there is a need for strong partnership working and co-ordination between third sector organisations, justice social work and the Scottish Prison Service to provide support and improve outcomes for those leaving prison, and believes that the Parliament has an important role to play in discussing the use of imprisonment and the best means for addressing offending behaviour, by both effective prevention and appropriate rehabilitation, and for reducing crime and keeping communities safe.

Liam Kerr moved amendment S6M-16532.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-652 in the name of Angela Constance, Independent Review of Sentencing and Penal Policy), leave out from "Scotland" to end and insert "as a result of, non-exhaustively, significant and long-standing pre-COVID-19 pandemic court backlogs, a high remand population and a failure to timeously build additional prison capacity, Scotland's prison system is now struggling to house the number of prisoners incarcerated and sentenced as a result of independent decisions made by judges; further notes with disappointment that these capacity issues still persist, despite numerous Scottish Government policies, which were aimed at reducing the prison population, such as changes to automatic early release, which allows many offenders to leave prison after serving 40% of their sentence, a general presumption against short sentences, sentencing guidelines that treat under 25-year-olds differently and an increase in diversion from prosecution; raises concerns that, despite repeated warnings about the need for new prisons, HMP

> Highland and HMP Glasgow are both delayed and over budget, with the former rising from £52 million to £209 million, and the latter increasing from £100 million to £998 million; understands that reoffending rates were up 2.6% for the 2020-21 cohort; recognises that one-in-eight of those released as a result of emergency early release reoffended, and believes that the role of the independence of the judiciary should not be undermined by government, and that any review of penal and sentencing policy should always prioritise victims over offenders."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 69 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 14).

Pauline McNeill moved amendment S6M-16532.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16532 in the name of Angela Constance (Independent Review of Sentencing and Penal Policy), leave out from "recognises" to end and insert "acknowledges that prisons remain severely overcrowded, with prisons operating above capacity even after the Scottish National Party (SNP) administration's emergency early release of prisoners, impacting on the ability to rehabilitate offenders; is concerned by the high numbers of women in prisons; condemns the SNP administration's failure to tackle high reoffending rates, which result in offenders returning to custody due to the lack of robust alternatives; agrees that the third sector can play a significant role in the effective delivery of justice services that reduce reoffending, and support reintegration into society; calls on the Scottish Government to urgently increase the availability of robust community payback orders, and invest in safe and secure GPS electronic monitoring to drive down the remand population and give more public confidence to non-custodial sentencing; further calls on the Scottish Government to expand access to throughcare services, which are essential in assisting offenders to reintegrate into society and to stop offending; believes that a review of sentencing and penal policy will not address the urgent crisis in Scotland's justice system, and resolves that the SNP administration should take immediate action based on parameters set by the Parliament to address these concerns, rather than focus on a review that will not take the prompt action needed to fix the justice system and keep Scotland's communities safe."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 16, Against 97 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 42, Abstentions 1).

7. Great British Energy Bill - UK Legislation: The Acting Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Allan) moved S6M-16526—That the Parliament agrees that all relevant provisions of the Great British Energy Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 25 July 2024 and subsequently amended in relation to sustainable development (clause 7A) on 11 February 2025, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 84 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 0).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6 and 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.26 pm.

No. 82, Tuesday 25 February 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Wayne Sutton, Senior Pastor, Carrubbers Christian Centre, led Time for Reflection.

2. Suspension of Standing Orders: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16585—That the Parliament agrees, for the purposes of consideration of the third legislative consent memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill, Rule 9B.3.5 of Standing Orders is suspended.

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 110 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 7).

3. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16586—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 25 February 2025—

after

followed by Topical Questions

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Response to Concerns Raised Regarding Care of Children at Skye House

after

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill

insert

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Great British Energy Bill - UK Legislation

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

4. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport (Maree Todd) made a statement and answered questions on Response to Concerns Raised Regarding Care of Children at Skye House.

6. Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2 and 3.

7. Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-16562—That the Parliament agrees that the Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 73 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 29, Abstentions 21).

8. Great British Energy Bill - UK Legislation: The Acting Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Allan) moved S6M-16578—That the Parliament agrees that all relevant provisions of the Great British Energy Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 25 July 2024 and subsequently amended in relation to an independent review of GB Energy (clause 6A) on 20 February 2025, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 29, Abstentions 7).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 7 and 8 as noted above.

10. Eating Disorders Awareness Week 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-15868 in the name of Emma Harper— That the Parliament recognises that the week of 24 February to 2 March is Eating Disorders Awareness Week 2025, and that the theme is that anyone can be affected by an eating disorder; understands that eating disorders affect at least one in 50 people across Scotland, including people of all ages, genders and backgrounds, with anorexia nervosa having a higher mortality rate than any other mental health condition, and that there is a range of recognised eating disorders; further understands that the sooner someone is treated for an eating disorder, the better their chance of making a full recovery, but that people too often delay seeking help due to perceived stigma and misconceptions about who can develop an eating disorder; welcomes the work of Beat, a UK-wide charity supporting people living with eating disorders and their families; understands that Beat continues to provide help across Scotland through funding from the Scottish Government; notes what it sees as the importance of protecting vital eating disorder services during the current fiscal challenges, and further notes the calls encouraging anyone in Scotland concerned about an eating disorder to contact their GP surgery and reach out to Beat on 0808 801 0432 or at beateatingdisorders.org.uk.

The meeting closed at 6.36 pm.

No. 83, Wednesday 26 February 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business and then Justice and Home Affairs were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Scottish Enterprise Funding for Arms Companies: Lorna Slater moved S6M-16571—That the Parliament notes with concern that at least £8 million of Scottish Enterprise grants have been awarded to 13 companies involved in arms dealing and manufacturing since 2019, including £700,000 to Leonardo and £500,000 to Raytheon Systems; further notes that a number of these businesses have directly supplied weapons and equipment to Israel during its assault on Gaza; understands that, despite this, no company has failed the current Scottish Enterprise human rights due diligence checks; believes, therefore, that the current due diligence process at Scottish Enterprise is failing to ensure that Scotland upholds its international obligations, and calls on the Scottish Government to end all public funding to companies complicit in the arms trade with Israel.

The Minister for Business (Richard Lochhead) moved amendment S6M-16571.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16571 in the name of Lorna Slater (Scottish Enterprise Funding for Arms Companies), leave out from first “notes” to end and insert “reiterates its unwavering support for the ceasefire in Gaza, for the calls for all efforts to be made to ensure an extension of the ceasefire, for humanitarian aid to reach people in Gaza, and for the remaining hostages to be released; recognises and supports the humanitarian assistance that the Scottish Government has provided to the people of Gaza; calls for recognition of a Palestinian state and a two-state solution; recognises that Scottish Enterprise does not provide funding for the manufacture of weapons or munitions; notes that Scottish Enterprise operates a human rights due diligence process in the awarding of any funding; recognises that responsibility for issuing licences for the export of arms is reserved to the UK Government; calls for the suspension of arms exports to Israel, and does not believe that any public funding should be going to supply arms to Israel.”

Craig Hoy moved amendment S6M-16571.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16571 in the name of Lorna Slater (Scottish Enterprise Funding for Arms Companies), leave out from “with concern” to end and insert “that Scotland is home to a wide range of defence, aerospace and security companies that collectively play a vital role in supporting the UK in its endeavours to assist in its international duties to maintain peace, including via its membership of NATO; understands that the defence, aerospace and security sectors support more than 30,000 jobs, including 1,500 apprentices, and contribute £3.2 billion to Scotland's economy; welcomes Scottish Enterprise funding that supports these vital sectors and the jobs and investment that they provide; reiterates Israel's right to defend itself, and acknowledges

> that policy decisions regarding the arms trade are reserved to the UK Parliament."

After debate, amendment S6M-16571.3 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 63 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 35, Abstentions 21). As a result, amendment S6M-16571.1 was pre-empted.

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-16571.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16571 in the name of Lorna Slater (Scottish Enterprise Funding for Arms Companies), insert at end "; acknowledges that across the UK, arms export licences have been suspended for items with a clear risk that they may be used to commit or facilitate a serious violation of international humanitarian law; calls on Scottish Enterprise to review its human rights due diligence checks to ensure that they take account of where products' end use is, and that they fully comply with legal obligations under the Export Control Act 2002 and international law, and recognises the contribution of the defence sector in Scotland and the role that Scotland-based businesses have played in defending democracy and freedom."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 8, Abstentions 26).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 35, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament agreed—

That the Parliament reiterates its unwavering support for the ceasefire in Gaza, for the calls for all efforts to be made to ensure an extension of the ceasefire, for humanitarian aid to reach people in Gaza, and for the remaining hostages to be released; recognises and supports the humanitarian assistance that the Scottish Government has provided to the people of Gaza; calls for recognition of a Palestinian state and a two-state solution; recognises that Scottish Enterprise does not provide funding for the manufacture of weapons or munitions; notes that Scottish Enterprise operates a human rights due diligence process in the awarding of any funding; recognises that responsibility for issuing licences for the export of arms is reserved to the UK Government; calls for the suspension of arms exports to Israel, and does not believe that any public funding should be going to supply arms to Israel; acknowledges that across the UK, arms export licences have been suspended for items with a clear risk that they may be used to commit or facilitate a serious violation of international humanitarian law; calls on Scottish Enterprise to review its human rights due diligence checks to ensure that they take account of where products' end use is, and that they fully comply with legal obligations under the Export Control Act 2002 and international law, and recognises the contribution of the defence sector in Scotland and the role that Scotland-based businesses have played in defending democracy and freedom.

3. Cheaper Rail Fares: Mark Ruskell moved S6M-16572—That the Parliament believes that rail fares in Scotland must be cheaper; regrets the decision by the

Scottish Government to end the off-peak all-day pilot in September 2024, despite an increase of passenger demand by 6.8% and an average 17% cost saving to passengers; understands that expensive and complex ticketing deters passengers from choosing to travel by train; acknowledges that, in order to fulfil the Scottish Government's ambition of reducing car kilometres by 20% by 2030, rail services and public transport must be cheaper and more accessible, and calls, therefore, on the Scottish Government to reverse the 3.8% increase to rail fares coming into effect from 1 April 2025, to permanently remove peak-time rail fares, and to simplify public transport fares, through the introduction of integrated ticketing, as soon as possible.

The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) moved amendment S6M-16572.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16572 in the name of Mark Ruskell (Cheaper Rail Fares), leave out from first "fares" to end and insert "and bus fares must be affordable to encourage the use of public transport; welcomes that rail passenger numbers, since the off-peak all-day pilot ended, have continued to grow, with demand in each four-week period being an average of 4.5% more than the same period in 2024, when the trial was in place; notes that the Scottish Budget for 2025-26 includes provision for a pilot of a £2 bus fare cap; recognises that the results of the off-peak all-day pilot mirror the results of Transport for London's similar trial, which also saw no significant increase in travel as a result of lower fares; further recognises that reinstating off-peak fares all day from 1 April 2025 would cost up to £40 million of resource funding, which would require a commensurate reduction elsewhere in the Transport portfolio's resource budget; recognises that not implementing a fares rise in 2025 would require an additional £11 million, which would require a commensurate reduction elsewhere in the Transport portfolio's resource budget, and believes that any further consideration of off-peak fares all day should take account of the Transport Scotland and Transport for London research, be part of future budget planning and must also consider progress on bus affordability, availability and reliability across Scotland."

Sue Webber moved amendment S6M-16572.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16572 in the name of Mark Ruskell (Cheaper Rail Fares) insert at end "; notes that the operation of ScotRail has cost £600 million more compared to when it was in private hands, and that rail fares also increased by 8.7% in the 2024-25 financial year; calls on the Scottish Government to deliver value for money for taxpayers, which is a significant concern for rail users; urges the Scottish Government to increase access to ScotRail by opening new railway stations, in areas such as Winchburgh, Cove and Newtonhill, and calls on the Scottish Government to consider how a nationalised rail service can provide for all people in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 4).

Claire Baker moved amendment S6M-16572.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16572 in the name of Mark Ruskell (Cheaper Rail Fares), insert at end "; recognises that ScotRail requires investment and sustainable funding, but believes that passengers should not carry the burden of this while services are underperforming."

After debate, amendment S6M-16572.3 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 64 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 55, Abstentions 0). As a result, amendment S6M-16572.2 was pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 54, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament agreed—

That the Parliament believes that rail and bus fares must be affordable to encourage the use of public transport; welcomes that rail passenger numbers, since the off-peak all-day pilot ended, have continued to grow, with demand in each four-week period being an average of 4.5% more than the same period in 2024, when the trial was in place; notes that the Scottish Budget for 2025-26 includes provision for a pilot of a £2 bus fare cap; recognises that the results of the off-peak all-day pilot mirror the results of Transport for London's similar trial, which also saw no significant increase in travel as a result of lower fares; further recognises that reinstating off-peak fares all day from 1 April 2025 would cost up to £40 million of resource funding, which would require a commensurate reduction elsewhere in the Transport portfolio's resource budget; recognises that not implementing a fares rise in 2025 would require an additional £11 million, which would require a commensurate reduction elsewhere in the Transport portfolio's resource budget, and believes that any further consideration of off-peak fares all day should take account of the Transport Scotland and Transport for London research, be part of future budget planning and must also consider progress on bus affordability, availability and reliability across Scotland.

4. Appointment of Member of the Standards Commission for Scotland: Claire Baker, on behalf of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body, moved S6M-16561—That the Parliament agrees, under section 8 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000, that Malcolm Bell be appointed as a member of the Standards Commission for Scotland.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16587—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 4 March 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scotland's Renewable Future

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 5 March 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Achieving a Fair Balance in the UK's Economy

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 6 March 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Scottish Government Debate: COVID-19 Day of Reflection

followed by Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Criminal Justice Committee, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee and Social Justice and Social Security Committee Debate: The People's Panel Report on Reducing Drug Harm and Deaths in Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.15 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 11 March 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 12 March 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 13 March 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 3 March 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Referral of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16588—That the Parliament

agrees that the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft] be considered by the Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16589—That the Parliament agrees that the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Dog Theft (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 as noted above.

9. Northern Corridor Community Forum's Evidence-based Report: The Parliament debated S6M-16389 in the name of Fulton MacGregor—That the Parliament acknowledges the publication of the 2024 Northern Corridor Community Forum's publication, Northern Corridor Community Forum - Evidence Based Report, which, it believes, offers a comprehensive statistical and literary analysis of the challenges facing the Northern Corridor area in North Lanarkshire, encompassing the communities of Glenboig, Gartcosh, Moodiesburn, Chryston, Stepps and Muirhead; commends the report for its detailed findings on critical issues such as housing, economic development, infrastructure, local amenities and community wellbeing; notes the report's identification of what the authors see as the urgent need for modernised and enhanced infrastructure to support these communities; understands that, while the area is open to appropriate new housing developments, there is significant concern about the unprecedented scale of private housing projects, which threaten the long-term sustainability of the communities; notes the report's call for a more constructive and collaborative relationship between the Community Forum and North Lanarkshire Council to rebuild democratic trust and ensure that local decision-making reflects the needs, desires and plans of the people who live and work in the area, and further notes the view that implementing the report's recommendations will prioritise actions to foster inclusive economic growth, improve accountability in local governance and enhance the living and working conditions for residents and workers across the Northern Corridor.

The meeting closed at 5.57 pm.

No. 84, Thursday 27 February 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Protection of Park Home Residents: The Parliament debated S6M-15739 in the name of Murdo Fraser—That the Parliament believes that there are approximately 100 park home residential sites across Scotland, including in the Mid Scotland and Fife region, and that these contain more than 8,000 residents, with a typical residency of pensioners and retirees; further believes that park homes are a growing component of the housing stock; notes that residents own their park home and associated structure, but not the land that the park home is located on, and understands that the average cost of such homes varies between £90,000 and £250,000; recognises that there are reported concerns about park homes being mis-sold as main residencies despite site owners only having holiday licences, which leaves occupiers vulnerable to eviction; applauds the work of the Scottish Confederation of Park Home Residents Association (SCOPHRA) in raising awareness of the legal issues facing park home residents in Scotland and in protecting its members, and acknowledges SCOPHRA's reported calls for action on crucial areas such as including the organisation in the planning approval process for park home sites, supporting local authorities with proper training regarding park home legislation, and providing support for adaptations to park homes to aid those with disabilities and health conditions.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025: The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) moved S6M-16489—That the Parliament agrees that the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 84 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 1, Abstentions 24).

6. Increasing Investment in Scotland: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-16595—That the Parliament agrees that increasing the level of investment in the Scottish economy is critical to delivering on the Scottish Government's priorities of improving public services, supporting a thriving economy, tackling the climate emergency, and eradicating child poverty; recognises that the Scottish Government's programme of public investment, particularly in the priority areas of net zero, housing and infrastructure, is vital for leveraging private investment across the Scottish economy, to stimulate growth in key sectors, improve productivity and create jobs; welcomes the annual EY survey, which shows that Scotland is outpacing the UK as a whole when it comes to securing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) projects, and three

Scottish cities ranked in the UK's top 10 locations for FDI outside of London, and believes that Scotland's strengths and expertise in areas such as technology, financial services, food and drink, tourism and the energy transition make Scotland the ideal place to invest and deliver projects that bring wider benefits to the Scottish economy.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-16595.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16595 in the name of Kate Forbes (Increasing Investment in Scotland), leave out from “on the” to end and insert “economic growth; believes that public sector investment in infrastructure is essential in facilitating growth and therefore notes with alarm the delays to, and uncertainty around, the project to dual the A9 from Perth to Inverness and the Scottish Government's temporising on dualling the A96; recognises that private investment is necessary to maintain a supply of core goods and services, and therefore condemns the severe damage done to the build-to-rent housing sector by rent cap schemes; acknowledges that success in attracting foreign direct investment is measured as much in project value as in project count; urges the Scottish Government to reverse its opposition to nuclear energy, which limits both investment in energy projects as well as the long-term supply of reliable energy near where it is in demand; emphasises that investment is intrinsically linked to the availability of skilled labour, and notes, therefore, with concern that the Scottish Government's highest-in-the-UK income tax rates are limiting industry access to skilled workers, thereby undermining investment and economic growth.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 44, Against 68 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-16595.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16595 in the name of Kate Forbes (Increasing Investment in Scotland), insert at end “; recognises the best practice that is happening across the UK, including in Greater Manchester, where joined-up working across the public and private sector, investment in infrastructure, and an industrial strategy have boosted investment in the region; notes Department for Business and Trade statistics showing that Scotland comes seventh out of 12 for jobs created by inward investment projects, compared to fourth for the North West of England, and believes that the Scottish Government and Scottish Enterprise have failed to maximise Scotland's economic potential and provide support to sectors that are key to Brand Scotland and attracting inward investment, including tourism, food and drink, and financial services.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 21, Against 92 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 0).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5 and 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.11 pm.

No. 85, Tuesday 4 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Martha Inés Romero, Secretary General of Pax Christi International, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16684—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 4 March 2025—

after

followed by Topical Questions

insert

followed by First Minister's Statement: International Solidarity to Support Ukraine

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Minister.

4. First Minister's Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on International Solidarity to Support Ukraine.

5. Scotland's Renewable Future: The Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-16657—That the Parliament rejects the creation of new nuclear power plants in Scotland and the risk that they bring; believes that Scotland's future is as a renewables powerhouse; further believes that the expansion of renewables should have a positive impact on household energy bills; notes the challenges and dangers of producing and managing hazardous radioactive nuclear waste products, and the potentially catastrophic consequences of the failure of a nuclear power plant; recognises that the development and operation of renewable power generation is faster, cheaper and safer than that of nuclear power, and welcomes that renewables would deliver higher employment than nuclear power for the development and production of equivalent levels of generated power.

Douglas Lumsden moved amendment S6M-16657.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16657 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Renewable Future), leave out from "rejects" to end and insert "recognises the importance of renewable energy in Scotland's future, but believes that a balanced energy mix, including investment in new nuclear power, such as small modular reactors, is essential to ensuring a secure, clean

and affordable energy source by reducing the country's reliance on foreign energy and creating a reliable energy supply for the UK; acknowledges that nuclear power is a proven, low-carbon energy source that operates independently of weather conditions, complementing the variability of renewables and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels; notes that, while renewables will play a central role in Scotland's energy transition, they alone cannot provide the constant, stable supply required to meet demand; acknowledges that Scotland's oil and gas sector has been a cornerstone of the UK's energy security and economy for decades and will continue to play a crucial role in providing reliable energy, supporting skilled jobs and driving investment in clean energy innovation; recognises the vital contribution of energy companies in leading the transition to a cleaner future through investments in emerging technologies that will underpin net zero goals while maintaining energy resilience; notes that, whilst new renewable and electrical infrastructure is needed, the right of communities to object must be respected, with wind turbines, battery energy storage systems, pylons and other infrastructure only being built where it has the express consent of residents; calls for an energy strategy that embraces renewables, nuclear and the managed use of domestic oil and gas to ensure affordable, stable and low-carbon energy for Scotland's households and businesses, and welcomes the economic and employment opportunities that a broad-based energy mix will bring to Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 29, Against 89 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-16657.2—

As an amendment to motion S6M-16657 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Renewable Future), leave out from "rejects" to end and insert "recognises the huge potential, and progress made, in Scotland to develop renewable energy generation capacity; considers that Scotland has a future as a renewables powerhouse and that this will help with the long-term ambitions to decarbonise Scotland's energy usage; acknowledges that, to successfully transition to low- and zero-carbon energy sources and deliver energy security, it will require a sustainable generation baseline; considers that nuclear energy is therefore an essential part of the future energy mix, as a highly efficient, zero-emissions source of energy that generates over 20% of the electricity consumed in Scotland; notes that Torness nuclear power station directly supports hundreds of jobs, as well as many more in the wider economy in the region, and welcomes the decision to extend its lifespan; welcomes the support from the UK Government for the next generation of nuclear energy technology and the development of small modular reactors; regrets that Scotland will miss out on these investment and job opportunities due to the Scottish Government's opposition to new nuclear energy projects, and calls on it to end its outdated ideological opposition to small modular reactors."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 46, Against 72 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Patrick Harvie moved amendment S6M-16657.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16657 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Renewable Future), insert at end "; believes, however, that for the benefits of renewable energy to be maximised, further action is needed; further believes that both governments should place a higher priority on public and community ownership of renewable energy infrastructure; recognises the need for the UK Government to make changes to energy regulation and pricing to incentivise renewable generation, storage and grid infrastructure, and to make electrification of heat and transport more financially attractive, and further recognises the urgent need for the Scottish Government to end the delays to the Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan and the planned Heat in Buildings Bill, which must be introduced to the Parliament as soon as possible."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 11, Against 33, Abstentions 75 (including 3 proxy votes)).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 69 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 50, Abstentions 0).

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16685—That the Parliament agrees that the Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. Holistic Approach to Alcohol-related Brain Damage: The Parliament debated S6M-16291 in the name of Carol Mochan— That the Parliament notes what it sees as the concerning and under-recognised issue of alcohol-related brain damage (ARBD) in the South Scotland region and across the country; believes that there are significant permanent physical, psychological and social consequences of the condition, including decreased cognitive functioning, mental health problems and harm to quality of life; notes the view that there is a need to adopt a more holistic multidisciplinary approach, integrating healthcare, social services, public health and addiction teams for people with alcohol dependence; further notes the belief in working collaboratively to prioritise the recognition, prevention and treatment of ARBD, ensuring healthcare professionals are adequately trained to identify and manage the condition, with adequate resources provided to ensure early diagnosis and treatment, and recognises the calls for public health campaigns to raise awareness and remove stigma.

The meeting closed at 6.26 pm.

No. 86, Wednesday 5 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic and then Finance and Local Government were answered by the Deputy First Minister, a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. Achieving a Fair Balance in the UK's Economy: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-16667—That the Parliament recognises that Scotland's many high-growth sectors, which are driven by world class innovation, deserve greater recognition from, and promotion by, the UK Government, which must not unfairly focus investment in the south-east of England, or the so-called golden triangle of Oxford, Cambridge and London, or treat Scotland as an afterthought, especially when announcing or developing policy.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-16667.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16667 in the name of Kate Forbes (Achieving a Fair Balance in the UK's Economy), leave out from "deserve" to end and insert "benefit significantly from an abundance of direct investment initiatives established under the former UK Conservative administration, including £3 billion in Levelling Up funding, City Region and Growth Deals, Green Freeports, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, and the British Business Bank; recognises that the importance and significance of these investments demonstrate the commitment that was held by the former UK Conservative administration to supporting economic growth in Scotland; acknowledges the full responsibility that is held by the Scottish Government for economic outcomes deriving from its devolved powers, and calls on the UK Labour administration to hold to the critical pledges made by its predecessors to level up Scotland's economic prosperity."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 27, Against 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-16667.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6W-16667 in the name of Kate Forbes (Achieving a Fair Balance in the UK's Economy), leave out from "deserve" to end and insert "must gain greater recognition in order to reach their potential, attract investment and deliver growth and opportunity across Scotland; welcomes the UK Government's commitment to investing in Scotland since July 2024, which includes £200 million to secure the future of Grangemouth, £125 million for Great British Energy, based in Aberdeen, £5 million to support the Scotch Whisky industry, £1.4 billion in important local growth projects of which there is at least £200 million to revive specific Scottish towns, support for Glasgow City Region and North East Scotland Investment Zones and a commitment that Glasgow will be one of the four initial regions to benefit from strategic partnerships with the new National Wealth Fund; notes that these measures have been announced within months of a Labour administration,

and, by contrast, the Scottish National Party administration took 16 years to convene an investor panel to make recommendations on how Scotland can attract international capital investment; understands that the investor panel for mobilising international capital to help finance the transition to net zero highlighted significant issues, including that the 'prevailing perception is that the Scottish Government and wider public sector is not supportive of business' and that 'the current investment pipeline is too diffuse. A pipeline needs to be formed of projects that are properly costed, shaped and prioritised. It needs to be a real pipeline, not a wish list'; further understands that addressing these concerns will be key to unlocking the potential of Scotland to attract investment, and calls for the Scottish Government to use all levers available to it, and to work constructively with the UK Government, to achieve the shared ambition of delivering growth and prosperity across Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 20, Against 94 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 59 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 47, Abstentions 7).

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16686—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 11 March 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Supporting Households with Cost of Living Pressures and Rising Energy Bills

followed by Appointment of Chair to Environmental Standards Scotland

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 12 March 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.10 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 13 March 2025
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice
followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Hospitals Inquiry Interim Report on the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and Department of Clinical Neuroscience Edinburgh
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Adoption of Innovation in Health and Social Care
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 18 March
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Scottish Government Business
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 19 March 2025
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 March 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.15 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.15 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Rural Affairs and Islands Committee Debate: Salmon Farming in Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 10 March 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16687—That the Parliament agrees that the Regulated Roles with Children and Adults (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16688—That the Parliament agrees that the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (List A and B Offences) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16689—That the Parliament agrees that the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Incidental, Supplementary and Consequential Provision) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16690—That the Parliament agrees that the Provision of Early Learning and Childcare (Specified Children) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16691—That the Parliament agrees that the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exclusions and Exceptions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16692—That the Parliament agrees that the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, as noted above.

11. Three Years of Solidarity with Ukraine: The Parliament debated S6M-16524 in the name of Colin Beattie—That the Parliament renews its solidarity with the people of Ukraine, three years on from what it understands was Russia's illegal full-scale invasion on 24 February 2022; praises the bravery and resilience of the Ukrainian people as, it believes, they continue to resolutely defend their sovereign nation from Russian aggression; condemns absolutely the reported war crimes that have been committed in Ukraine by the regime of Vladimir Putin; notes the support for the European Parliament resolution of 23 January 2025, which called on the Russian Federation to immediately terminate all military activities and withdraw from Ukraine; welcomes the news that European neighbours, including the Baltic states, have made what it sees as significant progress in detaching themselves from dependence on Russian energy; reinforces Scotland's place among the democratic nations of Europe in their support for Ukraine against what it considers is Russian authoritarianism; notes that a reported over 28,000 displaced people have arrived in the UK from Ukraine with a sponsor in Scotland, and that over 21,000 of them came through the Scottish Government's Super Sponsor Scheme; praises the hard work and compassion of communities, including in Midlothian North and Musselburgh, as they welcome displaced Ukrainian people to settle in Scotland; considers that these

Ukrainian people have made a rich contribution to Scotland's communities; notes the support for a warm Scottish future for displaced Ukrainian people, including through continued investment by the Scottish Government and local authorities in longer-term resettlement for displaced Ukrainians; further notes the call on the UK Government to provide security and clarity through further extensions to the Homes for Ukraine schemes, as well as provide the fair and proportionate allocation of "thank you" payments to hosts in Scotland, and celebrates what it believes has been Scotland’s long history of solidarity with displaced people, refugees and asylum seekers from around the world.

12. Motion Without Notice: Colin Beattie moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.24 pm.

No. 87, Thursday 6 March 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Impact of UK Welfare Reforms in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-16536 in the name of Marie McNair—That the Parliament condemns the Labour UK administration for its reported intention to proceed with what it sees as punitive welfare reforms proposed under the previous Conservative administration; notes the calls on the UK Government to immediately reverse its plans, which, it considers, could seriously impact disabled people and increase financial insecurity in vulnerable households; further notes with alarm reports that, by 2029, over 450,000 disabled people and people with long-term conditions across the UK could be impacted as a result of the proposed reforms to Work Capability Assessment, with, it understands, many losing payments currently worth over £400 per month; is deeply concerned by what it sees as the callous language of UK Government ministers when discussing welfare reform, including the reported comment by the UK work and pensions secretary that some benefit claimants are "taking the mickey"; notes what it sees as the contrast between what it considers the demonisation of welfare recipients, under the UK Government, and the Scottish Government's continued commitment to a devolved social security system based on dignity, fairness and respect; welcomes the reported investment of £1.3 billion above the UK block grant adjustment for social security expenditure in the draft Budget 2025-26, which reflects what it considers to be the social contract between the Scottish Government and the people of Scotland; understands that the Scottish Government is set to invest up to £210 million in measures to mitigate what it sees as UK Government austerity policies such as the so-called bedroom tax, benefit cap and cut to the Winter Fuel Payment in 2025-26, and notes the calls encouraging disadvantaged or low-income households across Scotland, including disabled and long-term ill people in the Clydebank and Milngavie constituency, to check their eligibility for social security payments and to claim the support to which they are entitled.

4. Covid-19 Day of Reflection: The Parliament debated Covid-19 Day of Reflection.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

6. Criminal Justice Committee, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee and Social Justice and Social Security Committee Debate: The People's Panel Report on Reducing Drug Harm and Deaths in Scotland: The Parliament debated The People's Panel Report on Reducing Drug Harm and Deaths in Scotland.

7. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.17 pm.

No. 88, Tuesday 11 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Kayleigh Brown (née Haggo), led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. Supporting Households with Cost of Living Pressures and Rising Energy Bills: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-16750—That the Parliament notes that Ofgem's energy price cap has soared to £1,849 for the average household, which is the third increase in a row and 9.4% (£159) higher than this time last year; recognises that this will compound cost of living pressures for households across Scotland; welcomes the Scottish Government's action in the recently passed Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill, including the reintroduction of universal winter fuel payments for pensioners and through energy efficiency programmes; believes that reforming energy markets and harnessing Scotland's renewable potential will bolster energy security and, in turn, reduce consumer bills, and calls on the UK Government to make urgent progress on delivering its commitment to reduce bills by £300, against which no progress has yet been made.

Liz Smith moved amendment S6M-16750.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16750 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (Supporting Households with Cost of Living Pressures and Rising Energy Bills), leave out from "welcomes" to end and insert "notes the ongoing concerns amongst the Scottish business community about the effects of the widening tax differential between Scotland and the rest of the UK; further notes the failure of both the UK Government and the Scottish Government to prioritise policies that will deliver sustained economic growth, investment in infrastructure and more efficient public services, and calls on the Scottish Government to take a balanced approach to net zero, which includes supporting Scotland's oil and gas industry and ending policies that worsen cost of living pressures."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 23, Against 83 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-16750.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16750 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (Supporting Households with Cost of Living Pressures and Rising Energy Bills), leave out from "notes" to end and insert "recognises that there are significant cost of living pressures in the UK and globally; further recognises the impact that rising energy bills have for families and communities across Scotland; welcomes the recent announcement by the UK Labour administration that it is expanding the £150 Warm Home Discount scheme so that 220,000 more Scottish households receive help to reduce energy costs; further welcomes the other support delivered by the UK Labour

administration, including an extra £41 million in funding this past winter for the Scottish Government and delivering a record budget settlement for Scotland; demands that the Scottish Government works to urgently introduce greater support in the short term and accelerate insulating and decarbonising homes to bring down energy bills in the long term, and calls on the Scottish Government to deliver the policies that the Scottish Labour Party is calling for, such as scrapping peak rail fares, delivering affordable housing and keeping council tax low while boosting Scotland's energy security through its sprint to clean power to keep bills low."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 19, Against 88 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 59 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 48, Abstentions 0).

4. Appointment of Chair to Environmental Standards Scotland : The Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-16749—That the Parliament notes the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee's consideration of Dr Richard Dixon as the nominated candidate for the role of Board Chair of Environmental Standards Scotland at its meeting on 18 February 2025; welcomes the committee's recommendation that the Parliament approves the appointment of Dr Richard Dixon for four years in accordance with schedule 1, paragraph 2(4) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021, and approves the appointment as required by schedule 1, paragraph 2(2) of the Act.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 83 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 1, Abstentions 22).

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3 and 4 as noted above.

6. Additional Support Needs in Scotland: The Parliament debated S6M-15955 in the name of Alexander Stewart—That the Parliament acknowledges that, in Scotland, additional support needs (ASN) is a term used to describe the requirements for an estimated 190,000 children and young people, or 26.6% of all school pupils, who require extra help to reach their full learning potential; believes that ASN can include having motor or sensory impairments, learning difficulties such as dyslexia, English as an additional language or a myriad of emotional and social difficulties; notes that all schools have a duty to provide appropriate support and that this requirement was laid out in the Education (Additional Support for Learning) Scotland Act 2004; further notes that the Additional Support for Learning: Statutory Guidance 2017 sets out that schools have a number of responsibilities to support pupils who have ASN, such as making adequate and efficient provision for the support required, publishing, reviewing and updating specified information about their ASN policy, providing the parents of the pupils with all of the information that they are required to publish, providing, where needed, co-ordinated support plans for the pupils, and keeping this under regular review, and providing independent and free mediation services for parents and pupils, including publishing information about these services; believes that, with the right resources and focus, schools and further

education settings, including those in Stirling and Clackmannanshire, can create a whole-school environment with an emphasis on inclusion and cooperation and delivering high aspirations; further believes that social and emotional skills programmes, which aim to build resilience through learning or coordinated support plans, can build skills step by step to bring success and give pupils with ASN a chance to test their skills out and receive encouragement and feedback, developing inclusiveness that can be encouraged through good quality health and wellbeing lessons, promoting relationships and diversity, supporting pupils to feel accepted and to belong; believes that, in addition to myriad other ambitions, they can help to deal with, and reduce, bullying and discrimination, and notes the calls that, in order for all pupils with ASN to benefit in full from their education, the support that they receive should be tailored to meet their individual needs and build on their strengths to help them overcome any difficulties that they experience.

The meeting closed at 6.02 pm.

No. 89, Wednesday 12 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Protecting Single-sex Spaces in the Public Sector: Russell Findlay moved S6M-16755—That the Parliament believes that the Scottish Government has failed to give sufficient clarity to the public sector about ensuring the availability of single-sex spaces for women and girls, such as toilets and changing rooms; acknowledges that this failure has resulted in workers in the public sector and school pupils having to share single-sex spaces with individuals of the opposite sex, jeopardising their safety, dignity and privacy, and subjecting some to horrific incidents of sexual abuse and harassment, and calls on the Scottish Government to urgently issue a directive to all public sector organisations requiring that adequate single-sex spaces for biological women and girls are provided on their premises in line with legal obligations.

The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved amendment S6M-16755.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16755 in the name of Russell Findlay (Protecting Single-sex Spaces in the Public Sector), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "notes that the Scottish Government fully upholds the Equality Act 2010, and requires all public bodies to comply with the law, and welcomes the role of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission in providing codes of practice and guidance."

Jackie Baillie moved amendment S6M-16755.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16755 in the name of Russell Findlay (Protecting Single-sex Spaces in the Public Sector), leave out from ", such as toilets" to end and insert "; acknowledges concerns about dignity and privacy; notes recent research on safety in hospitals relating to rape and sexual assault; calls for more accurate recording and reporting in the NHS, including to the police, leading to better protections; further calls for an end to mixed sex wards; supports ensuring that schools are designed as accessible and welcoming environments for all, including accessible and single-sex toilets, and calls for the Scottish Government to outline how single-sex provision will be delivered in public buildings, such as schools and hospitals, and in line with legal obligations."

Maggie Chapman moved amendment S6M-16755.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16755 in the name of Russell Findlay (Protecting Single-sex Spaces in the Public Sector), leave out from first "the Scottish Government" to end and insert "all women deserve protection from misogyny, including transmisogyny; condemns the rise in transphobic rhetoric

and policy; believes that transgender and nonbinary people contribute immensely to the wellbeing of Scotland's communities; reiterates its commitment to human rights for all, including freedom from discrimination and upholding the Equality Act 2010; requires all public bodies to comply with the law, and welcomes the role of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission in providing codes of practice and guidance."

After debate, amendment S6M-16755.3 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 57 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 50, Abstentions 7 (including 1 proxy vote)). As a result, amendments S6M-16755.1 and S6M-16755.2 were pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 61 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 31, Abstentions 20).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament notes that the Scottish Government fully upholds the Equality Act 2010, and requires all public bodies to comply with the law, and welcomes the role of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission in providing codes of practice and guidance.

3. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on what engagement it has had with the University of Dundee regarding its financial recovery plan and proposed reduction in staffing, was answered by the Minister for Higher and Further Education; and Minister for Veterans (Graeme Dey).

4. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16768—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 18 March 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Protecting and Growing Scotland's Iconic

Food and Drink Sector

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 March 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs
followed by Scottish Labour Party Business
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.10 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 20 March 2025
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.15 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.15 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills
followed by Rural Affairs and Islands Committee Debate: Salmon Farming in Scotland
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 25 March 2025
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Scottish Government Business
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 26 March 2025
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Land Reform (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Land Reform (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 27 March 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 17 March 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16769—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Landfill Tax (Standard Rate and Lower Rate) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/41) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16770—That the Parliament agrees that the Tied Pubs (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. International Women's Day 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-16573 in the name of Audrey Nicoll—That the Parliament notes that International Women's Day 2025 takes place on 8 March; notes that the theme for 2025, Accelerating Action, is in recognition of calls for increased momentum and urgency to address the barriers that women face, and notes those standing together in solidarity to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women in the Aberdeen South and North Kincardine constituency, across Scotland and around the world.

The meeting closed at 6.22 pm.

No. 90, Thursday 13 March 2025

The meeting opened at 11:40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Young Carers Action Day 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-16302 in the name of Paul O'Kane—That the Parliament acknowledges that 12 March 2025 marks Young Carers Action Day; welcomes the annual campaign initiative, led by Carers Trust, which is encouraging as many organisations, communities and individuals as possible to take part in the day by taking action, and supporting and raising awareness of young carers; recognises the 2025 theme, Give Us a Break, which will focus on ensuring that young carers are able to access timely and restful breaks to avoid burnout from their caring role, and the need for education professionals and employers to give them a break in life by supporting them in school and at work, and creating better life opportunities; commends what it sees as the immense contribution that young carers make to society, including in the West Scotland region, by caring for their family or friends who are ill, frail, disabled or have mental health or addiction problems; believes that caring for someone should not be a barrier to having an equal opportunity in learning, earning or being able to participate and get on in life; recognises that young carers' responsibilities at home can mean that they often feel overwhelmed at having to juggle their caring responsibilities with their school work and social life; notes Carers Trust's research, which found that 52% of young carers surveyed said that they always or usually feel stressed because of being a young carer or young adult carer; acknowledges what it considers is the importance of events such as the Scottish Young Carers Festival, which provide an opportunity for young carers to have a break from their caring role, meet other young carers and have fun; understands that young carers want lasting meaningful change to take place to ensure that young carers now, and in the future, remain at the forefront of policy development and have access to the support and breaks that they are entitled to and deserve; recognises what it sees as the importance of rest and respite for young carers in Scotland; notes the view that all young carers deserve a break, and wishes all involved in this year's #YoungCarersActionDay the very best of luck in their endeavours.

4. Motion without Notice: Paul O'Kane moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Hospitals Inquiry

Interim Report on the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and Department of Clinical Neuroscience Edinburgh.

7. Adoption of Innovation in Health and Social Care: The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved S6M-16777—That the Parliament believes that there are significant health and economic benefits in supporting and adopting innovation in the health and social care service; recognises the urgent and critical need for health and social care recovery and renewal to meet the changing demands on the NHS whilst protecting its founding principles of remaining in the hands of the public and free at the point of need; agrees that reform can and must be accelerated by scientific and technological innovation and that rapid national adoption of research-proven innovations are essential to drive further improvements for patients, and welcomes partnership working between Scotland's world class academic institutions, life sciences and technology businesses, the public sector and the NHS to improve health outcomes and support a thriving economy.

Sandesh Gulhane moved amendment S6M-16777.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16777 in the name of Neil Gray (Adoption of Innovation in Health and Social Care), insert at end "; acknowledges that much of the NHS's existing IT infrastructure is outdated and suffers from interoperability issues, which harm productivity and create an additional burden on NHS staff; further acknowledges that a lack of modern, effective IT infrastructure has created challenges for GP practices and patients, including difficulties in easily booking appointments or ordering repeat prescriptions; believes that the introduction of an NHS Scotland app, a universal software architecture platform and a single shared digital patient records system to enable seamless transfer of medical information within and between NHS boards, local authorities and other care providers, would be transformational for all aspects of health and social care; understands the vast potential of artificial intelligence within health and social care to accelerate diagnosis, increase productivity and improve patient outcomes; recognises the significantly greater progress made in other parts of the UK and in European nations in developing and implementing these technologies, and considers it vital to the future of Scotland's health and social care provision that adoption and innovation of new technologies within the sector is accelerated."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).

Paul Sweeney moved amendment S6M-16777.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16777 in the name of Neil Gray (Adoption of Innovation in Health and Social Care), insert at end "; regrets that the Scottish National Party administration has, after almost 18 years in office, allowed Scotland's NHS to lag behind in adopting innovation, with end-to-end paperless and e-prescribing policies undelivered and dated medical diagnostics equipment still in use, and calls on the Scottish Government to move Scotland's NHS and social care sector from analogue working to the digital age, starting by creating a shared care record system and empowering patients through an NHS app."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 47, Against 63 (including 4 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament believes that there are significant health and economic benefits in supporting and adopting innovation in the health and social care service; recognises the urgent and critical need for health and social care recovery and renewal to meet the changing demands on the NHS whilst protecting its founding principles of remaining in the hands of the public and free at the point of need; agrees that reform can and must be accelerated by scientific and technological innovation and that rapid national adoption of research-proven innovations are essential to drive further improvements for patients; welcomes partnership working between Scotland's world class academic institutions, life sciences and technology businesses, the public sector and the NHS to improve health outcomes and support a thriving economy; acknowledges that much of the NHS's existing IT infrastructure is outdated and suffers from interoperability issues, which harm productivity and create an additional burden on NHS staff; further acknowledges that a lack of modern, effective IT infrastructure has created challenges for GP practices and patients, including difficulties in easily booking appointments or ordering repeat prescriptions; believes that the introduction of an NHS Scotland app, a universal software architecture platform and a single shared digital patient records system to enable seamless transfer of medical information within and between NHS boards, local authorities and other care providers, would be transformational for all aspects of health and social care; understands the vast potential of artificial intelligence within health and social care to accelerate diagnosis, increase productivity and improve patient outcomes; recognises the significantly greater progress made in other parts of the UK and in European nations in developing and implementing these technologies, and considers it vital to the future of Scotland's health and social care provision that adoption and innovation of new technologies within the sector is accelerated.

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.06 pm.

No. 91, Tuesday 18 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Carol Telfer, Chaplain of Glasgow Hospice, Marie Curie, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretaries.

3. Protecting and Growing Scotland's Iconic Food and Drink Sector: The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved S6M-16839—That the Parliament recognises the value and importance of Scotland's food and drink sector in terms of economic benefits, its particular importance to Scotland's rural and island communities and, importantly, its role in enhancing Scotland's reputation on a global scale; further recognises the risks of the proposal for an English whisky geographical indication that could undermine Scotch whisky and single malt, which is central to the economy; acknowledges the challenges and opportunities faced by the sector in an ever-changing world; calls for cross-party support to ensure that the sector continues to receive backing and support in order to grow sustainably and contribute to a prosperous and thriving economy; notes the new risk from tariffs, and calls on the UK Government to do all that it can to protect Scotland's businesses and consumers from their impact.

Tim Eagle moved amendment S6M-16839.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16839 in the name of Mairi Gougeon (Protecting and Growing Scotland's Iconic Food and Drink Sector), leave out from "notes the new" to end and insert "recognises the need to rapidly deliver key infrastructure projects to aid the movement of goods and services, particularly in remote and rural communities; notes that further exploration of gene-editing technology should be undertaken in order to improve plant resilience and domestic food security; believes that the failed implementation of the Deposit Return Scheme, the further review of restrictions on marketing and sponsorship of alcoholic products, and the failure to fully pass on rates relief to all of Scotland's hospitality operators has driven up costs and created uncertainty for food and drink businesses; welcomes the commitment by food and drink businesses to enhance self-regulation; notes the risk from tariffs, and calls on both of Scotland's governments to do all that they can to protect businesses and consumers from their impact."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 46, Against 64 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 3).

Rhoda Grant moved amendment S6M-16839.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16839 in the name of Mairi Gougeon (Protecting and Growing Scotland's Iconic Food and Drink Sector), insert at end "; notes the further risk to Scotland's food and drink industry posed by rural depopulation, caused by a lack of housing supply and weakened

transport links; acknowledges that the Food and Drink Federation estimates that the sector needs nearly 35,000 new recruits by 2031 to fill skills gaps; welcomes the commitment by the UK Labour administration to not water down the legal definition of single malt whisky; believes that the Scottish Government can do more to promote the unique nature of Scotch whisky and other Scottish food and drink exports to maximise the reach of Brand Scotland; calls on the Scottish Government to work across every department to drive a coherent strategy on food and drink as part of a wider industrial strategy, and further calls for clear career pathways in these industries to address skills gaps and drive excellence in the world-famous sector."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 24, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 6).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.

5. MacDiarmid's Brownsbank Cottage, a Scottish Cultural Treasure: The Parliament debated S6M-16290 in the name of Clare Adamson— That the Parliament commends the work of MacDiarmid's Brownsbank; notes that it is a charitable organisation, which was founded in 2015 to preserve and promote the legacy of Brownsbank Cottage in the Peebleshire Hills near Biggar, South Lanarkshire; understands that Brownsbank Cottage is an A-listed building, most notably remembered as the former home of the renowned poet, Christopher Murray Grieve, who was better known by his pen-name, Hugh MacDiarmid; further understands that the charity works to restore and upgrade the cottage, to conserve its contents, to promote the works of Hugh MacDiarmid nationally and internationally, to re-establish the Brownsbank Writing Fellowship for writers in residence to work from the cottage and to generate educational and community creative involvement, as well as promote literary tourism; recognises that Hugh MacDiarmid stood as a significant Scottish poet, journalist, essayist and political figure, and believes that he is widely regarded as one of the most influential Scottish writers of the 20th century, making a profound and lasting impact on Scottish culture and politics; acknowledges that MacDiarmid's Brownsbank has, to date, been supported by the Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund, SSE Renewables Community Investment Programme, the William Grant Foundation and generous donations from the public, but that further support is urgently required; notes that distinguished past occupants of Brownsbank include the award-winning author and publisher, Matthew Fitt, and James Robertson, the inaugural Scottish Parliament Writer in Residence and author of the Booker Prize-nominated, The Testament of Gideon Mack; believes that Brownsbank Cottage has made an indelible imprint on Scottish cultural heritage and that its preservation, with immediate works required, is a cultural priority; commends the board of trustees and volunteers of MacDiarmid's Brownsbank on what it sees as their tireless efforts to protect and promote this historical Scottish landmark; notes the view that the protection and development of Scotland's literary heritage is vital to the nation's cultural health, identity and confidence, and further notes the calls for the Scottish and UK governments to assist with the restoration of Brownsbank Cottage, to preserve this historic and national treasure.

The meeting closed at 5.38 pm.

No. 92, Wednesday 19 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then Justice and Home Affairs, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. Reforming Scotland's West Coast Ferries: Claire Baker moved S6M-16845—That the Parliament deplores the continuing economic and social damage inflicted on Clyde and Hebrides communities through the Scottish Government's failure to provide adequate ferry services; calls on the Scottish Government to reconsider its decision to impose a 10 % increase in fares on Scottish Government funded ferry services, contrary to the recommendations of the delivery companies; is concerned that no Scottish yard has been selected to deliver any of the ferries in the Small Vessel Replacement Programme; believes that the governance structure for west coast ferry services has failed, and calls for the award of a new Clyde and Hebrides ferry contract to be accompanied by a fundamental reform of governance, which puts island communities and workers at the heart of decision making and accountability.

The Cabinet Secretary for Transport (Fiona Hyslop) moved amendment S6M-16845.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16845 in the name of Claire Baker (Reforming Scotland's West Coast Ferries), leave out from "deplores" to end and insert "recognises the challenges that have faced a number of island communities with ferry service disruptions but notes that CalMac crews delivered 95.8% of services in the last recorded contract year; welcomes the provision of over £530 million in 2025-26 for maintaining and improving ferry services, replacing vessels, upgrading ports and harbours, and investing further in low-carbon inter-island ferries, with at least £21 million to progress phase 1 of the Small Vessel Replacement Programme; acknowledges that the delivery of six new large vessels, providing fleet resilience, and the procurement of seven new small vessels, which is currently in the 10-day 'standstill period', and the replacement for the MV Lord of the Isles, will provide 37% of the total fleet with new vessels, helping to reduce emissions and create more sustainability, resilience and reliability for residents, businesses and communities; notes that public engagement is being undertaken in Orkney and Shetland to inform the procurement of two new freight vessels for the Northern Isles services; acknowledges the work underway to make a direct award for the next Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Services contract, and the roundtable with all stakeholders, including the Ferries Community Board and trade unions, to collectively discuss ambitions for the contract, including putting public service delivery and accountable key performance indicators developed with communities at its heart, and agrees that delivery of the award will then provide the space and opportunity for more fundamental reform of governance."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 57 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 52, Abstentions 7).

Sue Webber moved amendment S6M-16845.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16845 in the name of Claire Baker (Reforming Scotland's West Coast Ferries), insert at end "; believes that the social and economic impact of ferry disruption is causing existential harm to Scotland's islands; shares the frustrations of Scotland's islanders and ferry passengers, who believe that their needs are not being prioritised by the Scottish Government; notes that the increasing maintenance repair bill for the ageing fleet has hit £98 million in the last decade, which compromises the ability to invest in new infrastructure and maintain affordable ticket prices; agrees with the Audit Scotland report that the five-year business plan for Ferguson Marine Port Glasgow was overly reliant and predicated on winning the Small Vessel Replacement Programme contract; is concerned with the repeated awarding of ferry-build contracts to numerous overseas shipyards whilst taxpayers in Scotland are funding a publicly owned yard on the Clyde; notes the Scottish Government's plan to purchase Ardrossan Harbour and urges Scottish ministers to ensure that the much-needed infrastructure upgrades to the port that were promised are delivered in a timely and cost-effective manner, and calls on the Scottish Government to be clear about its long-term intentions for Ferguson Marine Port Glasgow, and the future of Scottish shipbuilding, in light of an apparent lack of faith in it shown to date."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 52, Against 56 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 7).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 58 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 52, Abstentions 6).
Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament recognises the challenges that have faced a number of island communities with ferry service disruptions but notes that CalMac crews delivered 95.8% of services in the last recorded contract year; welcomes the provision of over £530 million in 2025-26 for maintaining and improving ferry services, replacing vessels, upgrading ports and harbours, and investing further in low-carbon inter-island ferries, with at least £21 million to progress phase 1 of the Small Vessel Replacement Programme; acknowledges that the delivery of six new large vessels, providing fleet resilience, and the procurement of seven new small vessels, which is currently in the 10-day 'standstill period', and the replacement for the MV Lord of the Isles, will provide 37% of the total fleet with new vessels, helping to reduce emissions and create more sustainability, resilience and reliability for residents, businesses and communities; notes that public engagement is being undertaken in Orkney and Shetland to inform the procurement of two new freight vessels for the Northern Isles services; acknowledges the work underway to make a direct award for the next Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Services contract, and the roundtable with all stakeholders, including the Ferries Community Board and trade unions, to collectively discuss ambitions for the contract, including putting public service delivery and accountable key performance indicators developed with communities at its heart, and agrees that delivery of the award will then provide the space and opportunity for more fundamental reform of governance.

3. Children's Rights and Temporary Accommodation: Mark Griffin moved S6M-16844—That the Parliament notes the publication of In Their Own Words: Children's Experiences in Temporary Accommodation, a research publication commissioned by Shelter Scotland from De Montfort University and University College London; accepts the findings of the publication, which concludes that children in Scotland are adversely affected by the shocking conditions found in some forms of temporary accommodation; recognises that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) provides children with rights to have their best interests considered when decisions about them are being taken, including the right to life and the ability to develop, the right to school, the right to protection from violence in all forms, and the right to play and rest; notes with concern that the report highlights a number of examples of these rights being breached; accepts that the use of hotel-like accommodation for children in temporary accommodation carries a high risk of breaching children's rights under the UNCRC; notes that amendments to the Housing (Scotland) Bill have been laid that would require relevant bodies to have regard to the rights of the child in dealing with cases of homelessness, and calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that children in Scotland are placed in safe and secure homes which take account of their rights under the UNCRC.

The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) moved amendment S6M-16844.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16844 in the name of Mark Griffin (Children's Rights and Temporary Accommodation), insert at end "; notes the actions taken to address the issues highlighted in the report, including the publication of the temporary accommodation standards framework and bringing forward the amendment to implement Awaab's Law in the Housing (Scotland) Bill, and welcomes that the number of children in temporary accommodation has reduced in 20 local authority areas."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).

Meghan Gallacher moved amendment S6M-16844.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6W-16844 in the name of Mark Griffin (Children's Rights and Temporary Accommodation), insert at end "; believes that the report underlines the urgent need for the Scottish Government to outline an action plan to address the housing emergency, and notes that the Housing (Scotland) Bill is a missed opportunity to encourage more investment and housebuilding in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 53, Against 63 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament notes the publication of In Their Own Words: Children's Experiences in Temporary Accommodation, a research publication commissioned by Shelter Scotland from De Montfort University and University College London;

accepts the findings of the publication, which concludes that children in Scotland are adversely affected by the shocking conditions found in some forms of temporary accommodation; recognises that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) provides children with rights to have their best interests considered when decisions about them are being taken, including the right to life and the ability to develop, the right to school, the right to protection from violence in all forms, and the right to play and rest; notes with concern that the report highlights a number of examples of these rights being breached; accepts that the use of hotel-like accommodation for children in temporary accommodation carries a high risk of breaching children's rights under the UNCRC; notes that amendments to the Housing (Scotland) Bill have been laid that would require relevant bodies to have regard to the rights of the child in dealing with cases of homelessness; calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that children in Scotland are placed in safe and secure homes which take account of their rights under the UNCRC; notes the actions taken to address the issues highlighted in the report, including the publication of the temporary accommodation standards framework and bringing forward the amendment to implement Awaab's Law in the Housing (Scotland) Bill, and welcomes that the number of children in temporary accommodation has reduced in 20 local authority areas.

4. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the findings of the fatal accident inquiry for Lea Lamont, Ellie McCormick, and Mira-Belle Bosch, published on 14 March 2025, which suggest that the three child fatalities were avoidable, was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16855—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 25 March 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Government Response to the Grenfell

Tower Inquiry Phase 2 Report

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scotland - A Fair Trade Nation

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 26 March 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government
followed by Ministerial Statement: Secure Accommodation in Scotland - Capacity
followed by Stage 1 Debate: Land Reform (Scotland) Bill
followed by Financial Resolution: Land Reform (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.30 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 27 March 2025
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport
followed by Ministerial Statement: Response to Fatal Accident Inquiries (Deaths in Custody)
followed by Stage 1 Debate: Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.30 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 1 April 2025
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Stage 1 Debate: Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill
followed by Financial Resolution: Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 2 April 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 3 April 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee and Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee Debate: The Aarhus Convention and Access to Environmental Justice

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 24 March 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 2 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16856—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Education (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 9 May 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16857—That the Parliament agrees that the National Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16858—That the Parliament agrees that the Community Care (Personal Care and Nursing Care) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16859—That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security (Up-rating) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16860—That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security Up-rating (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16861—That the Parliament agrees that the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 as noted above.

13. Addressing Sexual Violence in Scotland's Hospitals: The Parliament debated S6M-16705 in the name of Tess White—That the Parliament considers that single-sex spaces for women and girls across Scotland's public services are being eroded, with worrying implications for their rights and safety; acknowledges what it sees as the fundamental importance of the dignity, privacy and safety of women and girls in sanitary and changing facilities, as well as in hospital settings where women and children are often at their most vulnerable; highlights the Women's Rights Network Scotland report, How safe are our Scottish hospitals?, authored by Carolyn Brown and Mary Howden and published in March 2025, which found that, over a five-year period between 2019 and 2024, 276 sexual assaults and 12 rapes took

place across 57 hospitals; considers that the actual figures will likely be much higher given that, it understands, data is not routinely kept by all Scottish hospitals; notes in particular that 22 sexual assaults and one rape reportedly took place in NHS Grampian over this period, while 17 sexual assaults and three rapes reportedly took place in NHS Tayside, with, it understands, a high number occurring on hospital wards; believes that hospitals should be a place of safety for patients and staff, and notes the view that urgent action should be taken to address any sexual violence on the NHS estate, and further notes the view that such action should include the introduction of robust and transparent record keeping procedures to help inform preventative practices, as well as accommodating women on single-sex wards wherever possible and protecting single-sex spaces for biological female patients and staff.

The meeting closed at 6.15 pm.

No. 93, Thursday 20 March 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Awareness of Criminal Exploitation of Children: The Parliament debated S6M-16434 in the name of Michael Matheson—That the Parliament welcomes the recent reports of Professor Alexis Jay and Action for Children, and the charity's service provision, which highlight the issue of criminal exploitation of children; considers that the testimony from exploited young people, Action for Children staff who support these young people, and other professionals connected with this work have described the harrowing and shocking experiences that children have encountered; understands that this issue hides in plain sight and that criminal exploitation of children can take place anywhere across Scotland, including in the Falkirk West constituency, and can happen to anyone; believes that these reports offer an opportunity to raise awareness of this important topic with members of the public, parliamentarians and decision makers, while also creating the chance to explore solutions to tackling this form of child abuse, and notes the belief that, in doing so, society can help to meet the aims and vision of The Promise, ensuring that Scotland does become the best place in the world for children and young people to grow up, where they feel loved, safe, respected and able to realise their full potential.

4. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions: Questions were answered by members of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body.

5. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

6. Salmon Farming in Scotland: Finlay Carson, on behalf of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, moved S6M-16852—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee's 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6), Follow-up inquiry into salmon farming in Scotland (SP Paper 720).

The motion was agreed to (DT)

7. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the Project Willow report, was answered by the Deputy First Minister (Kate Forbes).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.04 pm.

No. 94, Tuesday 25 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rt Rev Dr Shaw James Paterson, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

3. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Housing (Paul McLennan) made a statement and answered questions on Scottish Government Response to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 2 Report.

4. Scotland – A Fair Trade Nation: The Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture (Angus Robertson) moved S6M-16923—That the Parliament welcomes Scotland's renewed status as a Fair Trade Nation; recognises the dedication and hard work of Fair Trade campaigners, businesses and communities across Scotland in sustaining this achievement; congratulates Scottish Fair Trade for its leadership in promoting and strengthening Scotland's Fair Trade commitment; acknowledges the vital role of Fair Trade producers, workers and enterprises in the Global South in building a fairer, more sustainable trading system; recognises that Fair Trade is a partnership that supports the rights, dignity and livelihoods of those throughout the supply chain, and commits to uphold and advance Scotland's role as a Fair Trade Nation as part of its broader commitment to global citizenship and international solidarity.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-16923.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16923 in the name of Angus Robertson (Scotland - A Fair Trade Nation), insert at end "; recognises that free and fair trade is the most powerful engine for poverty reduction and global prosperity; affirms that open markets, trade liberalisation and the entrepreneurial spirit are central to Fair Trade; believes that protectionism and arbitrary trade barriers harm the very producers and communities that Fair Trade seeks to support; calls on all MSPs to actively champion global agreements that allow Scotland's businesses to compete, innovate and lead on the world stage, and further calls on the Scottish Government to support the full potential of, and critical work already performed by, local producers by properly accounting for them in its public sector procurement rules and guidelines."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 107 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 8, Abstentions 0).

Colin Smyth moved amendment S6M-16923.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-16923 in the name of Angus Robertson (Scotland - A Fair Trade Nation), insert at end "; notes Scottish Fair Trade's strategy, which includes the aim of increasing the consumption and production of Fair Trade products, and calls on the Scottish Government to continue to

support Fair Trade by establishing a standard definition and measurement framework for Fair Trade in public sector procurement, embedding Fair Trade in education and lifelong learning and supporting Fair Trade and ethical supply chains in Scottish business practices."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 108 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 7, Abstentions 1).

Accordingly, the Parliament agreed—

That the Parliament welcomes Scotland's renewed status as a Fair Trade Nation; recognises the dedication and hard work of Fair Trade campaigners, businesses and communities across Scotland in sustaining this achievement; congratulates Scottish Fair Trade for its leadership in promoting and strengthening Scotland's Fair Trade commitment; acknowledges the vital role of Fair Trade producers, workers and enterprises in the Global South in building a fairer, more sustainable trading system; recognises that Fair Trade is a partnership that supports the rights, dignity and livelihoods of those throughout the supply chain; commits to uphold and advance Scotland's role as a Fair Trade Nation as part of its broader commitment to global citizenship and international solidarity; recognises that free and fair trade is the most powerful engine for poverty reduction and global prosperity; affirms that open markets, trade liberalisation and the entrepreneurial spirit are central to Fair Trade; believes that protectionism and arbitrary trade barriers harm the very producers and communities that Fair Trade seeks to support; calls on all MSPs to actively champion global agreements that allow Scotland's businesses to compete, innovate and lead on the world stage; further calls on the Scottish Government to support the full potential of, and critical work already performed by, local producers by properly accounting for them in its public sector procurement rules and guidelines; notes Scottish Fair Trade's strategy, which includes the aim of increasing the consumption and production of Fair Trade products, and calls on the Scottish Government to continue to support Fair Trade by establishing a standard definition and measurement framework for Fair Trade in public sector procurement, embedding Fair Trade in education and lifelong learning and supporting Fair Trade and ethical supply chains in Scottish business practices.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

6. Peel Ports' Conservancy Fee Plans for Clydeport Area: The Parliament debated S6M-16854 in the name of Stuart McMillan—That the Parliament acknowledges reports that Peel Ports Clydeport is planning to introduce a conservancy fee for leisure craft sailing in the Clydeport area; understands that the boating sector has expressed concerns that such a charge could impact the marine tourism economy, including in the Greenock and Inverclyde constituency, as it could discourage boaters from sailing in Clydeport's waters; believes that boaters have also expressed their anger at what it understands is Peel Ports' lack of meaningful dialogue with the sector about these plans; further believes that this has led to questions arising over how the fee will be spent; understands that members of the Cross-Party Group on Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism have agreed that

their collective position is that these plans should be abandoned, and that a public petition has been launched to attract support for this view, which, it understands, has attracted over 4,600 signatures so far, and notes the view that Peel Ports should scrap its proposal and work with the sector to address any issues.

The meeting closed at 5.51 pm.

No. 95, Wednesday 26 March 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic, and then on, Finance and Local Government were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Natalie Don-Innes) made a statement and answered questions on Secure Accommodation in Scotland – Capacity.

3. Land Reform (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved S6M-16892—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Land Reform (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 91 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 29, Abstentions 0).

4. Land Reform (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-16960—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Land Reform (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 90 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 30, Abstentions 0).

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16941—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business--

Tuesday 1 April 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Ministerial Statement: Tackling Fuel Poverty in Scotland: Periodic Report 2021-2024

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill

followed by Legislative Consent Motion: Data (Use and Access) Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Appointment of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 2 April 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Ministerial Statement: Heat in Buildings Bill

followed by Ministerial Statement: The Impact of the UK Government's Spring Statement on Scotland

followed by Scottish Government Debate: The Impact of the UK Government's Spring Statement on Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 3 April 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Ministerial Statement: Project Willow - Unlocking Grangemouth's Potential

followed by Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, and Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee Debate: The Aarhus Convention and Access to Environmental Justice

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 22 April 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 23 April 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 24 April 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee Debate: Inquiry into Framework Legislation and Henry VIII Powers

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 31 March 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16942—That the Parliament agrees that the Public Appointments and Public Bodies etc. (Scotland) Act 2003 (Treatment of Qualifications Scotland as Specified Authority) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 70 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 50).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16943—That the Parliament agrees that the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Part 2 Further Extension) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16944—That the Parliament agrees that the Budget (Scotland) Act 2024 Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16945—That the Parliament agrees that the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the legislative consent memorandum relating to the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill (UK Legislation).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-16946—That the Parliament agrees that the Education, Children and Young People Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Restraint and Seclusion in Schools (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 as noted above.

12. Ending Destitution in Scotland – a Road Map for Policymakers: The Parliament debated S6M-16539 in the name of Maggie Chapman—That the Parliament notes the recent publication by Professor Jen Ang of the legal briefing, *Ending Destitution in Scotland – a Road Map for Policymakers*; further notes that this report was commissioned by I-SPHERE and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, as part of the Fair Way Scotland partnership, following the publication in September 2024 of the paper *Destitution by Design: righting the wrongs of UK immigration policy in Scotland;* understands that the legal briefing sets out clear, actionable steps that lie within the powers of the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government to reduce destitution for people coming to Scotland to study, work, join family or seek sanctuary; further understands that there are clear recommendations about access to social security and financial support, housing, transport, health and social care, justice and legal aid, education, and work; notes the view that the Scottish

Government can and should be doing more to prevent destitution in Scotland, including in the North East Scotland region; further notes the view that the complexity of UK immigration law, and the challenges of striking the right balance in the exercise of powers within the devolution settlement, must no longer be an excuse for failure to act on the part of the Scottish Government and local authorities, in the face of what it sees as overwhelming evidence of the harms caused to people with no recourse to public funds/other restricted eligibility, and to the communities in which they live; notes the view that Scotland can create a fairer system based on need and the realisation of rights, ensuring that everyone has access to essential services and what they need to live a life of dignity, regardless of their immigration status; further notes the calls on the Scottish Government to act on each of the recommendations, including to review devolved policy to eliminate unintended exclusions from support, to establish and scale up the financial support available, to ensure appropriate training and resources for all frontline workers, and to negotiate a clearer understanding of "public funds", as defined by the Home Office, and congratulates the Fair Way Scotland Partnership on its ongoing work to prevent destitution in Scotland.

13. Motion without Notice: Maggie Chapman moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.47 pm.

No. 96, Thursday 27 March 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Following the death of Christina McKelvie MSP, the Presiding Officer and the First Minister addressed the Chamber. General Questions were not taken.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. 300 Years of The Black Watch: The Parliament debated S6M-16128 in the name of Liz Smith— That the Parliament marks the tercentenary of the origins of The Black Watch; understands that, in 1725, six companies were raised by General George Wade, comprising of "loyal" clans, including the Campbells, Grants, Frasers and Munros, and formed the Highland watches to police the Highlands following the 1715 Jacobite rebellion; notes that a further four companies were raised in 1739 to form the Regiment of the Line, which first mustered at Aberfeldy; understands that, throughout this period, the companies began being referred to as Am Freiceadan Dubh or The Black Watch; believes that this term was likely due to the dark tartan uniform that was worn by its soldiers; recognises what it sees as the significance of the regiment's involvement throughout the UK's most important and consequential military campaigns, ranging from, but not limited to, the Seven Years' War, the American War of Independence, the Napoleonic wars, the Crimean War, the Boer War, the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, the Troubles in Northern Ireland and the Gulf Wars; acknowledges what it sees as the fearless and renowned reputation that The Black Watch established and reinforced over the course of these conflicts, as well as the countless stories of individual gallantry, particularly the 14 soldiers who received the UK's highest military decoration, the Victoria Cross; commemorates all who have served and died in the historic regiment, who have predominately come from across Perth and Kinross, Fife, Dundee and Angus, but also the rest of Scotland and beyond, and offers its full support to the veterans, and their families, who are alive today.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) made a statement and answered questions on Response to Fatal Accident Inquiries (Deaths in Custody).

6. Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill: Liz Smith moved S6M-16789—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 64, Against 1, Abstentions 53 (including 2 proxy votes)).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.35 pm.

No. 97, Tuesday 1 April 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Laura Gillespie, Humanist, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business: Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17058—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Wednesday 2 April 2025—

delete

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Ministerial Statement: Heat in Buildings Bill

insert

2.00 pm Motion of Condolence

3.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

delete

5.30 pm Decision Time

and insert

6.00 pm Decision Time

(b) Thursday 3 April 2025—

after

followed by Ministerial Statement: Project Willow - Unlocking Grangemouth's Potential

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Heat in Buildings Bill

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

4. Ministerial Statement: The Acting Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Allan) made a statement and answered questions on Tackling Fuel Poverty in Scotland: Periodic Report 2021-2024.

5. Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-17003—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-16806—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Data (Use and Access) Bill - UK Legislation: The Minister for Business (Richard Lochhead) moved S6M-17009—That the Parliament agrees that clauses 1 to 11, 13, 18 to 26, 45(3), 48 and 123 of the Data (Use and Access) Bill, introduced in the House of Lords on 23 October 2024, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament or alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Appointment of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Ariane Burgess, on behalf of the Selection Panel, moved S6M-17008—That the Parliament nominates Paul McFadden to His Majesty The King for appointment as the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman under section 1 of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5, 6, 7 and 8 as noted above.

10. Learning Disability, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill: The Parliament debated S6M-16644 in the name of Daniel Johnson— That the Parliament notes its disappointment at reports that the promised Learning Disability, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill was not announced in the most recent Programme for Government; believes that people with learning disabilities, autism and neurodivergence in Lothian and across Scotland are structurally excluded and disadvantaged, and that it is harder for them to achieve their potential than people who are neurotypical; considers that the measures included in the draft Bill, such as

creating and upholding statutory rights, improving access to mental health services and tailoring education provision, would break down some of the barriers faced by people with learning disabilities, autism or neurodivergence, given that a reported 37% of schoolchildren reportedly have additional support needs but that only 6% of teachers are trained to provide these, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government to provide clarity on its commitment to legislating in this area.

11. Motion Without Notice: Daniel Johnson moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 6.14 pm.

No. 98, Wednesday 2 April 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Motion of Condolence: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-17000—That the Parliament expresses its deep sadness at the death of Christina McKelvie MSP; offers its profound sympathy and condolences to her family and friends, and recognises her significant and widely appreciated contribution to Scottish politics and public life through years of dedicated service to her constituents in Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse, as a champion for social justice, as a convener of two Scottish Parliament committees, and as a Scottish Government minister since 2018.

The motion was agreed to.

2. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

3. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) made a statement on The Impact of the UK Government's Spring Statement on Scotland.

4. Scottish Government Debate: The Impact of the UK Government's Spring Statement on Scotland: The Parliament debated The Impact of the UK Government's Spring Statement on Scotland.

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17059—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 22 April 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: The International Situation

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 23 April 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Government Debate: UK Government Welfare Reforms

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 24 April 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee Debate: Inquiry into Framework Legislation and Henry VIII Powers

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 29 April 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 30 April 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 1 May 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 21 April 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word *"*except*"* the words *"*to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or*"* are inserted.

Miles Briggs moved amendment S6M-17059.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17059 in the name of Jamie Hepburn (Business Programme), leave out *"*The International Situation*"* and insert *"*Addressing Violence in Schools*"*.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to (by division: For 31, Against 60 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 26).

The motion was agreed to (by division: For 88 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 28, Abstentions 0).

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17060—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002 Amendment Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17061—That the Parliament agrees that the Economy and Fair Work Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 6 and 7 as noted above.

9. Scotland's Islands: The Parliament debated S6M-16901 in the name of Jamie Halcro Johnston—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the social and economic importance and contribution of Scotland's islands, their residents and their businesses; further recognises what it considers are the challenges of living on and running a business on islands and delivering public services to island communities, but believes that islanders, including many from across the Highlands and Islands region, have remarkable entrepreneurship that has fostered advancements in a varied portfolio of sectors, including distilling, manufacturing, space exploration and a growing number of micro and social enterprises; values the distinctive and often unique cultural contribution of the islands to Scotland, the rest of UK and the world; believes that island communities provide many opportunities, but notes concerns that they can face many unique challenges, including the threat of depopulation, without the provision of adequate housing, healthcare, transport links and connectivity.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

No. 99, Thursday 3 April 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Celebrating the University of the West of Scotland's Groundbreaking Foundation Academy: The Parliament debated S6M-16633 in the name of George Adam—That the Parliament applauds the work of the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) and what it sees as the groundbreaking work that it is doing with the Foundation Academy, which is a 12-month programme helping pupils across S5 and S6 to develop academic skills, experience university-level study, and visit a university campus in order to boost their confidence in pursuing higher education and strengthen university applications; understands that the programme is the first of its kind in Scotland and has been recognised by various institutions as an alternative pathway to meeting the required qualifications to enter university; acknowledges how successful the academy has reportedly been for the thousands of pupils who have benefited from the additional support offered since the launch of the programme in 2022, and praises the time and effort of all those involved in the creation and running of the programme for the impact that this is having on pupils, including those in the Paisley constituency, who otherwise may not have been able to attend university.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on Project Willow - Unlocking Grangemouth's Potential.

6. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Allan) made a statement and answered questions on Heat in Buildings Bill.

7. Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee and Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee Debate: **The Aarhus Convention and Access to Environmental Justice.** The Parliament debated The Aarhus Convention and Access to Environmental Justice.

8. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.30 pm.

No. 100, Tuesday 22 April 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Norman Afrin, Minister, Sandyhills Parish Church, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17265—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Tuesday 22 April 2025—

delete

followed by Topical Questions

insert

followed by Motion of Condolence

followed by Topical Questions

followed by Ministerial Statement: The Supreme Court's Judgment in Relation to Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.45 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Motion of Condolence: The Parliament debated S6M-17250 in the name of John Swinney—That the Parliament expresses its deep sadness at the death of Pope Francis; conveys its condolences to all those in the Roman Catholic community in Scotland and beyond; affirms the affection in which His Holiness was held by people across the world, and expresses gratitude for his lifetime of devotion and dedicated public service.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) made a statement and answered questions on The Supreme Court's Judgment in Relation to Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018.

6. Scottish Government Debate: The International Situation: The Parliament debated The International Situation.

7. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17266— That the Parliament agrees that—

Joe FitzPatrick be appointed as a member of the Education, Children and Young People Committee; and

Emma Roddick be appointed to replace Joe FitzPatrick as a member of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 109 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 1, Abstentions 0).

8. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17267— That the Parliament agrees that Stephanie Callaghan be appointed to replace Jackie Dunbar as the Scottish National Party substitute on the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 108 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 1, Abstentions 0).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 7 and 8 as noted above.

10. Addressing Waiting Times in NHS Grampian: The Parliament debated S6M-17011 in the name of Douglas Lumsden—That the Parliament notes the reported concerns regarding challenges that NHS Grampian is facing in relation to staffing shortages and resource limitations, which it understands has contributed to delays in patient care and increased pressure on existing medical personnel; acknowledges that, in September 2024, NHS Grampian reported that over 3,000 patients were waiting over two years for hospital treatment, which it believes was the highest number among Scottish NHS boards; understands that, in November 2024, NHS Grampian declared a board level critical incident, which led to the diversion of ambulance patients to hospitals outside the region due in part to sustained pressures at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary; notes that, in late November 2024, NHS Grampian experienced a significant rise in delayed discharges, with 199 cases, which according to the NHS board accounted for 13% of all beds in the region; believes that hospitals in the area are using outdated medical equipment, including an MRI scanner and an X-ray machine that are 15 and 27 years old, respectively, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to develop an urgent plan to tackle what it regards as the ongoing issues within NHS Grampian that are impacting on patient care and service delivery.

The meeting closed at 6.46 pm.

No. 101, Wednesday 23 April 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business, and then on Justice and Home Affairs were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

2. UK Government Welfare Reforms: The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville) moved S6M-17242—That the Parliament calls on the UK Labour administration to immediately scrap its damaging social security reforms, as announced in the Pathways to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working Green Paper; highlights the UK Government's own impact analysis, which shows that 250,000 people, including 50,000 children, will be pushed into poverty under these plans, and notes the Resolution Foundation's report that lower-income households are set to become £500 a year poorer, following the UK Government's Spring Statement 2025.

Liz Smith moved amendment S6M-17242.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17242 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (UK Government Welfare Reforms), leave out from "calls" to end and insert "notes the most recent concerns highlighted by both the Office for Budget Responsibility and the Scottish Fiscal Commission about the projected substantial increases in UK and Scottish welfare budgets, the resulting fiscal pressures, and the unsustainability of these budgets in the current economic circumstances, and expresses its deep concern that neither the UK Government nor the Scottish Government has delivered policies that will address the high levels of economic inactivity or policies that will promote sustained economic growth."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 27, Against 82 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 5).

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-17242.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17242 in the name of Shirley-Anne Somerville (UK Government Welfare Reforms), leave out from "calls" to end and insert "agrees that any reforms to social security policy must respect the dignity of work, while also being fair and protecting the most vulnerable who are unable to work; notes the Pathways to Work: Reforming Benefits and Support to Get Britain Working Green Paper and that its proposals are currently under consultation; recognises that a number of the areas covered in the Green Paper are devolved to the Scottish Parliament and will therefore not change as a result of the Spring Statement; notes the proposals within the Green Paper to support and encourage people into good work and to reduce bureaucracy for those in receipt of social security; welcomes that this is backed up by a £1 billion commitment for employability services across the UK; acknowledges that well-paid, secure work is the most sustainable route out of poverty; welcomes, therefore, the action taken by the UK Labour administration to increase the

National Living Wage and improve rights for workers through the Employment Rights Bill, and is concerned that the disability employment gap in Scotland is wider than elsewhere in Great Britain, that one in four people in Scotland rely on welfare spending from the Scottish Government to cover their living costs and that there are as many as 84,000 young people in Scotland who are not in work, education or training."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 14, Against 100 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 73 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 40, Abstentions 0).

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17268—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 29 April 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Supporting Scottish Industry During Turbulent Economic Times

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 30 April 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 1 May 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scotland's Hydrogen Future

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 6 May 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 7 May 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 8 May 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 28 April 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The Motion was agreed to.

4. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17269—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Education, Children and Young People Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between approximately 1.30 pm and 5.00 pm on Tuesday 13 May and Tuesday 20 May 2025.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17270— That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Social Justice and Social Security Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between 2.00 pm and 5.00 pm on Tuesday 29 April 2025.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17271— That the Parliament agrees that the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Commissioner for Older People (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 4, 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. Global Intergenerational Week 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-16869 in the name of Jackie Dunbar—That the Parliament notes that Global Intergenerational Week runs from 24 to 30 April 2025; understands that the campaign originally started at a local level, grew to a national event and is now a global celebration in its sixth year; recognises that the aim of it is to inspire individuals, groups, organisations, local and national government, as well as non-government organisations, to fully embrace Intergenerational Week, which, it believes, will help connect people of all ages, particularly the younger and older generations; commends the work of

Generations Working Together, which works in partnership with organisations from across the UK to promote intergenerational working across the country; recognises that this year's theme is intergenerational learning and aims to highlight the findings of the World Health Organization’s Global Report on Ageism, which outlines the negative impact of ageism on society and recommends education as a key strategy to address it; understands that, for the first time, Generations Working Together welcomes a Global Intergenerational Week sponsor in global life sciences, the company, Bayer AG; recognises what it sees as the importance of intergenerational working in helping to create a fairer society, and welcomes all intergenerational work that has taken place, not only across Aberdeen Donside, but Scotland as a whole.

The meeting closed at 5.44 pm.

No. 102, Thursday 24 April 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. BBC Scotland's Decision to End River City and Close its Dumbarton Studios: The Parliament debated S6M-16978 in the name of Neil Bibby—That the Parliament notes with regret the reported decision by BBC Scotland to end the programme, River City, which it understands is Scotland's only homegrown soap; believes that this will have a disproportionately negative impact on performers in Scotland, many of whom, it understands, get their first TV job on River City, as well as on the wider Scottish production landscape; considers that the reported £9 million annual budget for the show is excellent value for money, given the hours of programming produced throughout the year for what it sees as a successful show, which, it understands, attracts a regular audience of 500,000 per episode, outperforming other TV series by more than two and a half times; believes that the Glasgow-based show is well loved by Scottish audiences and enjoys strong ratings, with it winning Best Drama at the Royal Television Society Scotland 2023 awards for its 20th anniversary episode; notes what it sees as BBC Scotland's failure to inform the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee of its reported plans to close the BBC studios in Dumbarton and end River City in its annual report to the Parliament in January 2025; further notes the calls for BBC Scotland to recognise its public broadcasting duty and explain how its current proposals to replace River City will provide the same good jobs, training and apprenticeships currently available at the BBC's Dumbarton studios to performers and crew in Scotland, and ensure that the reported £9 million budget will be spent on Scottish drama; considers the BBC's Dumbarton studios to be an important asset, which has been used for a number of other productions, including Vigil and Shetland; understands that the owner of the studios site is open to renewing the lease, and notes the calls, in light of this, for BBC Scotland to revisit its reported decision to end River City and close its Dumbarton studios.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by Ministers.

5. Inquiry into Framework Legislation and Henry VIII Powers: Stuart McMillan, on behalf of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, moved S6M-17074—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee's 21st Report, 2025 (Session 6), Inquiry into Framework Legislation and Henry VIII powers (SP Paper 762).

The motion was agreed to (DT)

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.01 pm.

No. 103, Tuesday 29 April 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Tommy MacNeil, Minister, Martin's Memorial Church, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. Supporting Scottish Industry During Turbulent Economic Times: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-17352—That the Parliament recognises the value of Scotland's heavy industrial and manufacturing sectors, and the significant contribution that they make to the national and regional economy; notes recent developments in global trade policy and their potential economic impact; welcomes the UK Government's intervention in British Steel to support the continued resilience of the supply chain, and believes that the UK Government should give similar consideration to its engagement with the Grangemouth oil refinery, given its significance to national resilience and high-quality job opportunities.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-17352.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17352 in the name of Kate Forbes (Supporting Scottish Industry During Turbulent Economic Times), leave out from “welcomes” to end and insert “condemns the UK Labour administration's increase to employer national insurance contributions, which broke an explicit manifesto promise and put a large additional burden on industry in already challenging circumstances, putting jobs at risk; regrets that the Scottish Government's Budget chose to keep Scotland as the highest taxed part of the UK and failed to pass on business rates relief in full, hitting workers, consumers and businesses; calls on the Scottish Government to prioritise common-sense policies for economic growth that develop skills in the workforce and ensure that the tax system is competitive, efficient, simple and fair; notes that the UK Government's intervention in British Steel provides necessary support for the resilience of a strategic supply chain; recognises that the Grangemouth oil refinery is also part of a strategic supply chain that is important to both national resilience and high-quality job opportunities, and invites further consideration by both the Scottish Government and the UK Government of means to preserve this important national asset.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 30, Against 84 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 5).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-17352.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17352 in the name of Kate Forbes (Supporting Scottish Industry During Turbulent Economic Times), leave out from “, and believes” to end and insert “; further welcomes the swift action taken by the UK Government following the General Election 2024 in

> recognition of the importance of the Grangemouth oil refinery, including its support for Project Willow and the commitment of £200 million to invest in the industrial future of the site, and calls on the Scottish Government to commit to publishing a detailed timeline setting out how and when it will implement the policy and regulatory changes needed to attract investment into the technologies identified by Project Willow."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 22, Against 98 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Lorna Slater moved amendment S6M-17352.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17352 in the name of Kate Forbes (Supporting Scottish Industry During Turbulent Economic Times), leave out from "the Grangemouth" to end and insert "Grangemouth as it transitions to supporting Scotland's journey to a low-carbon economy, protecting the jobs of the highly-skilled workers at the site, and demonstrating how Scotland's industrial sites can implement the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee, in the understanding that a just transition requires substantial public funding and support that private, profit-driven owners of energy infrastructure cannot be trusted to provide."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 7, Against 111 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Jamie Greene moved amendment S6M-17352.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17352 in the name of Kate Forbes (Supporting Scottish Industry During Turbulent Economic Times), insert at end "; notes that over many years, several industrial interventions have been made by the Scottish Government necessitating significant public funding, as seen at Prestwick Airport, Ferguson Marine, the steelworks at Dalzell, the Bifab fabrication yards and the Alvance smelter at Lochaber, which have resulted in hundreds of millions of pounds of written-off loans and cash injections, unclear futures for many of these businesses and a perennial struggle to return the businesses into private commercial ownership; regrets that there appears not to exist any long-term wider industrial strategy in Scotland, and believes that, where and when the Scottish Government intervenes in business in future, it should adopt a proactive, not reactive, approach to industrial interventions that ensures value for public money and robust exit strategies are prime considerations."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 34, Against 86 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 103 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 17, Abstentions 0).

4. Revision to Business: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17398—That the

Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Wednesday 30 April 2025—

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: The Cessation of Refining at Grangemouth

delete

5.10 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.40 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

5. Committee Membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17373—That the Parliament agrees that Mark Ruskell be appointed to replace Ariane Burgess as a member of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Substitution on Committees: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17374— That the Parliament agrees that Ariane Burgess be appointed to replace Mark Ruskell as the Scottish Green Party substitute on the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 5 and 5 as noted above.

8. Testicular Cancer Awareness Month: The Parliament debated S6M-16803 in the name of Marie McNair—That the Parliament recognises Testicular Cancer Awareness Month, which runs throughout the month of April 2025; notes that this takes place to raise awareness about testicular cancer and educate people about early detection and treatment; understands that this disease most commonly affects people aged between 15 and 45, and that, if detected early, testicular cancer has more than a 95% cure rate; further understands that approximately 220 people in Scotland are diagnosed each year, with the most common symptoms being a lump or swelling in a testicle, or dull ache, pain or heaviness in the scrotum; recognises what it sees as the importance of this month in raising awareness of the symptoms, tackle common myths and encourage self-checking; commends the tireless work done by Scotland's only dedicated testicular cancer charity, Cahonas Scotland, based in Clydebank, and thanks it for the significant work that it has done to raise awareness, from its "Check Yer Bawballs" campaign, which garnered significant media attention, to its educational talks and free resources, and for its work supporting men beyond diagnosis with cancer care packs, a podcast and peer

support programme, and hopes for a productive and successful Testicular Cancer Awareness Month.

The meeting closed at 5.58 pm.

No. 104, Wednesday 30 April 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic, and Finance and Local Government were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Ministerial Statement: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) made a statement and answered questions on The Cessation of Refining at Grangemouth.

3. Ending the "War" Against Scotland's Motorists: Sue Webber moved S6M-17362—That the Parliament calls on the Scottish Government to take greater action to support Scotland's motorists and to cease implementing punitive measures against road users, which have been described as a war on Scotland's motorists; recognises the importance of motorists to the Scottish economy and connectivity; acknowledges that the Scottish Government has abandoned its plans to reduce car use by 20% by 2030 and welcomes the recent Audit Scotland report that states that the Scottish Ministers had "no costed delivery plan or measurable milestones" to achieve this target; calls on the Scottish Ministers to focus on incentives, rather than penalties, to encourage motorists to change their behaviour as part of an affordable transition; notes that the implementation of low emission zones has hindered businesses and motorists in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dundee, and calls on ministers to review the effectiveness of low emission zones before any new zones are proposed, or the current ones are expanded, and to reconsider the punitive fines; recognises that road users in Aberdeen have been hindered by the introduction of bus gates, and that motorists across Scotland have been restricted by the expansion of parking charges; urges the Scottish Ministers not to introduce 50 mph speed limits on national speed limit single carriageway roads; recognises that resurfacing, rather than refilling, is the best solution to tackle Scotland's pothole problem; urges ministers to work more effectively with the Scottish Road Works Commissioner, local authority road works coordinators and utility companies to encourage less inactivity on road work sites and to incentivise finishing works ahead of time; calls for greater action to futureproof Scotland's EV charger network, and further calls on the Scottish Government to recognise the vital role that motorists play in Scotland.

The Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity (Jim Fairlie) moved amendment S6M-17362.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17362 in the name of Sue Webber (Ending the "War" Against Scotland's Motorists), leave out from first "calls" to end and insert "believes that language used out of context to maximise political traction and which fails to consider the sensitivities of such language is reckless, given wider global considerations; further believes that demonising car users is unhelpful to rural communities in particular, which, as a result of a deregulated bus market, often have no alternative to using a car; acknowledges, however, that Scotland needs to reduce carbon emissions from transport, especially from car use; welcomes that Scotland has reached its target of 6,000 public EV charge points two years early through a combination of Scottish Government

funding, delivery by local authorities and private sector investment, with approximately 24,000 to be delivered by 2030 through continued Scottish Government funding and increasing private sector investment; recognises that supporting EV car use contributes to Scotland's connectivity, and further recognises the value that connectivity has in helping to support the economy, education, social mobility and leisure across Scotland; notes that connectivity is being enhanced by free bus travel for over two million people in Scotland, which provides alternatives to car usage for those that can make the switch; respects the responsibilities of local authorities for local road provision and maintenance, and some local bus services, and that they will be able to have more control through transport legislation, which puts more power into the hands of local transport authorities; is concerned at the ongoing impact of UK Conservative administrations' deregulation of bus services in the 1980s and 1990s; recognises the need for safe, clean and, importantly, reliable punctual bus services, which can be improved through bus infrastructure, and that improvements can be made in public health by creating low emission zones, as has been done in over 40 areas across Europe, but does have concerns that the punctuality of bus services can be hampered by road works; welcomes the Scottish Government's approach through engaging collaboratively with the Scottish Road Works Commissioner, who oversees road works, with roads authorities, which have responsibility for coordination of works, and with the road works industry, which is responsible for duration and quality of works, to find reasonable solutions to help in this area; agrees that further investigation is needed of the role that those undertaking the works play in the quality of road surfaces after works have been completed; further agrees to await the results of the National Speed Management Review consultation, noting that an estimated 10mph reduction in the national speed limit on single carriageway roads can reduce deaths by 23% and serious casualties by 18%, and that there is a need to make Scotland's roads safer to cut the number of people being injured and killed on the roads, and welcomes the roll-out of 20mph limits across all local authorities on roads determined by them."

Claire Baker moved amendment S6M-17362.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-17362 in the name of Sue Webber (Ending the "War" Against Scotland's Motorists), leave out from first "calls" to end and insert "highlights the Scottish Government's dropping of the target of a 20% reduction in car use by 2030 and the recent Audit Scotland report, which states that the Scottish Ministers had 'no costed delivery plan or measurable milestones' to achieve this target; recognises that, while car ownership has increased, many households, including a greater proportion of those on lower incomes, do not have access to a car; further recognises that a failure to reduce transport emissions will have a detrimental effect on the climate and on people's health; acknowledges that a reduction in car use is only realistic and inclusive if there is a viable alternative option, and calls on the Scottish Government to scrap peak rail fares as a first step to making public transport more affordable and accessible to all."

After debate, amendment 17362.4 was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 64 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 52, Abstentions 0). As a result, amendment S6M-17362.1 was pre-empted.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 79 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 37, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament believes that language used out of context to maximise political traction and which fails to consider the sensitivities of such language is reckless, given wider global considerations; further believes that demonising car users is unhelpful to rural communities in particular, which, as a result of a deregulated bus market, often have no alternative to using a car; acknowledges, however, that Scotland needs to reduce carbon emissions from transport, especially from car use; welcomes that Scotland has reached its target of 6,000 public EV charge points two years early through a combination of Scottish Government funding, delivery by local authorities and private sector investment, with approximately 24,000 to be delivered by 2030 through continued Scottish Government funding and increasing private sector investment; recognises that supporting EV car use contributes to Scotland's connectivity, and further recognises the value that connectivity has in helping to support the economy, education, social mobility and leisure across Scotland; notes that connectivity is being enhanced by free bus travel for over two million people in Scotland, which provides alternatives to car usage for those that can make the switch; respects the responsibilities of local authorities for local road provision and maintenance, and some local bus services, and that they will be able to have more control through transport legislation, which puts more power into the hands of local transport authorities; is concerned at the ongoing impact of UK Conservative administrations' deregulation of bus services in the 1980s and 1990s; recognises the need for safe, clean and, importantly, reliable punctual bus services, which can be improved through bus infrastructure, and that improvements can be made in public health by creating low emission zones, as has been done in over 40 areas across Europe, but does have concerns that the punctuality of bus services can be hampered by road works; welcomes the Scottish Government's approach through engaging collaboratively with the Scottish Road Works Commissioner, who oversees road works, with roads authorities, which have responsibility for coordination of works, and with the road works industry, which is responsible for duration and quality of works, to find reasonable solutions to help in this area; agrees that further investigation is needed of the role that those undertaking the works play in the quality of road surfaces after works have been completed; further agrees to await the results of the National Speed Management Review consultation, noting that an estimated 10mph reduction in the national speed limit on single carriageway roads can reduce deaths by 23% and serious casualties by 18%, and that there is a need to make Scotland's roads safer to cut the number of people being injured and killed on the roads, and welcomes the roll-out of 20mph limits across all local authorities on roads determined by them.

4. Protecting Scotland's Fishing Industry: Tim Eagle moved S6M-17360—
That the Parliament expresses its deep concern at reports that the UK Labour administration may agree a deal with the EU that enhances access for EU fishing

vessels to UK waters; understands that the reported deal could result in a multi-year access guarantee as opposed to annual negotiations between the UK and the EU; believes that Scotland's domestic fishing industry is a significant contributor to the economy and that every effort should be made to support it during trade negotiations; notes that the existing fisheries deal between the EU and the UK is not perfect, but that it took the sector out of the Common Fisheries Policy; acknowledges that the UK Labour administration's potential new deal would turn a good opportunity to build on this foundation into a missed opportunity that represents a backwards step for the sector as bad as the Common Fisheries Policy; calls on the Scottish Government to drop its support for the Common Fisheries Policy and do all that it can to ensure that the UK Labour administration does not sell out the Scottish fishing industry as part of its talks with the EU, and believes that there should be an annual debate on fisheries to highlight its importance to Scotland's economy.

The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) moved amendment S6M-17360.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17360 in the name of Tim Eagle (Protecting Scotland's Fishing Industry), leave out from first "with the EU" to second "with the EU" and insert "on fishing with the EU that enhances access for EU fishing vessels to UK waters without consulting the Scottish Government, despite the fishing industry being of comparatively greater importance to the Scottish economy than to the UK economy as a whole; understands that the reported deal could result in a multi-year access guarantee as opposed to annual negotiations between the UK and the EU; notes the need for an agreement that delivers improvements for Scotland's fishing communities, including access to the single market for fish and seafood and long-term stability for fishing businesses; further notes the poor record of successive UK Conservative and Labour administrations in delivering for Scotland's coastal communities; calls on the UK Government to engage with fishing stakeholders and the Scottish Government to ensure that Trade and Cooperation Agreement renegotiations reflect the needs and priorities of the Scottish fishing industry; further calls on the UK Government to provide multi-annual funding that keeps pace with the equivalent EU funding that Scotland would have received as a member state, and that all marine funding be devolved; recognises the significant economic harm created by Brexit in reducing trade and access to labour for fishing businesses".

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 45, Abstentions 6).

Rhoda Grant moved amendment S6M-17360.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17360 in the name of Tim Eagle (Protecting Scotland's Fishing Industry), leave out from "expresses" to end and insert "recognises that the upcoming UK-EU Summit will cover a range of issues as all sides look to build a stable and positive relationship that aligns with the national interest; notes that no agreements have been reached and therefore speculation is not helpful; further notes that the UK Government has stated that there is no link between fish and defence and that it would be wrong to

suggest otherwise; acknowledges that the UK Labour administration has always been clear that it will protect the interests of UK fisheries; believes that the UK has long been a leader in the defence and security of the European continent and should stand ready to negotiate a security and defence partnership agreement with the EU; further believes that Scotland's domestic fishing industry is a significant contributor to the economy, particularly in many of the island and rural communities, and must, therefore, be protected, and calls on the Scottish Government to reform quota allocation via local authorities to ensure a sustainable fisheries future for communities and biodiversity."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 17, Against 87 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 11).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 45, Abstentions 6).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament expresses its deep concern at reports that the UK Labour administration may agree a deal on fishing with the EU that enhances access for EU fishing vessels to UK waters without consulting the Scottish Government, despite the fishing industry being of comparatively greater importance to the Scottish economy than to the UK economy as a whole; understands that the reported deal could result in a multi-year access guarantee as opposed to annual negotiations between the UK and the EU; notes the need for an agreement that delivers improvements for Scotland's fishing communities, including access to the single market for fish and seafood and long-term stability for fishing businesses; further notes the poor record of successive UK Conservative and Labour administrations in delivering for Scotland's coastal communities; calls on the UK Government to engage with fishing stakeholders and the Scottish Government to ensure that Trade and Cooperation Agreement renegotiations reflect the needs and priorities of the Scottish fishing industry; further calls on the UK Government to provide multi-annual funding that keeps pace with the equivalent EU funding that Scotland would have received as a member state, and that all marine funding be devolved; recognises the significant economic harm created by Brexit in reducing trade and access to labour for fishing businesses, and believes that there should be an annual debate on fisheries to highlight its importance to Scotland's economy.

5. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17377—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 6 May 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by First Minister's Statement: Programme for Government 2025-26
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government 2025-26
followed by Committee Announcements
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Wednesday 7 May 2025
2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government: Building the Best Future for Scotland
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business
Thursday 8 May 2025
11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
followed by Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Social Justice
followed by Ministerial Statement: Relationships and Behaviour in Schools
followed by Scottish Government Debate: Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
Tuesday 13 May 2025
2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

6.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 14 May 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 15 May 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 5 May 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

6. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17378—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 21 November 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17379—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Tertiary Education and Training (Funding and Governance) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 26 September 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17380—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 31 October 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

9. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17381—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 10 October 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

10. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17382—That the Parliament agrees that the Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17383—That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security Information-sharing (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17384—That the Parliament agrees that the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

13. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17415—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Education, Children and Young People Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament from 6.15 pm on Wednesday 30 April 2025.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

14. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3, 4, 10, 11, 12 and 13 as noted above.

15. Best Start New Model of Neonatal Care: The Parliament debated S6M-17186 in the name of Meghan Gallacher—That the Parliament notes the view that it is vitally important to ensure that the Best Start new model of neonatal care delivers the highest standards of care for the most vulnerable babies, including those in the Central Scotland region; further notes the view that implementation of this new model must prioritise the safety of babies, be underpinned by adequate and sustained funding, including for appropriate staffing levels, and include sufficient provision of overnight accommodation for parents on neonatal units; understands the view that families require reassurance that changes to services will improve outcomes and not compromise access to specialised care, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to provide an update on progress towards implementation of the new model of neonatal care and a timescale for when the new model will be fully operational, to clarify whether there are any expected changes to the plans, as announced by the Minister for Public Health and Women's Health on 25 July 2023, and to set out how it will ensure that what it sees as these essential criteria, including provision of overnight accommodation, are met in line with its planned timescale.

The meeting closed at 6.32 pm.

No. 105, Thursday 1 May 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. World Asthma Day 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-17073 in the name of Emma Harper—That the Parliament welcomes World Asthma Day 2025, which takes place on 6 May; recognises that the theme for World Asthma Day 2025 is "Make Inhaled Treatments Accessible for ALL", which is set by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA); understands that around 360,000 people are living with asthma in Scotland, including 72,000 children, and that it is the most common respiratory condition impacting people of all ages; notes the support for efforts to improve asthma diagnosis and treatment, including receiving the basic elements of asthma care, which are an annual review, inhaler technique check and written action plan; regrets, however, that only 24% of people with asthma reported receiving all three basic elements, according to Asthma + Lung UK's Life with a Lung Condition survey; notes that new asthma guidelines were launched in 2024 by the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN), National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and British Thoracic Society (BTS); understands that 2023 saw the highest number of asthma deaths recorded in Scotland in over 30 years, and notes the support for the campaigns and advocacy from charities such as Asthma + Lung UK Scotland to improve asthma prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care across the country, including in the South Scotland region.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Net Zero and Energy, and Transport were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and a Minister.

5. Scotland's Hydrogen Future: The Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy (Gillian Martin) moved S6M-17399—That the Parliament acknowledges that Scotland has the potential to be a leading hydrogen nation and is fully committed to helping the Scottish hydrogen sector to develop and grow as part of a wider European and international network; notes that, following the successful shortlisting of Scottish projects in the recent UK Hydrogen Allocation Round, Scotland is creating a hydrogen economy that will provide economic benefit and a renewable and low-carbon source of energy to help meet its net zero ambitions; supports efforts to ensure that hydrogen is supported via continued investment, and calls on the Scottish Government to continue taking steps to deliver the hydrogen sector export plan.

Graham Simpson moved amendment S6M-17399.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17399 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Hydrogen Future), insert at end ", and further calls on the Scottish Government to work with the UK Government on developing plans for hydrogen

> to be part of Scotland's energy mix, and to set out how it can play a role in transport and heating."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 34, Against 67 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 17).

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S6M-17399.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17399 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Hydrogen Future), insert at end "; further calls on the Scottish Government to ensure that clear, strategic plans for hydrogen infrastructure are included in its long-awaited energy strategy, and calls on the Scottish Government to deliver joined-up thinking on how to maximise the low-carbon opportunities and efficient usage of hydrogen."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 51, Against 62 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 6).

Patrick Harvie moved amendment S6M-17399.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17399 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Hydrogen Future), leave out from "be a leading" to end and insert "play a leading role in developing a green hydrogen industry, both to help decarbonise challenging sectors of the economy, and for export; recognises that hydrogen produced from fossil fuels not only produces greenhouse gas emissions but also risks undermining confidence in the future of the green hydrogen sector; further recognises that the use of green hydrogen needs to be prioritised in areas that are hard to decarbonise in other ways, and that its use for domestic heating can never achieve the efficiency of other clean heat sources, and therefore regrets that the First Minister described hydrogen for domestic heating as 'the path that we must take', in February 2025; recognises that the UK Climate Change Committee sees 'no role for hydrogen in buildings heating and only a very niche, if any, role in surface transport', and urges the Scottish Government to accept that the value of green hydrogen will be in areas such as hard-to-decarbonise industrial sectors and energy storage."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 6, Against 97 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 17).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 113 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 6, Abstentions 0).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.11 pm.

No. 106, Tuesday 6 May 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Dr Karen Campbell, Parish Minister of Marchmont St Giles in Edinburgh and National Chaplain of Royal British Legion Scotland, led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

3. First Minister's Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Programme for Government 2025-26.

4. Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government 2025-26: The Parliament debated Programme for Government 2025-26.

5. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17448—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Education, Children and Young People Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament following Decision Time on Wednesday 7 May 2025.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

7. 30th Anniversary of Eco-Schools and Success for St Andrew's RC Primary School in Gorebridge: The Parliament debated S6M-17145 in the name of Christine Grahame—That the Parliament congratulates St Andrew's RC Primary School in Gorebridge on its commendation for learning for sustainability in the international environmental Eco-Schools programme, by the environmental charity, Keep Scotland Beautiful; understands that St Andrew's RC Primary School has gone above and beyond in its Eco-Schools activities across all of the required categories; further understands that Eco-Schools is currently celebrating its 30th anniversary, and that it is the largest sustainable schools programme in the world, operated internationally by the Foundation for Environmental Education and delivered by Keep Scotland Beautiful, and considers that such schemes are helpful in encouraging young people to take an interest in environmental issues.

The meeting closed at 5.28 pm.

No. 107, Wednesday 7 May 2025

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, and then on Health and Social Care, were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. Programme for Government: Building the Best Future for Scotland: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic (Kate Forbes) moved S6M-17437—That the Parliament recognises the actions outlined in the Programme for Government 2025-26 to grow the Scottish economy and eradicate child poverty; further recognises that these missions are inextricably linked, with a strong economy providing access to fair work opportunities and supporting investment in public services and ambitious climate and anti-poverty measures; notes that, over the year ahead, the actions within the Programme for Government will build on Scotland's economic strengths to address the additional challenges the country faces from economic volatility, capturing the economic opportunities ahead to drive improvements in living standards, reduce child poverty and build a strong foundation for the future, to weather the global economic uncertainty; welcomes the Scottish Government's continued focus on delivering action across the drivers of child poverty reduction, to increase earned incomes, reduce the costs of living and maximise incomes from social security and benefits in kind, and commits to working together to grow the economy, and deliver on the 2030 child poverty targets unanimously supported by the Scottish Parliament.

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S6M-17437.4—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17437 in the name of Kate Forbes (Programme for Government: Building the Best Future for Scotland), leave out from first "the actions" to end and insert "that all good Scottish Government outcomes, including supporting household incomes, reducing poverty, creating wealth and funding public services, depend on delivering stronger economic growth; regrets that, despite the overriding importance of stronger economic growth, the Programme for Government 2025-26 fails to contain the policies needed to deliver it, and instead signals the continuation of the UK's harshest tax regime on households and businesses, and fails to commit to the actions needed to deliver a growth-promoting regulatory and planning environment, and calls on the Scottish Government to adopt the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party's common-sense proposals to grow the economy, including by reducing taxes on individuals and businesses and by improving the skills of the workforce."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 88 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Paul O'Kane moved amendment S6M-17437.2—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17437 in the name of Kate Forbes (Programme for Government: Building the Best Future for Scotland), leave out

> from first “recognises” to end and insert “believes that, after 18 years, the Scottish National Party (SNP) has taken Scotland in the wrong direction and made every institution in Scotland weaker, with almost one in six people in Scotland on an NHS waiting list, falling attainment, and thousands stuck in poverty or living in inadequate housing or on the streets; regrets that the SNP administration’s failure to use the levers that it has to meet statutory child poverty targets, tackle the housing crisis, reduce violence in schools, provide child and adolescent mental health services when young people need them, and prioritise skills development is denying young people a more prosperous and stable future; recognises that the SNP administration has had no industrial strategy or plan for skills, building a low-growth economy and delivering the lowest wage growth of any region or nation in the UK over the last two years; believes that this economic underperformance has had negative implications for public services and the living standards of families and working people, and that the Programme for Government lacks the scale of action needed to make Scotland’s economy work for people across Scotland, and calls on the Scottish Government to prioritise skills and regional economic development, reform Scotland’s enterprise agencies and cut waste, harness the power of technology to help business grow, and ensure that people get the support that they need to find secure work.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 48, Against 68 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

Lorna Slater moved amendment S6M-17437.3—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17437 in the name of Kate Forbes (Programme for Government: Building the Best Future for Scotland), leave out from first “to grow” to end and insert “could have been an opportunity for bold, decisive action towards building a more equal, healthier and greener Scotland with an economy that works for people and planet; recognises the substantial changes to Scotland’s transport, industry, land use and homes and buildings systems that are required to meet the challenges of the climate emergency, as described by the UK Climate Change Committee; further recognises the need for action to create well-paid, skilled jobs in growing low-carbon industries; believes that tackling poverty requires not only strong, resilient economies that provide access to fair work opportunities and support investment in public services, but also measures that secure the human rights of all citizens, from affordable, accessible housing and education to a social security system based on care and compassion; regrets the weakening of commitments to tackle climate change and the housing emergency, such as the watering down of the proposed Heat in Buildings Bill and the Housing (Scotland) Bill; expresses its dismay that the proposed Bills to tackle misogyny and end conversion practices have been dropped from this Programme for Government, and calls on the Scottish Government to reconsider its position on human rights and equalities legislation and urgently produce an ambitious plan to tax wealth more effectively in Scotland to ensure appropriate investment in public services, support communities and build a fairer Scotland.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 7, Against 108 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).
Jamie Greene moved amendment S6M-17437.1—

> As an amendment to motion S6M-17437 in the name of Kate Forbes (Programme for Government: Building the Best Future for Scotland), insert at end "; notes that, whilst the Programme for Government 2025-26 contains plans and policies to eradicate child poverty, the Scottish Government has already missed the interim child poverty targets of less than 18% of children living in relative poverty and less than 14% living in absolute poverty by 2023-24; believes that action is also required on Scotland's housing and planning systems in order to not only help the economy grow and encourage investment, but also to ensure that everyone has a safe, warm place to call home, particularly given that an estimated 10,360 children and their families are living in temporary accommodation in Scotland; understands that, whilst there are wider economic challenges both domestically and internationally, there remains concern that the work and reform that may be required to eradicate intergenerational poverty is not taking place at the necessary pace, as noted by The Wise Group, and is further concerned that, despite the actions announced in the Programme for Government 2025-26, these will not be enough to drive the economic growth required and the 2030 child poverty targets, of less than 10% of children living in relative poverty, will be missed."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 30, Against 84 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 1).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 59 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 55, Abstentions 1).

3. Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17450—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business--

Tuesday 13 May 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

7.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 15 May 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Ministerial Statement: Impact of UK Government Decisions on Scotland's Social Care Sector

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.40 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 15 May 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Ministerial Statement: Secure Care and the Wider Care System

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Scotland in Today's Europe

followed by Appointment of the Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 20 May 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Bill

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

6.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 21 May 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 22 May 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero and Energy, and Transport

followed by Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Debate: Committee Effectiveness Inquiry

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 12 May 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.

The motion was agreed to.

4. Stage 1 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17451—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Dog Theft (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 3 October 2025.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Designation of Lead Committee: The Minister for Parliamentary Business (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-17452—That the Parliament agrees that the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Children (Withdrawal from Religious Education and Amendment of UNCRC Compatibility Duty) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2 and 5 as noted above.

7. Mental Health Awareness Week 2025: The Parliament debated S6M-17320 in the name of Roz McCall—That the Parliament notes that 12 to 18 May 2025 is Mental Health Awareness Week; welcomes the work of the Mental Health Foundation in driving this annual campaign across the country to raise awareness, and improve education and campaigning, to ensure that no one is deprived of the opportunity for good mental health because of who they are, the community they come from or where they live; recognises what it sees as the relevance of this year's theme of "Community" in emphasising that being part of a safe, positive community is vital for people's mental health and wellbeing; supports the idea that people thrive when they have a strong connection with other people and supportive communities that remind them that they are not alone; notes with concern reports that those living with a mental illness in Scotland continue to be left behind, despite targeted interventions by the Scottish Government and others, and still have a shorter life expectancy than the rest of the population; understands that waiting lists for child and adolescent mental health services remain too long and that access to psychological services is increasingly difficult; considers that the reported closure of autism assessment services around Scotland by health and social care partnerships has left many without access to a diagnosis; notes the belief that addressing poor mental health is something that needs to be done as a society, within communities and as individuals, and commends all who make this week possible.

The meeting closed at 5.55 pm.

No. 108, Thursday 8 May 2025

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. Wraparound Care for Children with Additional Support Needs: The Parliament debated S6M-16503 in the name of Michael Marra—That the Parliament understands that local authorities have a statutory duty to provide out-of-school and holiday care for children classified as "in need", which includes those who are disabled; is concerned by reports that many families of children with additional support needs are unable to find out-of-school care during holiday periods, including in Dundee and its surrounding areas; believes that the struggle to balance care-giving with employment can lead to routines being disrupted and is a cause of significant distress to families; further believes that reductions to local authority and third-sector organisations' budgets have contributed to these issues, and notes the view that the Scottish Government and local authorities should take action to ensure that families of children with additional support needs do not face another summer of uncertainty and disruption.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Social Justice were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) made a statement and answered questions on Relationships and Behaviour in Schools.

6. Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day: The First Minister (John Swinney) moved S6M-17457—That the Parliament marks the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day, which took place on 8 May 1945; remembers the 380,000 UK Armed Forces personnel, including 57,000 Scots, and over 67,000 civilians who lost their lives during the conflict; commemorates the service and pays tribute to the sacrifices of those individuals from across Scotland and the UK, the Commonwealth and the Allied Nations, which ensured the peace and freedoms that are enjoyed today; appreciates the efforts of Legion Scotland and Poppyscotland to mark the occasion, including a national commemorative concert held in Edinburgh on 6 May 2025, Scotland's Salute to VE Day, which was supported by the Scottish Government, and commends the work of both organisations and of veterans charities across Scotland in supporting the veterans of this conflict and their families, many of whom continue to be affected by the tragedy of war to this day.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Motion Without Notice: Martin Whitfield, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.58pm.

The motion was agreed to.

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 6 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.58 pm.

Annex A: Bills Introduced

14 May 2024

Post Office (Horizon System) Offences (Scotland) Bill—An Act of the Scottish Parliament to provide for the quashing of certain convictions for offences of dishonesty connected to the carrying on of a post office business at a time when the Horizon system was in use; to provide for the deletion of details of alternatives to prosecution in relation to such offences; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 47) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Angela Constance

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 47-EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 47-FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 47-PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 47-DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 47-LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about the rights of persons addicted to drugs or alcohol to receive treatment for addiction; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 48) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Douglas Ross

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 48-EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 48-FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 48-PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 48-DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 48-LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

4 June 2024

Education (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to provide for the establishment and functions of Qualifications Scotland; to provide for the establishment and functions of the office of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 49) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Jenny Gilruth

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 49–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 49–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 49–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 49–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 49–LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

20 June 2024

Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about the making available of residential outdoor education to school pupils. (SP Bill 50) (Member's Bill)
Introduced by: Liz Smith

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 50–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 50–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 50–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 50–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 50–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

5 September 2024

Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to modify the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 in relation to the targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 51) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Gillian Martin

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 51–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 51–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 51–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 51–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 51–LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

24 September 2024

Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill— A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to modify the law in relation to procedures in the criminal courts; and to make provision for the holding of reviews to enable lessons to be learned following abusive domestic behaviour. (SP Bill 52) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Angela Constance

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 52–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 52–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 52–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 52–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 52–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

18 November 2024

Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to amend the rules as to the automatic early release of prisoners from prison and of children from detention; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 53) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Angela Constance

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 53–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 53–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 53–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 53–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 53–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

11 December 2024

Leases (Automatic Continuation etc.) (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about the circumstances in which certain leases continue or end on their termination dates; to make provision about other

matters relating to the beginning, length or ending of those leases; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 54) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Angela Constance

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 54-EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 54-FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 54-PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 54-DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 54-LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

17 December 2024

Scottish Parliament (Recall and Removal of Members) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about the recall of members of the Scottish Parliament; and to provide for a member of the Scottish Parliament's seat to be vacated due to a period of imprisonment or detention or due to failing to attend proceedings of the Parliament. (SP Bill 55) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Graham Simpson

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 55-EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 55-FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 55-PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 55-DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 55-LC) were published to accompany the Bill

18 December 2024

Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision, for financial year 2025/26, for the use of resources by the Scottish Administration and certain bodies whose expenditure is payable out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund, for the maximum amounts of borrowing by certain statutory bodies and for authorising the payment of sums out of the Fund; to make provision, for financial year 2026/27, for authorising the payment of sums out of the Fund on a temporary basis; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 56) (Budget Bill)

Introduced by: Shona Robison
Supported by: John Swinney and Jamie Hepburn

A Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 56–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 56–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

5 February 2025

Tertiary Education and Training (Funding and Governance) (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about the functions and governance of the Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council; to make provision about financial support for students in further and higher education; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 57) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Jenny Gilruth
Supported by: Graeme Dey

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 57–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 57–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 57–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 57–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 57–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

17 February 2025

Dog Theft (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to create an offence of dog theft; to provide for a statutory aggravation of that offence; to provide for publication of information relating to that offence; to provide for a review of the operation of the new offence; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 58) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Maurice Golden

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 58–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 58–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 58–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 58–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 58–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

19 February 2025

Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about setting targets relating to biodiversity; to confer on the Scottish Ministers a power to modify certain legislation in relation to environmental impact assessments and habitats; to make provision in relation to national parks; to make provision in connection with the management of deer; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 59) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Mairi Gougeon

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 59–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 59–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 59–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 59–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 59–LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

12 March 2025

2025 UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision in relation to the Union of European Football Associations Championship that is to be held, in part, in Glasgow. (SP Bill 60) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Kate Forbes

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 60–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 60–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 60–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 60–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 60–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

17 March 2025

Restraint and Seclusion in Schools (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about the restriction of the physical movement

of, or isolation of, children and young people by education providers in schools. (SP Bill 61) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Daniel Johnson

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 61–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 61–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 61–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 61–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 61–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

20 March 2025

Community Wealth Building (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to require the Scottish Ministers to prepare and publish a statement about community wealth building; to require local authorities and relevant public bodies to prepare and publish a community wealth building action plan, and to implement that plan; to require certain public bodies to have due regard to community wealth building guidance produced by the Scottish Ministers; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 62) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Kate Forbes

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 62–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 62–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 62–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 62–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 62–LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

27 March 2025

Wellbeing and Sustainable Development (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to require public bodies, when exercising their functions, to have due regard for the need to promote wellbeing and sustainable development; and to provide for the establishment and functions of a Future Generations Commissioner for Scotland; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 63) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Sarah Boyack
Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 63–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 63–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 63–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 63–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 63–LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

2 April 2025

Commissioner for Older People (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to provide for the establishment and functions of a Commissioner for Older People in Scotland; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 64) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Colin Smyth

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 64–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 64–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 64–PM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 64–LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

23 April 2025

Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision prohibiting the racing of greyhounds on racetracks. (SP Bill 65) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Mark Ruskell

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 65–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 65–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 65–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 65–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 65–LC) were published to accompany the Bill.

30 April 2025

Children (Withdrawal from Religious Education and Amendment of UNCRC Compatibility Duty) (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about the involvement of a pupil in a decision to withdraw the pupil from religious instruction or religious observance in schools; and to make provision about circumstances where incompatibility with the requirements of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 is not unlawful. (SP Bill 66) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: Jenny Gilruth

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 66–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 66–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 66–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 66–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 66–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

7 May 2025

Prevention of Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision for the purpose of preventing domestic abuse, including, in particular, provision requiring certain offenders convicted of offences involving domestic abuse to notify the police of certain personal information for a period, and for the assessment and management of the risks posed by such offenders; provision for the assessment of certain offenders convicted of offences involving domestic abuse for suitability for rehabilitation programmes and services; provision for the collection and reporting of data on victims of domestic abuse or offences involving domestic abuse; provision for the promotion of education in schools about domestic abuse; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 67) (Member's Bill)

Introduced by: Pam Gosal

Explanatory Notes (SP Bill 67–EN), a Financial Memorandum (SP Bill 67–FM), a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 67–PM), a Delegated Powers Memorandum (SP Bill 67–DPM) and Statements on Legislative Competence (SP Bill 67–LC) were published to accompany the Bill

Annex B: Subordinate Legislation

Made affirmative instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on the dates indicated and are subject to the made affirmative procedure—

4 December 2024

The Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (additional amount: transactions relating to second homes etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 (SSI 2024/367)

laid under section 68(4) of the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Scotland) Act 2013, for approval by resolution of the Scottish Parliament within 28 days beginning with the day on which the Order was made, not taking account periods of dissolution or recess for more than 4 days

19 February 2025

Scottish Landfill Tax (Standard Rate and Lower Rate) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/41)

laid under section 41(3) of the Landfill Tax (Scotland) Act 2014

Affirmative instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on the dates indicated and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

16 May 2024

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) Amendment Order 2024 [draft]

laid under sections 3A(3) and 44(3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982

29 May 2024

Early Release of Prisoners and Prescribed Victim Supporters (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]

laid under section 3D(1) of the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993

31 May 2024

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) Amendment Order 2024 [draft]

laid under sections 3A(3) and 44(3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982

3 June 2024

Companies Act 2006 (Scottish public sector companies to be audited by the Auditor General for Scotland) Order 2024 [draft]

laid under section 483(5) of the Companies Act 2006

7 June 2024

Tied Pubs (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]

laid under section 24(2) of the Tied Pubs (Scotland) Act 2021

10 June 2024

Environmental Protection (Single-use Vapes) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid section 160A(7) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

3 September 2024

Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (Amendment) Order 2024 [draft]
laid under paragraph 11 of schedule 3 of the Climate Change Act 2008

4 September 2024

Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under paragraph 1(6) of schedule 7 of the European Union Withdrawal Act 2018 (as applied by paragraph 12(3) of that schedule of that Act)

Rural Development (Continuation of Operation) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 3(4) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

10 September 2024

Scotland Act 1998 (Specification of Devolved Tax) (Building Safety) Order 2024 [draft]
laid under paragraphs 1 and 2 of schedule 7 of the Scotland Act 1998

12 September 2024

Public Procurement (International Trade Agreements) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 122(14) of the Procurement Act 2023

17 September 2024

Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

19 September 2024

Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022 (Extension of Temporary Justice Measures) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 54(3) of the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022

20 September 2024

Upper Tribunal for Scotland Bus Registration Appeals (Composition) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 79(2)(c) of the Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014

Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Transport Tribunal) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 79(2)(b) of the Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014

23 September 2024

Town and Country Planning (Amendment of National Planning Framework) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]

laid under section 275(7BA) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

Masterplan Consent Area Scheme (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 5(2) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

25 September 2024

Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

1 October 2024

Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

This instrument was withdrawn on 25 September 2024 and re-laid before the Parliament on 1 October 2024

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2024 [draft]
laid under paragraph 11 of schedule 3 of the Climate Change Act 2008

2 October 2024

Free-Range Egg Marketing Standards (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 9(4) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

3 October 2024

Budget (Scotland) Act 2024 Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 7(2) of the Budget (Scotland) Act 2024

22 October 2024

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2024 [draft]
laid under paragraph 11 of schedule 3 of the Climate Change Act 2008

This instrument was withdrawn on 9 October 2024 and re-laid before the Parliament on 22 October 2024

28 October 2024

Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 2(3) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 7 to the Scotland Act 1998

1 November 2024

Disability Assistance (Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

4 November 2024

Regulated Roles (Prohibitions and Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft]
laid under section 100(4) of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007

14 November 2024

Burial (Management) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 106(2) of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

Burial and Cremation (Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 106(2) of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

18 November 2024

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exclusions and Exceptions) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 10(2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

22 November 2024

Electronic Monitoring (Use of Devices and Information) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 15(2) of the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2019

27 November 2024

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 58(4)(b) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

3 December 2024

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under paragraph 11 of Schedule 3 to the Climate Change Act 2008

16 December 2024

Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023 Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 118(2) and (3) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

Registers of Scotland (Fees and Plain Copies) Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 116(3)(k) and (l) of the Land Registration etc. (Scotland) Act 2012

Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 2(3) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

17 December 2024

International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft]

laid under section 10(1) of the International Organisations Act 1968

9 January 2025

Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 2(3) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

This instrument was withdrawn on 9 January 2025 and re-laid before the Parliament on 9 January 2025.

14 January 2025

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (List A and B Offences) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 91(2) of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Incidental, Supplementary and Consequential Provision) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 91(3) of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

Regulated Roles with Children and Adults (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 100(4) of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exclusions and Exceptions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2025 [draft]

laid under section 10(2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

21 January 2025

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Incidental, Supplementary and Consequential Provision) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 91(3) of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

This instrument was withdrawn on 21 January 2025 and re-laid before the Parliament on 21 January 2025.

24 January 2025

Tied Pubs (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 24(2) of the Tied Pubs (Scotland) Act 2021

Social Security Up-rating (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft]

laid under sections 150(2), 150A(2) and 190(1)(a) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992

Social Security (Up-rating) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

27 January 2025

Community Care (Personal Care and Nursing Care) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 23(3)(a) of the Community Care and Health (Scotland) Act 2002

National Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 52(3) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005

28 January 2025

Provision of Early Learning and Childcare (Specified Children) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 99(2) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

29 January 2025

Public Appointments and Public Bodies etc. (Scotland) Act 2003 (Treatment of Qualifications Scotland as Specified Authority) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 18(4) of the Public Appointments and Public Bodies etc. (Scotland) Act 2003

30 January 2025

Budget (Scotland) Act 2024 Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 7(2) of the Budget (Scotland) Act 2024

4 February 2025

Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under paragraph 2(3) of schedule 12 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

7 February 2025

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002 Amendment Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 24(2) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

10 February 2025

Tied Pubs (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 24(2) of the Tied Pubs (Scotland) Act 2021

Social Security (Up-rating) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

18 February 2025

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Part 2 Further Extension) Order 2025 [draft]

laid under section 133(2) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

27 February 2025

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 58(4)(b) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

10 March 2025

Social Security Information-sharing (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

24 March 2025

Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Group Relief and Sub-sale Development Relief Modifications) (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 68(2)(c) of the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Scotland) Act 2013

25 April 2025

Town and Country Planning (Marine Fish Farming) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 275(5A) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

30 April 2025

Restitution Fund (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 253B(7) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 96(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

1 May 2025

Regional Strategic Bodies and Regional Colleges (Glasgow and Lanarkshire) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 60(2B) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992 and section 34(4)(bc) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 2005

2 May 2025

Deposit and Return Scheme for Scotland Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft]
laid under section 96(4) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Deposit and Return Scheme for Scotland (Designation of Scheme Administrator) Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 96(4) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Environmental Regulation (Enforcement Measures) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft]
laid under section 58(3) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Negative instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on the dates indicated and are subject to the negative procedure—

13 May 2024

Disability Assistance for Older People (Consequential Amendment and Transitional Provision) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/141)
laid under section 96(4)(b) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

17 May 2024

Seed (Fees) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/146)
laid under section 16(6) of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964

20 May 2024

Teachers' Pension Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/147)
laid under section 24(2) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

21 May 2024

Sheriff (Removal from Office) Order 2024 (SSI 2024/148)
laid under section 133(3) of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

30 May 2024

Food Additives and Novel Foods (Authorisations and Miscellaneous Amendments) and Food Flavourings (Removal of Authorisations) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/156)
laid under Article 14A(3) of Regulation (EC) No. 1331/2008 and Article 32A(4) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283

20 June 2024

Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/178)
laid under section 37(1) of the Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986

Police Service of Scotland (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/179)
laid under section 125(4) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

27 June 2024

Valuation (Proposals Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/186)
laid under section 3ZA(10) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1975

Waste (Materials Facilities) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/191)
laid under section 58(5) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

29 August 2024

Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/216)
laid under section 37(1) of the Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986

Charges for Residues Surveillance Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/218)
laid under section 48(3) of the Food Safety Act 1990

30 August 2024

Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (Permitted Disclosure of Information) Order 2024 (SSI 2024/220)
laid under section 194K(5) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

Personal Injuries (NHS Charges) (Amounts) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/225)
laid under section 195(8) of the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003

2 September 2024

Academic Awards and Distinctions (SRUC) (Scotland) Order of Council 2024 (SSI 2024/219)
laid under section 60(1) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992

5 September 2024

Local Services Franchises (Traffic Commissioner Notices and Panels) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/229)
laid under section 81(3) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001

Council Tax Reduction (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/230)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

National Health Service (Free Prescriptions and Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/233)
laid under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

9 September 2024

Sheriff Court Fees Order 2024 (2024/235).
laid under section 133(1) and (3) of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Sheriff Appeal Court Fees Order 2024 (SSI 2024/236)
laid under section 133(1) and (3) of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

High Court of Justiciary Fees Order 2024 (SSI 2024/237)
laid under section 133(1) and (3) of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Court of Session etc. Fees Order 2024 (SSI 2024/238)
laid under section 133 of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Justice of the Peace Court Fees (Scotland) Order 2024 (SSI 2024/239)
laid under section 133 of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Adults with Incapacity (Public Guardian’s Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/240)

laid under section 86 of the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000

12 September 2024

Social Security (Genuine and Sufficient Link to the United Kingdom) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/241)

laid under section 176 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 and Section 94 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012

Bus Services Improvement Partnerships (Multi-operator Travel Cards) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/243)

laid under section 81(3) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001

19 September 2024

Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022 (Early Expiry of Provisions) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/246)

laid under section 54 of the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022

20 September 2024

Building (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/247)

laid under 54 of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003

Public Service Vehicles (Registration of Local Services) (Bus Services Improvement Partnerships Service Standards Decisions) (Appeals) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/248)

laid under section 134 of the Transport Act 1985 and sections 60 and 61 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981

Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Bus Registration Appeals Rules of Procedure) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/249)

laid under paragraph 5 of schedule 9 of the Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014

23 September 2024

Town and Country Planning (Amendment of Local Development Plan) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/250)

laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and section 61 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019

Town and Country Planning (Masterplan Consent Areas) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/253)

laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

30 September 2024

Wildlife Management (Consequential Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/268)

laid under section 34(3)(b) of the Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Act 2024

3 October 2024

Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (West Dunbartonshire Council) Designation Order 2024 (SSI 2024/270)
laid under paragraph 4 of schedule 3 of the Road Traffic Act 1991

Parking Attendants (Wearing of Uniforms) (West Dunbartonshire Council) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/271)
laid under section 134(6) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

National Health Service Superannuation and Pension Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/272)
laid under section 12 of the Superannuation Act 1972 and section 24 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

4 October 2024

Title Conditions (Scotland) Act 2003 (Rural Housing Bodies) Amendment Order 2024 (SSI 2024/273)
laid under section 127(1) of the Title Conditions (Scotland) Act 2003

Property Factors (Registration) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/274)
laid under section 30(3) of the Property Factors (Scotland) Act 2011

Scotland Act 1998 (Agency Arrangements) (Specification) Order 2024 (SI 2024/989)
laid under section 115 and paragraphs 1 and 2 of schedule 7 of the Scotland Act 1998

15 October 2024

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965 (Prohibition on Disposal of a Body without Authorisation) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/281)
laid under section 27A(7) of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965

31 October 2024

Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/292)
laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

Diligence against Earnings (Variation) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/293)
laid under section 104(1) of the Debtors (Scotland) Act 1987

Firefighters' Pension Schemes (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2024 (SSI 2024/295)
laid under section 60(5) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004

1 November 2024

Council Tax Reduction (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/310)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Disability Assistance (Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) (Consequential Amendment, Revocation and Saving Provision) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/311)
laid under section 96 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

4 November 2024

Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Referrals by Chief Constable) (Prescribed Information) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/313)
laid under section 100(3) of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007

Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Information for Listing and Vetting) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/314)
laid under section 100(3) of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007

Level 1 and Level 2 Disclosure Information (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/315)
laid under section 91(4) of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

Consideration of Suitability for Regulated Roles (Prescribed Purposes) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/316)
laid under section 91(4) of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 Disclosure and Use of Level 2 Disclosures (Prescribed Purpose and Circumstances) (Scotland)

Disclosure and Use of Level 2 Disclosures (Prescribed Purpose and Circumstances) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/317)
laid under section 91(4) of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

7 November 2024

Official Controls (Import of High Risk Food and Feed of Non-Animal Origin) Amendment (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/234)
laid under Article 57a(5) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 and Article 144(5) of Regulation (EU) 2017/62

8 November 2024

Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/326)
laid under section 48(3) of the Food Safety Act 1990

Building (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/327)
laid under section 54 of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003

Feed Additives (Authorisations) and Uses of Feed Intended for Particular Nutritional Purposes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/330)
laid under Article 18A(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 and section 84(2) of the Agriculture Act 1970

14 November 2024

Burial (Applications and Register) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/334)

laid under Sections 8, 10 and 106(1) of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

Public Procurement (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/338)
laid under section 44(3) of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 5 of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023

21 November 2024

Sports Grounds and Sporting Events (Designation) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 (SSI 2024/352)
laid under Section 18(3) of the Criminal Law (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 1995

22 November 2024

Electronic Monitoring (Approved Devices) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/354)
laid under section 15 of the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2019

5 December 2024

Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications) (Scotland) Amendment (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/369)
laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

6 December 2024

Conservation of Salmon (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/368)
laid under section 68(2) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003

12 December 2024

Financial Assistance for Environmental Purposes (Variation) (Scotland) Order 2024 (SSI 2024/371)
laid under section 160A(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

Local Government Pension Scheme (Remediable Service) (Scotland) (Miscellaneous Amendment) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/374)
laid under section 24 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

Building (Procedure) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/376)
laid under section 54(5) of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003

13 December 2024

Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Prescribed Police Stations) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/377)
laid under section 138(3) of the Sexual Offences Act 2003

16 December 2024

Moveable Transactions (Forms) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/379)

laid under section 118(4) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

Moveable Transactions (Register of Assignations and Register of Statutory Pledges Rules) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/381)
laid under section 118(3) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

20 December 2024

Bread and Flour Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/387)
laid under section 48(3) of the Food Safety Act 1990

13 January 2025

Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Prescribed Services and Activities) (Protected Adult) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/4)
laid under section 10(2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

Disclosure Information (Accredited Bodies) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/5)
laid under section 91 of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

16 January 2025

Building (Fees) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/6)
laid under section 54(5) of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003

17 January 2025

Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery (Variation) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/7)
laid under section 20(2) of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967

23 January 2025

Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/8)
laid under section 16(4) of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004

Sheriff Appeal Court Fees Amendment Order 2025 (SSI 2025/9)
laid under section 133(3) of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

30 January 2025

Scottish Road Works Register (Prescribed Fees) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/18)
laid under section 163(1) of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991

Non-Domestic Rating (Valuation of Utilities) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 (SSI 2025/19)
laid under section 6A(2) of the Valuation and Rating (Scotland) Act 1956

3 February 2025

Council Tax Reduction (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/24)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Fees for Scheme Membership and Disclosure Applications (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/25)

laid under section 100 of the Protection of Vulnerable (Groups) (Scotland) Act 2007 and section 91 of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

Level 1 and Level 2 Disclosure Review Application (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/26)
laid under section 91 of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

7 February 2025

Environmental Protection (Injurious Articles) (Fixed Penalty Notices and Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/28)
laid under section 160A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

Cost of Living (Tenant Protection) (Saving Provision) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/29)
laid under section 12(5)(b) of the Cost of Living (Tenant Protection) (Scotland) Act 2022

National Assistance (Sums for Personal Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/30)
laid under section 63 of the National Assistance Act 1948

National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/31)
laid under section 63 of the National Assistance Act 1948

12 February 2025

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2025 (SI 2025/124)
laid under schedule 3 of the Climate Change Act 2008

19 February 2025

Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/36)
laid under section 16(4) of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004

20 February 2025

Non-Domestic Rate (Scotland) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/37)
laid under section 7B(5) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994

Non-Domestic Rates (Levying and Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/38)
laid under section 153(6) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994

Non-Domestic Rates (Transitional Relief) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/39)
laid under section 153(6) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994

Non-Domestic Rates (Hospitality Relief) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/40)
laid under section 153(6) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994

Environmental Protection (Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and other Dangerous Substances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/42)
laid under Section 58(5) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

National Health Service (Common Staffing Method) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/43)
laid under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (Modification) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/44)
laid under section 133(2) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980

21 February 2025

Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/48)
laid under section 24 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

3 March 2025

Council Tax Reduction and Council Tax (Discounts) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/55)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 (SSI 2025/56)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Health and Care Professions Council (Miscellaneous Amendments) Rules Order of Council 2025 (SI 2025/240)
laid under article 42 of the Health Professions Order 2001

6 March 2025

Police Pension Scheme (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/58)
laid under section 24 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

13 March 2025

Recognition of Overseas Qualifications (Charges) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/67)
laid under section 56 of the Finance Act 1973

18 March 2025

Environmental Protection (Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and other Dangerous Substances) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/78)
laid under section 58(5) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

21 March 2025

Railway Closure (Exclusion) (Hairmyres) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/81)
laid under section 38(3) of the Railways Act 2005

1 April 2025

Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022 (Saving Provisions) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/101)

laid under section 58(3)(b) of the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022

3 April 2025

Disease Control (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/108)
laid under section 32(3) of the Animal Health Act 1981

24 April 2025

Council Tax Reduction (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/112)
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/113)
laid under section 24(2) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

Police Pensions (Remediable Service) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/114)
laid under section 24(2) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

28 April 2025

Town and Country Planning (Fees for Appeals) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/124)
laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/125)
laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

Town and Country Planning (Fees for Local Reviews) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/126)
laid under section 275 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

1 May 2025

Education (Fees and Student Support) (Miscellaneous Amendment and Revocation) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/136)
laid under section 1 of the Education (Fees and Awards) Act 1983 and section 133(2) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980

Public Service Vehicles (Registration of Local Services) (Local Services Franchises Transitional Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/137)
laid under section 13T of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001

2 May 2025

Human Tissue (Supply of Information about Transplants) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/139)
laid under section 59 of the Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006

Laid Only Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on the dates indicated and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

16 May 2024

Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Act 2023 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/145 (C. 13))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

31 May 2024

Act of Sederunt (Messengers-at-Arms and Sheriff Officers Rules) (Amendment) 2024 (SSI 2024/157)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Act of Adjournal (Criminal Procedure Rules 1996 Amendment) (Mutual Legal Assistance) 2024 (SSI 2024/159)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

7 June 2024

Trusts and Succession (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/164 (C. 14))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

14 June 2024

Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/168 (C. 15))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

17 June 2024

Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act 2024 (Commencement) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/170 (C. 16))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Act of Adjournal (Criminal Procedure Rules 1996 Amendment) (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024) 2024 (SSI 2024/174)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

27 June 2024

Valuation Timetable (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 (SSI 2024/192)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

28 June 2024

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994 and Sheriff Appeal Court Rules 2021 Amendment) (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024) 2024 (SSI 2024/195)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Act of Sederunt (Proceedings for Determination of Compatibility Questions Rules) 2024 (SSI 2024/196)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994 Amendment) (Protective Expenses Orders) 2024 (SSI 2024/197)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

15 August 2024

Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1 and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/211 (C. 17))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

5 September 2024

Visitor Levy (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/231 (C.18))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/2024/232 (C. 19))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

12 September 2024

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Commencement No. 3) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/242 (C.20))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

23 September 2024

Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 14) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/252 (C.21))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

30 September 2024

Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 2 and Saving Provision) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/267 (C. 22))

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

7 October 2024

Registration of Births, Still-births, Deaths and Marriages (Prescription of Forms) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/275)

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

8 November 2024

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994, Sheriff Appeal Court Rules 2021 and Ordinary Cause Rules 1993 Amendment) (Taxation of Judicial Expenses) 2024 (SSI 2024/323)

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

14 November 2024

Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016 (Commencement No. 6 and Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/335 (C. 23))

laid under Sections 112(2), (3) and (4) of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

22 November 2024

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994, Sheriff Appeal Court Rules 2021 and Sheriff Court Rules Amendment) (Statutory Interveners) 2024 (SSI 2024/353)

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

9 December 2024

Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/370 (C. 24))

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

12 December 2024

Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1, Transitional and Saving Provisions) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/373 (C. 25))

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 8) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/375 (C. 26))

laid under section 30(2)

16 December 2024

Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023 (Commencement) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/378 (C. 27))

laid under section 121(2) of the Moveable Transactions (Scotland) Act 2023

19 December 2024

Ardersier Port Limited (Pilotage Powers) Order 2024 (SSI 2024/382)
laid under section 30 of the Pilotage Act 1987

13 January 2025

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Commencement No. 4) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/2 (C.1))
laid under section 91(5) of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

23 January 2025

Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/10 (C. 2))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

29 January 2025

Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Act 2025 (Commencement) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/17 (C. 3))
laid under section 30 of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

3 February 2025

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Commencement No. 5, Saving and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/27 (C.4))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

21 February 2025

Act of Adjournal (Criminal Procedure Rules 1996 Amendment) (Miscellaneous) 2025 (SSI 2025/47)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

24 February 2025

Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 (Commencement No. 2 (Amendment) and Commencement No. 3) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/49 (C.5))
laid under section 28(2) of the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022

27 February 2025

Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Act 2023 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/52 (C. 6))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

10 March 2025

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994 Amendment) (Nautical Assessors) 2025 (SSI 2025/61)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

17 March 2025

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Commencement No. 5, Saving and Transitional Provision) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/73 (C. 7))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

20 March 2025

Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/79 (C.8))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

21 March 2025

Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session 1994 and Ordinary Cause Rules 1993 Amendment) (Miscellaneous) 2025 (SSI 2025/80)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform Scotland) Act 2010

24 March 2025

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Commencement No. 5, Saving and Transitional Provision) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/84 (C. 9))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

3 April 2025

Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/106 (C.10))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 2, Transitional and Saving Provisions) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/107 (C. 11))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

24 April 2025

Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/115 (C. 12))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

25 April 2025

Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 1 and Saving and Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/119 (C. 13))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

8 May 2025

Act of Sederunt (Lands Valuation Appeal Court) 2025 (SSI 2025/140)

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Act of Sederunt (Registration Appeal Court) 2025 (SSI 2025/141)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Annex C: Legislative Consent Memorandums

The following memorandums were lodged on the dates indicated—

23 May 2024

Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Criminal Justice Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-43b)

1 August 2024

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Transport: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-47)

8 August 2024

Gillian Martin, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-48)

24 September 2024

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Renters' Rights Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-49)

Kate Forbes, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-50)

21 November 2024

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Tobacco and Vapes Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-51)

22 November 2024

Kate Forbes, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Data (Use and Access) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-52)

11 December 2024

Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Employment Rights Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-53)

28 January 2025

Gillian Martin, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-48a)

17 February 2025

Gillian Martin, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-48b)

24 February 2025

Gillian Martin, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-48c)

3 March 2025

Kate Forbes, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-50a)

12 March 2025

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-54)

21 March 2025

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Public Authorities (Fraud, Error and Recovery) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-55)

27 March 2025

Gillian Martin, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Planning and Infrastructure Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-56)

28 March 2025

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Tobacco and Vapes Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-51a)

3 April 2025

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Employment Rights Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-53a)

Annex D: Other Documents

Documents subject to approval

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on the dates indicated and are subject to approval—

16 May 2024

Proposed Revised Social Security Charter (SG/2024/96)
laid under sections 18(4)(b)(iii) and 18(5) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

23 April 2025

SPSO Statement of Complaints Handling Principles [draft]
laid under section 16A of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Other documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on the date indicated and is subject to parliamentary procedure—

23 July 2024

BBC Group Annual Report & Accounts 2023/24
laid before the Scottish Parliament by the BBC under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Government, the BBC and the UK Government

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on the dates indicated and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

16 May 2024

Policy Report on the Review of the Scottish Social Security Charter - 'Our Charter' (SG/2024/94)
laid under Section 18(4)(b)(i) and (ii) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Scottish Government: Social Research - Reviewing Our Charter: Research Findings (SG/2024/95)
laid under Section 18(4)(b)(i) and (ii) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

20 May 2024

Report to The Scottish Parliament in Respect of Changes to The Scottish Teachers' Pension Scheme (SG/2024/112)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

Scottish Government: Eighth Annual Report on the Implementation of the Scotland Act 2016 (SG/2024/31)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

UK Government's Eighth Annual Report on the Implementation of the Scotland Act 2016 (SG/2024/30)

laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

21 May 2024

Scotland's Census 2022 - Ethnic group, national identity, language and religion (SG/2024/89)

laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

22 May 2024

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for May 2024 (SPSO/2024/05)

laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

23 May 2024

Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme: Progress Report 2023-24 - Fifth annual progress report on the "Climate Ready Scotland: Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme 2019 to 2024" (SG/2024/110)

laid under Section 54 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

28 May 2024

Climate Change Plan : Waste and the Circular Economy Monitoring Report 2024 (SG/2024/104)

laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Climate Change Plan : Buildings Monitoring Report 2024 SG/2024/101

laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Climate Change Plan : Electricity Monitoring Report 2024 (SG/2024/100)

laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Climate Change Plan : Industry Monitoring Report 2024 (SG/2024/103)

laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Climate Change Plan : Negative Emissions Technology (NETs) Monitoring Report 2024 (SG/2024/107)

laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Climate Change Plan : Transport Monitoring Report 2024 (SG/2024/102)

laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Climate Change Plan : Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) Monitoring Report 2024 (SG/2024/105)
laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Climate Change Plan : Agriculture Monitoring Report 2024 (SG/2024/106)
laid under Section 35B of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

Nitrogen use efficiency in Scotland: Annual Report 2024 (SG/2024/74)
laid under section 5(1)(c) of the Climate Change (Nitrogen Balance Sheet) (Scotland) Regulations 2022

Public Health Scotland: Analytics and Intelligence for people who access an NHS Sexual Assault Response Coordination Service (SARCS) following a recent rape, sexual assault or child sexual abuse - Second report on the operation of the Forensic Medical Services (Victims of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021 (SG/2024/97)
laid under Section 15(1)(b)(i) of the Forensic Medical Services (Victims of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021

29 May 2024

HMICS Custody Inspection Report – Ayrshire (HMICS/2024/04)
laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and is not subject to Parliamentary procedure

4 June 2024

Best Start, Bright Futures: Tackling Child Poverty Progress Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/115)
laid under Section 9 of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017

10 June 2024

HMICS Strategic review of the Scottish Police Authority (HMICS/2024/05)
laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

11 June 2024

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: the Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024
laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

13 June 2024

Scotland’s Census 2022 - UK Armed Forces veterans (SG/2024/117)
laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

14 June 2024

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: the Disability Assistance (Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 2024 (SCoSS/2024/04)
laid before the Scottish Parliament by the Scottish Commission on Social Security under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

17 June 2024

Cleaner Air for Scotland 2 - Towards a Better Place for Everyone 2023/24 Progress Report (SG/2024/123)

laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

18 June 2024

Scottish Greenhouse Gas Statistics 2022 (SG/2024/99)

laid under Section 33 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Audit Scotland Annual report and accounts 2023/24 year ended 31 March 2024 and independent auditor's report (SP Paper 625)

laid before the Parliament under section 25(6) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

19 June 2024

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for June 2024 (SPSO/2024/06)

laid before the Scottish Parliament by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium Investigations Reports and Report of Discontinued Investigations

- Volume 1 of 2
- Case ref: 202100979, Lanarkshire NHS Board

- Volume 2 of 2:
- Report of Discontinued Investigations

21 June 2024

A report on the operation of the administrative arrangements that the Scottish Ministers made for the carrying out of their functions under the Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018 (SG/2024/125)

laid under Section 75 of the Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018

24 June 2024

Code of Practice on Sampling and Reporting at Materials Facilities (SG/2024/127)

laid under section 34(9) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

25 June 2024

Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland - Annual report 2023-24 (SG/2024/93)

laid under Section 18(2) of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003

26 June 2024

Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland: annual report (CCYP/2024/03AR)

laid under Section 10(1) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland: annual report for children and young people (CCYP/2024/03CFAR)
laid under Section 10(1) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

27 June 2024

Inspection of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service West Service Delivery Area (SG/2024/92)
laid under Section 43C(5) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005

MG ALBA Annual Report & Statement of Accounts 2023/2024 (SG/2024/130)
laid under Schedule 19 (12) of the Broadcasting Act 1990

Scottish Civil Justice Council's Annual Report 2023/24 and Programme 2024/25 (SCJC/2024/01)
laid under section 5(4) of the Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Act 2013

Scotland's Census 2022: Sexual Orientation and Trans Status or History (SG/2024/118)
laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

28 June 2024

Transport Scotland - Section 70 Grant Payments In accordance with: Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 Section 70(4) Financial Year 2023-24 (SG/2024/80)
laid under Section 70(4) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001

1 July 2024

General Pharmaceutical Council: Annual report, Annual fitness to practise report and Annual accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/134)
laid under Paragraph 7 and 8 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmacy Order 2010

5 July 2024

Cass Review – Implications for Scotland (SG/2024/132)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

18 July 2024

Climate Change Committee: Progress in reducing emissions – 2024 Report to Parliament (SG/2024/150)
laid under section 36(1) of the Climate Change Act 2008

General Dental Council Annual Report and Accounts 2023 (SG/2024/20)
laid under section 2B and section 2C of the Dentists Act 1984

19 July 2024

UK Statistics Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (UKSA/2024/01)

laid under section 27(2) of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007

22 July 2024

Proposal by Scottish Ministers for a National Park in Galloway (July 2024) (SG/2024/138)

laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: the Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SCoSS/2024/05)

laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

23 July 2024

Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority Annual Report & Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/133)

laid under Section 6 of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1995

24 July 2024

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium Investigations Reports and Report of Discontinued Investigations (SPSO/2024/07)

laid before the Scottish Parliament by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for July 2024

Volume 1 of 3:
Report of Discontinued Investigations PSC

Volume 2 of 3:
Case ref: 202106175, Western Isles NHS Board

Volume 3 of 3:
Report of Discontinued Investigations INWO

25 July 2024

Professional Standards Authority (PSA) Business Plan 2024/25 (SG/2024/109)

laid under Paragraph 16(1B) of Schedule 7 to the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002

Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care Annual Report and Accounts 2023/2024 (SG/2024/108)

laid under Paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 7 to the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002

Transport Focus Annual report and accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/147)

laid under section 19 and schedule 5 of the Railways Act 2005

29 July 2024

Competition and Markets Authority Annual Report and Accounts for 2023/24 (CMA/2024/07)

laid under the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013, sch4 s14(3)(a) (as amended by the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, s40(3))

National Heritage Memorial Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2023–2024 (SG/2024/144)

laid under Section 7(1) of the National Heritage Act 1980, and accounts presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 7(3) of the National Heritage Act 1980

Electoral Commission Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (ELC/2024/01)

laid under Paragraph 20 A (1) of Schedule 1 to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

The National Lottery Heritage Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/143)

laid under section 34 (3) of the National Lottery etc Act 1993 (as amended by the National Lottery Act 2006), and accounts presented to Parliament pursuant to section 35 (5) of the National Lottery etc Act 1993

Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Annual Report and Accounts (ARA) for 2023-24 (SG/2024/116)

laid under Article 13(8) of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008

British Transport Police Fund Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/146)

laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

30 July 2024

The National Lottery Community Fund Annual report and accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/113)

laid under Section 34 and paragraph 21 of Schedule 4A of the National Lottery etc Act 1993

Ofcom Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/129)

laid under paragraph 12(4) of Schedule 1 to the Office of Communications Act 2002

1 August 2024

Scotland's Census 2022: Demography and Migration (SG/2024/153)

laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

2 August 2024

Education Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/83)

laid under section 19(4) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Water Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24: Performance and Prospects (SG/2024/149)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Report on the Scottish Ministers' duties under section 23(1) (funding for alternative dispute resolution) and section 24(1) (pilot scheme for mandatory alternative dispute resolution meetings) of the Children (Scotland) Act 2020 - August 2024 (SG/2024/151)
laid under Sections 23(7) and 24(4) of the Children (Scotland) Act 2020

Guidance on whether an inquiry should be established (SG/2024/119)
laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Guidance for sponsor teams (SG/2024/120)
laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Guidance for inquiry teams (SG /2024/121)
laid before the Scottish Parliament at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

6 August 2024

HM Chief Inspector's Annual Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/148)
laid under Section 7(5) of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989

8 August 2024

Standards Commission for Scotland Annual Report and Accounts Year Ending 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/159)
laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

12 August 2024

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/165)
laid under Chapter 1, Section 2 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005

Risk Management Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/136)
laid under Section 12(2) of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003

14 August 2024

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SCTS/2024/01)
laid under section 67 of the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008 and section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

15 August 2024

Annual Report: Inspectors of Burial, Cremation and Funeral Directors 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024 (SG/2024/174)
laid under Section 93(6) of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

Redress for survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Applications Etc. With (Unspent) Convictions for Serious Offences - Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/173)
laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Assessment Framework – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/168)
laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Evidential Requirements and Determinations by Redress Scotland – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/169)
laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Pausing, Withdrawing and Making More Than One Application – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/170)
laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Waiver, Contributions and Other Routes to Redress – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/171)
laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse In Care) (Scotland) Act 2021 statutory guidance: Annual Report on Wider Redress Actions – Updated August 2024 (SG/2024/172)
laid under Section 106(5) of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Act 2021

Scotland’s Land Use Strategy: Annual Progress Report – 2023/2024 (SG/2024/152)
laid under section 37A of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

16 August 2024

National Crime Agency – Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/141)
laid under Paragraph 8(3) of Schedule 2 to the Crime and Courts Act 2013

20 August 2024

The Scottish National Investment Bank plc Annual Report and Accounts 2024 (SG/2024/177)

laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

21 August 2024

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for August 2024 (SPSO/2024/08)

laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Tackling digital exclusion: A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2024/4)

laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

22 August 2024

Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/157)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scotland's Census 2022: Housing (SG/2024/154)

laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

27 August 2024

Forecast Evaluation Report - August 2024 (SFC/2024/3)

laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

Fiscal Update – May 2024 (SFC/2024/4)

laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

29 August 2024

National Report on the Scottish Social Housing Charter Headline Findings 2023/2024 (SG/2024/156)

laid under Section 41 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2010

30 August 2024

South of Scotland Enterprise Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/160)

laid under section 16 of the Scottish Enterprise Act 2019

Scottish Enterprise Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/142)

laid before the Scottish Parliament by a member of the Scottish Government under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

2 September 2024

Report on Fatal Accident Inquiries that concluded in the Financial year 2023/2024 (SG/2024/140)

laid under section 29 of the Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Act 2016

3 September 2024

British Tourist Authority trading as VisitBritain and VisitEngland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/126)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Government Improvement Plan - Response to Environmental Standards Scotland Investigation - Climate Change Delivery Improvement Report (IESS.21.012) (SG/2024/86)

laid under Section 30 of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

5 September 2024

ILF Scotland Annual Report and Financial Statements Year Ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/162)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The King's Printer for Scotland: Report covering the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/193)

laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Quality Meat Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/194)

laid under Section 22 (5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 and Article 12 of the Quality Meat Scotland Order 2008

Report on proposals and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions following annual targets for 2021 and 2022 not being met (SG/2024/98)

laid under Section 36 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Response to the Climate Change Committee: Progress in reducing emissions in Scotland – 2023 Report to Parliament (SG/2024/192)

laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

The Skills Development Scotland Co. Limited Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/186)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

10 September 2024

NHS Blood and Transplant Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/137)

laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

Press Recognition Panel Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/175)

laid under Sections 12.4 and 13.1 of the Royal Charter on Self- Regulation of the Press

Proceeds of Crime Act 2002: Report of the Appointed Person for Scotland for 2023/24 (SG/2024/179)

laid under Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, sections 127I(6)(b), 291(5) and 303F(7) Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (External Requests and Orders) Order 2005, Article 65H

Standards Commission for Scotland's Annual Report 2023/24 (SCfS/2024/02)

laid under paragraph 10F to Schedule 1 of the Ethical Standard in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000 as amended by the Scottish Parliamentary Commissions and Commissioners etc. Act 2010

11 September 2024

Gambling Commission Annual Report and Accounts 2023 to 2024 (SG/2024/33)

laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

HM Inspectorate of Prosecution in Scotland Annual Report 2023-2024 SG/2024/188

laid under Section 79(8) of the Criminal Proceedings etc. (Reform) (Scotland) Act 2007

Scotland's Census 2022: Education, labour market and travel to work (SG/2024/183)

laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

Scottish Prison Service Annual Report and Accounts 2023 - 2024 (SG/2024/163)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

12 September 2024

Financial Reporting Advisory Board Annual Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/190)

laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Scottish Commission on Social Security (SCoSS) Annual Report and Accounts 2023 - 2024 (SG/2024/198)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission Annual Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/87)

laid under Schedule 9A of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission 2023-24 Annual Report & Accounts (SG/2024/88)

laid under Schedule 9A of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

17 September 2024

The Scottish Government Non-Domestic Rating Account for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/191)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The Scottish Ministers response to the Scottish Commission on Social Security report on the draft Funeral Expense Assistance (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024: SG/2024/204

laid under section 97(9)(a) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

18 September 2024

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for September 2024 (SPSO/2024/09)

laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

19 September 2024

Proposed extension of the temporary justice provisions in the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022 - Statement of Reasons (SG/2024/180)

laid under Section 52 of the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act

Scotland's Colleges 2024 (AGS/2024/05)

laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

20 September 2024

The Report of the Independent Reviewer - Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 (SG/2024/209)

laid under section 21(2) of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019

Transport Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/79)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

24 September 2024

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland Annual Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/207)

laid under Section 82(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024 – 2029 (SG/2024/201)

laid under section 53 of the Climate Change Act 2009

25 September 2024

The Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009 Annual Report on Local Authorities' Functions: 2023 - 2024 (SG/2024/206)

laid under section 12(1)(c) of the Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009

Student Awards Agency Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/82)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Regulations 2024: Statement made under section 97(9)(b) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 (SG/2024/237)

laid under section 97(9)(b) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Supplementary Costing – Pension Age Winter Heating Payment – September 2024 (SFC/2024/5)
laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

26 September 2024

Fiscal Framework Outturn Report: September 2024 (SG/2024/189)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/158)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The Personal Injury Discount Rate Review and determination of the rate in Scotland by the Government Actuary (SG/2024/202)
laid under paragraph 24(1) of Schedule B1 of the Damages Act 1996 (as amended by the Damages (Investment Returns and Periodical Payments) (Scotland) Act 2019

Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/131)
laid under Section 31 and 32 of the Scottish Biometrics commissioner Act 2020

30 September 2024

Ayrshire and Arran Health Board Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/213)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Dumfries and Galloway NHS Board Annual Report and Accounts For Year Ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/215)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Forth Valley NHS Board Annual Report and Accounts 2023/2024 (SG/2024/217)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Grampian Health Board (Commonly known as NHS Grampian) Annual Report and Accounts year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/218)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Borders Annual Report & Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/214)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Fife Annual report and consolidated accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/216)

laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Information Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/205)

laid under Section 46(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

1 October 2024

Highland Health Board (Known as NHS Highland) Annual Report and Accounts for Year Ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/220)

laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Annual Report and Consolidated Accounts For the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/219)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Lanarkshire Annual Report and Consolidated Accounts For Year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/221)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Lothian Annual Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2024 (SG/2024/222)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Orkney Annual Report and Accounts For Year Ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/223)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Shetland Annual Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/224)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Housing Regulator Annual Performance Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/164)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/200)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

2 October 2024

Crofting Commission's Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/128)
laid under Section 2B and Schedule 1, paragraph 19 of the Crofters (Scotland) Act 1993

HMICS Thematic inspection of police response to missing persons in Scotland (HMICS/2024/07)
laid section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

Healthcare Improvement Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/230)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

National Waiting Times Centre Board (Known as NHS Golden Jubilee) Annual Report and Consolidated Accounts for Year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/227)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Education for Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/229)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS 24 2023-24 Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/228)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS Western Isles Annual Report and Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2024 (SG/2024/226)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Tayside Health Board Annual Report and Accounts For Year Ended 31 March, 2024 (SG/2024/225)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

3 October 2024

Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland Annual Report and Consolidated Accounts for year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/235)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

NHS National Services Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/232)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Public Health Scotland Annual Report & Accounts for the Year to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/233)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Report to the Scottish Parliament in respect of changes to the National Health Service Superannuation and Pension Schemes (Scotland) (SG/2024/238)
laid under section 22(2)(b) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

Revenue Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 – Resource Accounts (RS/2020/02)
laid under the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act 2014

Revenue Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 – Devolved Taxes Accounts (RS/2024/03)
laid under the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act 2014

Scotland's Budget Documents: The 2024-25 Autumn Budget Revision to the Budget (Scotland) Act for the year ending 31 March 2025 (SG/2024/240)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Scotland's Census 2022: Health, disability and unpaid care (SG/2024/184)
laid under Section 4(1) of the Census Act 1920

Scottish Ambulance Service Board Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/231)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The State Hospitals Board for Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/234)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

7 October 2024

Independent Monitoring Authority's Annual Report to the Specialised Committee on Citizens' Rights established under the Withdrawal Agreement and the Joint Committee established under the EEA EFTA Separation Agreement (SG/2024/187)
laid under Paragraph 31 of Schedule 2 to the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020

Registers of Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/161)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Forestry Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/166)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

8 October 2024

Food Standards Scotland: Our Food 2023, An annual review of food standards across the UK (SG/2024/111)

laid under Section 15(6) of the Food (Scotland) Act 2015

9 October 2024

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/124)

laid under Section 14 (8) of the Energy Act 2004 and Section 26 (11) of the Energy Act 2004

10 October 2024

Consultation Draft of Proposed Amendments to Annex A of the JFS (SG/2024/251)

laid under Paragraph 3(1) of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Fisheries Act 2020

Heat in Buildings: Progress report 2024 (SG/2024/145)

laid under Section 62 of Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

National Records of Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/176)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The Scottish Consolidated Fund Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/196)

laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 - Section 20 subsection 6

The Scottish Government Consolidated Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/195)

laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 - Section 20 subsection 6

The 2023/24 audit of the Scottish Government Consolidated Accounts (SG/2024/197)

laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 - Section 20 subsection 6

15 October 2024

Scottish Fiscal Commission Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024 (SFC/2024/6)

laid under section 12(1) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

16 October 2024

Consumer Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (CS/2024/02)

laid under Section 22 (5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

18 October 2024

National Galleries of Scotland, Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements, For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/255)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

National Library of Scotland, Annual Report and Financial Statements, For the year ended 31st March 2024 (SG/2024/256)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

National Museums Scotland, Annual Report and Accounts, For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/254)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Statement Scottish Canals: Fees of Chair and Board Members (SG/2024/262)

laid under paragraph 8 of Schedule 1 to the Transport Act 1962 as amended by Part II of Schedule 2 to the Scotland Act 1998 (Cross-Border Public Authorities) (Adaptation of Functions etc) (No2) Order 2000

21 October 2024

Appointments to Scottish Land Commission: Statement to Scottish Parliament under section 11(4) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 – October 2024 (SG/2024/265)

laid under section 11(4) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016

Historic Environment Scotland Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023-24 (SG/2024/155)

laid under Section 14(3) of Schedule 1 of the Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014

Industrial Development Act 1982 - Annual Report by The Secretary of State for Business and Trade, the First Minister of Scotland, and the Welsh Ministers, For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/185)

laid under Section 15 of the Industrial Development Act 1982

23 October 2024

Health and Care Professions Council Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 SG/2024/241

laid under Articles 44(2) and 46(7) of the Health Professions Order 2001

Health and Care Professions Council Fitness to Practise Annual Report 2023–24 (SG/2024/248)

laid under Article 44(1) of the Health Professions Order 2001

HMICS Custody Inspection report – Argyll and West Dunbartonshire (HMICS/2024/08)

laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

Scottish Sentencing Council Annual Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/263)
laid under section 13(5) of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for October 2024 (SPSO/2024/10)
laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

24 October 2024

Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB) Report of the trustees and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 (SG/2024/27)
laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

Scottish Animal Welfare Commission, Annual report of SAWC activity 2023-2024 (SG/2024/253)
laid under Scottish Animal Welfare Commission Regulations 2020

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Annual Report 2023-24 (SPSO/2024/AR)
laid under sections 17(1) and (3) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023-24: SG/2024/270
laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

25 October 2024

Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland, Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24, Year Ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/252)
laid under Section 10 (3) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

Disclosure Scotland Annual Report and Accounts (SG/2024/247)
laid under sections 20(6) and 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

28 October 2024

Children’s Hearings Scotland Impact Report 2023-2024 (SG/2024/245)
laid under paragraph 21 of schedule 3 of the Children’s Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Children’s Hearings Scotland - Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/244)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Forestry and Land Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/41)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Human Rights Commission, Annual Report and Financial Statements, For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/268)

laid under Section 22 (5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

29 October 2024

Ethical Standards Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/267)

laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

30 October 2024

Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland Annual Report 2023/24 (CES/2024/02)

laid under section 25(1) of the Scottish Parliamentary Commissions and Commissioners etc. Act 2010 as amended

Drug and alcohol services - a report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2024/06)

laid under Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Children's Reporter Administration Annual Report 2023-24 (SG/2024/243)

laid under paragraph 21 of schedule 3 of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Scottish Children's Reporter Administration Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/242)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Futures Trust Investments Limited, Annual Report and Financial Statements, for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/260)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Futures Trust Limited, Annual Report and Accounts, For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/259)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

31 October 2024

Environmental Standards Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (ESS/2024/01)

laid under the UK Withdrawal for the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

Report of a review of the retention of biometric data provided for under sections 18 to 19C of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 (SBC/2024/02)

laid under Section 20(2) and 20(3) of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioners Act 2020

The Scottish Civil Estate 2023-24, The fourteenth report on the performance and environmental sustainability of the Scottish Civil Estate (SG/2024/208)
laid under Section 76 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Statutory Report on the use of Continuity Act Power, Report by the Scottish ministers in exercise of the power in section 1(1) of the UK withdrawal from the European Union (continuity) (Scotland) act 2021 for the reporting period 1 September 2023 – 31 August 2024 and the intended future use of the power under section 1(1) in the upcoming reporting period 1 September 2024-31 August 2025 (SG/2024/276)
laid under section 11(1)(a) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

TS Prestwick Holdco Ltd Annual Report and Financial Statements 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/246)
laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2023-24 (SHRC/2024/01)
laid under Section 15 of the Scottish Commission for Human Rights Act 2006

1 November 2024

Scottish Government Response to SCoSS Recommendations: The Disability Assistance (Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance) Regulations 2025 SG/2024/277
laid under section 97(9) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Supplementary Costing - Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance - November 2024 (SFC/2024/7)
laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

4 November 2024

HMICS Thematic inspection of road policing in Scotland (HMICS/2024/09)
laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

Scottish Parliamentary Pension Scheme Annual Accounts and Report 2023/24 (SPCPF/2024/01)
laid under Schedule 1, Part S, Rule 102 (2) (b) of the Scottish Parliamentary Pensions Act 2009

The Scottish Road Works Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/114)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

6 November 2024

Scottish Legal Aid Board Annual Report and Accounts, For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/167)
laid under Section 5(7) of the Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986 and Section 22(5) of the Public Accountability and Finance (Scotland) Act 2000

11 November 2024

Bòrd na Gàidhlig Aithisg Bhliadhnail is Cunntasan Annual Report & Accounts 23-24 (SG/2024/285)

laid under paragraph 9 of schedule 1 of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Sentencing Council Business Plan 2024-27 (SG/2024/264)

laid under section 12(7) of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010

12 November 2024

Social Security Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/81)

laid under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 and Part 15 The Companies Act 2006

Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 - Progress Report 2023-2024 (SG/2024/275)

laid under section 20 and section 87 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

13 November 2024

Sportscotland National Lottery Distribution Fund Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/250)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Sportscotland Group Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/249)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

14 November 2024

Ending Homelessness Together: Annual report to the Scottish Parliament, November 2024 (SG/2024/288)

laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland Annual Report 2023-2024 (SG/2024/273)

laid under Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008, Chapter 3, Section 18

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Annual Reports and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/274)

laid under Section 42A (1) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service 2023/24 Annual Audit Report (SG/2024/282)

laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

15 November 2024

UHI Inverness College Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 (SG/2024/69)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

UHI Moray College Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 (SG/2024/63)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

UHI Perth College Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 (SG/2024/66)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

18 November 2024

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Spotlight on the impact of Scottish Welfare Fund High Most Compelling priority rating (SPSO/2024/HMC)

laid under section 17(4) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

19 November 2024

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/272)

laid under section 26 of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000

Police Investigations and Review Commissioner Annual Report & Accounts 2023/2024 (SG/2024/257)

laid under Section 43(5) of the Police Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2006

Scottish Funding Council Annual Report and Accounts for 2023-24 (SG/2024/280)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Statement on the Effectiveness of Environmental Governance Arrangements (SG/2024/279)

laid under Section 41 (6) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

20 November 2024

Scottish Legal Complaints Commission Annual Report 2023-2024 (SG/2024/181)

laid under Section 16 (4), Schedule 1 of the Legal Profession and Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 2007

Scottish Legal Complaints Commission Annual Accounts and Financial Statements Year ended 30 June 2024 (SG/2024/182)

laid under section 15(2) of Schedule 1 to the Legal Profession and Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 2007 and section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability Act 2000

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for November 2024 (SPSO/2024/11)

laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

21 November 2024

Financial sustainability and reform in Scotland: A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2024/7)

laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

22 November 2024

Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited, Annual Report and Accounts For the Year to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/203)

laid before the Scottish Parliament by a member of the Scottish Government under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

26 November 2024

Scottish Police Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/286)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Security Industry Authority Annual Report & Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/139)

laid under Paragraph 17(3) of Schedule 1 to the Private Security Industry Act 2001

The United Kingdom Sports Council Grant-in-Aid and National Lottery Distribution Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24, For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/271)

laid under Scotland Act 1998 section 88

27 November 2024

Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland, Annual Report 2023/2024 (SG/2024/305)

laid under paragraph 14(3) of Schedule 2 to the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003

Scotland's Population 2023 - The Registrar General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends (SG/2024/278)

laid under Section 1(4) of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965

2 December 2024

NHS in Scotland 2024: Finance and performance A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2024/8)

laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

3 December 2024

Scottish Environment Protection Agency: Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/266)

laid under Section 46 of the Environment Act 1995 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Law Commission, Report on Damages for Personal Injury (SG/2024/301)
laid under Section 3(2) of the Law Commissions Act 1965

4 December 2024

Carbon Assessment of the 2025-26 Budget (SG/2024/309)
laid under Section 94 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Scotland's Fiscal and Economic Forecasts– December 2024 (SFC/2024/8)
laid under section 5(2) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

Scottish Budget 2025-26 (SG/2024/6)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government

9 December 2024

Community Justice Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/178)
laid under Section 11(4) of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016

Highlands and Islands Enterprise Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/199)
laid under Section 30 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990

10 December 2024

Food Standards Scotland: Annual Report & Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/73)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The 2023/24 audit of the Water Industry Commission for Scotland (SG/2024/302)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Water Industry Commission for Scotland - Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/281)
laid under Section 5(4) of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

11 December 2024

Accountant in Bankruptcy Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/122)
laid under Section 200(3) of the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 2016 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

12 December 2024

Aithisg Bhliadhnail agus Cunntasan Puirt-adhair na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean Earranta gu 31 Mart 2024 (SG/2024/269)
laid under section 34 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982

Annual report to Parliament on the monitoring programme for transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) - 2023 (SG/2024/310)

laid under Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001

Cairngorms National Park Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/284)
laid under section 26(5) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 and section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Civil Service Commission Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/308)
laid under paragraph 16 schedule 1 and paragraph 17 schedule 1 of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010

Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) Annual Report and Accounts For the year ending 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/90)
laid under Section 8 of the Industrial Training Act 1982

Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL) Annual Report and Accounts to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/239)
laid under section 34 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982

The Sea Fish Industry Authority Annual Report & Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/304)
laid under Section 11(8) of the Fisheries Act 1981

13 December 2024

Architecture & Design Scotland Annual Report and Accounts For the Year Ending 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/307)
laid under Section 19(4) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

National Records of Scotland: Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011 - Report by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland 2023-2024 (SG/2024/261)
laid under Section 12 of the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011

16 December 2024

Children Hearing's Scotland: ‘The Feedback Loop’ - A Report by the National Convener on the implementation of Compulsory Supervision Orders (under section 181 of the Children’s Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011) for 2023-24 (SG/2024/313)
laid under Section 181 of the Children’s Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Committee on Climate Change: Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/287)
laid under Paragraph 22(2)(b) of Schedule 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008

Crown Estate Scotland Annual Report and Accounts to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/58)
laid under Section 22(5a) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Social Services Council Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/258)

laid under Schedule 2, Section 10(1) of the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

VisitScotland Group Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/295)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

17 December 2024

The 2023/24 Audit of Ferguson Marine Port Glasgow (Holdings) Limited (SG/2024/315)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Care Inspectorate Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/78)

laid under Schedule 11 Section 15(2) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Creative Scotland Group Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/292)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Creative Scotland National Lottery Distribution Fund Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/293)

laid under Section 34 of the National Lottery etc. Act 1993 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Holdings Limited Annual Report and Financial Statements 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/314)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Land Commission, Annual Report and Accounts 2023-2024 (SG/2024/312)

laid under Section 20(2)(c) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/291)

laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scotland's Census 2022: General Report December 2024 (SG/2024/296)

laid under Section 4 (1) of the Census Act 1920

18 December 2024

British Film Institute Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2023/24 (SG/2024/236)

laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

Caledonian Sleeper Limited Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/294)
laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Response to Rural Affairs and Islands Committee Letter and Recommendations - Amendments to Annex A of the Joint Fisheries Statement (SG/2024/135)
laid under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 of the Fisheries Act 2020

ScotRail Trains Limited Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/290)
laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Water 2024 Interim Report and Accounts: Performance and Prospects For the six months to September 2024 (SG/2024/283)
laid under Section 57(8) of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002

Scottish Rail Holdings Limited Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/289)
laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for December 2024 (SPSO/2024/12)
laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

United Kingdom Anti-Doping Limited Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/303)
laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

19 December 2024

Argyll Ferries Limited SC391762 Directors Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/300)
laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

CalMac Ferries Limited SC302282 Strategic Report, Directors' Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/298)
laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

David MacBrayne Limited SCO15304 Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/297)
laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

David MacBrayne HR (UK) Limited SC282760 Directors' Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 (SG/2024/299)

laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Marine Protected Area Network 2024 Report to the Scottish Parliament (SG/2024/306)
laid under Section 103 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and Section 124 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009

NatureScot Scotland's Nature Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/65)
laid under section 10 of the Natural Heritage (Scotland) Act 1991

Redress Scotland Annual report and Accounts 2023/2024 (SG/2024/311)
laid under Section 17 of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021

Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)’s Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2024/62)
laid under Section 11(3) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1996 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

20 December 2024

NHS Pension Scheme (Scotland) Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/211)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Public Pensions Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/210)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Teachers Pension Scheme Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2024/212)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Young Start Annual Report 2023/24 (SG/2024/316)
laid under Paragraph 9, Part 3, Schedule 3 of the Dormant Bank and Building Society Accounts Act 2008

7 January 2025

General Pharmaceutical Council - Strategic plan 2020-25: year five (SG/2025/11)
laid under paragraph 8 of schedule 1 of the Pharmacy Order 2010

Mitigating the two-child limit and the Scottish budget - January 2025 (SFC/2025/1)
laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

13 January 2025

Competition and Markets Authority Draft Annual Plan 2025 to 2026: Promoting Competition and Protecting Consumers to Drive Growth, Opportunity, and Prosperity for the UK (CMA/2025/01)

laid under the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013, Schedule 4 s13(2)(b)

15 January 2025

Administration of Scottish income tax 2023-24 (SG/2025/6)

laid under section 80HA of the Scotland Act 1998 as amended by the Finance Act 2014

17 January 2025

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: The Social Security (Up-rating) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SCoSS/2025/01)

laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

20 January 2025

Third Annual Statement Under Section 2(8) and 2(9) of the Forensic Medical Services (Victims Of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021 (SG/2025/1)

laid under Section 2(8) of the Forensic Medical Services (Victims of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021

21 January 2025

Ofgem Annual Report and Accounts - Scotland foreword 2023-24 (SG/2025/14)

laid under section 5 of the Utilities Act 2000

Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem) Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2025/7)

laid under section 5 of the Utilities Act 2000

22 January 2025

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for January 2025 (SPSO/2025/01)

laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

23 January 2025

British Wool Marketing Board - Report on the BWMB Agricultural Marketing Scheme 2023-24 (SG/2025/19)

laid under Section 30 of the Agricultural Marketing Act 1958

A decade of care: A corporate parenting update from Scottish Ministers 2021-2024 (SG/2025/5)

laid under section 65 Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

24 January 2025

The Scottish Ministers response to the Scottish Commission on Social Security Recommendations on the Up-rating Regulations 2025 (SG/2025/16)

laid under section 97(9)(a) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Social Security Assistance in Scotland - Up-rating for Inflation in 2025-26 (SG/2025/17)
laid under section 86A(1)(c) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

29 January 2025

Sustainable transport - A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2025/1)
laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

30 January 2025

Scotland's Budget Documents: The 2024-25 Spring Budget Revision to the Budget (Scotland) Act for the year ending 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/22)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

4 February 2025

The Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025 – Report by the Scottish Ministers (SG/2025/26)
laid under paragraph 2(3) of schedule 12 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Scottish Local Government Finance Statistics 2023-24 (SG/2025/8)
laid under Section 118 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

5 February 2025

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations - The Social Security (Best Start Grants, Best Start Foods, Funeral Support Payment, Scottish Child Payment, Information-sharing, Winter Heating Payment and Pension Age Winter Heating Payment) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SCoSS/2025/01)
laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

7 February 2025

National Marine Plan Review: 3 Year Report on the Effectiveness of Scotland's National Marine Plan (SG/2025/20)
laid under Section 61 of the Marine Coastal Access Act 2009

10 February 2025

The Scottish Ministers response to the Scottish Commission on Social Security Recommendations on the Up-rating Regulations 2025 (SG/2025/30)
laid under section 97(9)(a) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

The Scottish Ministers response to the Scottish Commission on Social Security Recommendations on the Up-rating Regulations 2025 (SG/2025/16) which was laid on 24 January was withdrawn on 10 February 2025

17 February 2025

Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner: Strategic Plan 2024 to 2026 (SG/2025/33)
laid under Section 42, clause 11 (a) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015

Scottish Law Commission: Report on the Tenancy of Shops (Scotland) Act 1949 (SG/2025/23)
laid under Section 3(2) of the Law Commissions Act 1965

19 February 2025

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for February 2025 (SPSO/2025/02)
laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

26 February 2025

Additional support for learning: A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2025/2)
laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

A joint assurance review on the acquisition, retention, use and destruction of DNA for criminal justice and police purposes in Scotland (SBC/2025/01)
laid under Section 20(2) Scottish Biometrics Commissioners Act 2020

Northern Lighthouse Board Annual Report and Accounts to 31 March 2024 (SG/2025/38)
laid under Section 218 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995

27 February 2025

Press Recognition Panel Annual report on the recognition system 27 February 2025 (SG/2025/27)
laid under paragraph 10.b of Schedule 2 of the Royal Charter on Self-Regulation of the Press

28 February 2025

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: The Carer's Assistance (Young Carer Grant and Carer Support Payment) (Miscellaneous Amendment and Saving Provision) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SCoSS/2025/03)
laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Wildlife Crime in Scotland 2023 (SG/2025/24)
laid under Section 20 of the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011

3 March 2025

Scottish Hospitals Inquiry Interim Report: The Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Edinburgh 2025 (SG/2025/18)
laid under section 26 of the Inquiries Act 2005

5 March 2025

HMICS Custody Inspection Report – Greater Glasgow (HMICS/2025/01)
laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

6 March 2025

Report to the Scottish Parliament in Respect of Changes to the Police Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 2015 (SG/2025/41)
laid under Section 22 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

10 March 2025

OECD Review of Scottish Fiscal Commission 2025 (SFC/2025/2)
laid under section 13(4)(b) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

11 March 2025

HMICS Scrutiny plan 2025-28 (HMICS/2025/02)
laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

12 March 2025

Animal Health Act 1981: Expenditure and Prosecutions – 2024 (SG/2025/15)
laid under Section 80 of the Animal Health Act 1981

17 March 2025

Disclosure Scotland Code of Practice (SG/2025/42)
laid under section 55 of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

19 March 2025

Glasgow Low Emission Zone Annual Report 2024 (GCC/2025/01)
laid under Section 29(1) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for March 2025 (SPSO/2025/03)
laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

25 March 2025

Electoral Management Board for Scotland Annual Report 2023/24 (EMBS/2025/03)
laid under section 8(2) of the Local Electoral Administration (Scotland) Act 2011

A Joint assurance review of the use of retrospective facial search technologies for criminal justice and police purposes in Scotland (SBC/2025/02)
laid under Section 20(2) of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioners Act 2020

Scottish Law Commission Annual Report 2024 (SG/2025/44)
laid under section 3(3) of the Law Commissions Act 1965

26 March 2025

3rd Annual Report: Developments in the UK Internal Market 2024-2025 (OIM/2025/04)
laid under section 33 of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020

Consumer Scotland Work Programme 2025-2026 (CS/2025/01)
laid under the Consumer Scotland Act 2020 subsection (4) section 14

General practice: Progress since the 2018 General Medical Services contract: A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland (AGS/2025/3)
laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

27 March 2025

Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 – Yearly report on the use of Section 28 - to take a child under 12 to a place of safety (SG/2025/72)
laid under Section 32 of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019

Competition and Markets Authority Annual Plan 2025 to 2026: Promoting Competition and Protecting Consumers to Drive Growth, Opportunity, and Prosperity for the UK (CMA/2025/02)
laid under Schedule 4 s13(2)(b) of the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013

Fifteenth Annual Report on the Operation of Section 72 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (SG/2025/31)
laid under Section 73 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

28 March 2025

The Environment Strategy for Scotland: Progress report on Environment Strategy March 2025 (SG/2025/68)
laid under Section 47(12) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

Police Service of Scotland Annual Police Plan 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026 (PSOS/2025/001)
laid under section 35 of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

Scottish Canals - Annual Report & Accounts 2023/24 (SG/2025/12)
laid under section 24(3) of the Transport Act 1962 and under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: The Social Security (Cross-border Provision, Case Transfer and Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SCoSS/2025/04)
laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: The Carer's Assistance (Young Carer Grant and Carer Support Payment) (Miscellaneous Amendment and Saving Provision) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 – additional provision (SCoSS/2025/05)
laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

31 March 2025

Community Justice Outcome Activity Annual Report 2023-2024 (SG/2025/29)
laid under Section 27 of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016

Community Justice Scotland: Community Payback Order Summary of Local Authority Annual Reports 2023-24 (SG/2025/28)
laid under Section 227ZM of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995

National Islands Plan: Annual Report 2024 (SG/2025/32)
laid under section 5 of the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018

Tackling Fuel Poverty in Scotland: Periodic Report 2021-2024 (SG/2025/37)
laid under Section 11(b) of the Fuel Poverty (Targets, Definition and Strategy) (Scotland) Act 2019

"This is our lives...it matters a lot.": Putting children's rights at the heart of education (CCYP/2025/01)
laid under Section 12 of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

1 April 2025

Animals and Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Act 2020: A review of provisions and requirements for additional Animal Welfare, Animal Health and Wildlife Offences (SG/2025/40)
laid under Section 16 of the Animals and Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Act 2020

Scottish Land Commission Programme of Work April 2025 - September 2026 (SG/2025/67)
laid under Section 9(3)(b) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016

3 April 2025

Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: Winter Heating Assistance (Pension Age) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SCoSS/2025/06)
laid under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

4 April 2025

Annual Report on Procurement Activity in Scotland: An overview of procurement activity 2022 – 2023 (SG/2025/71)
laid under Section 21(4)(b) of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Scrutiny report on: People with communication needs and the Scottish social security system: fulfilling the expectations of 'Our Charter' (SCoSS/2025/07)
laid under section 22 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

7 April 2025

Parole Board for Scotland Annual Report 2023/24 (SG/2025/34)
laid under Schedule 2, paragraph 6 of the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993

8 April 2025

The Electoral Commission Corporate Plan (ELC/2025/01)
laid under Schedule 1, Paragraph 15A of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

Fiscal Sustainability Report - April 2025 (SFC/2025/3)
laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

11 April 2025

Scottish Biometrics Commissioner – Revised Strategic Plan (SBC/2025/03)
laid under Section 28(4) of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioners Act 2020

22 April 2025

Ayrshire College Board of Management Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/46)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Borders College Annual Report and Financial Statement 2023/24 (SG/2025/47)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Dumfries and Galloway College Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/49)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Dundee and Angus College Report and Financial Statements For the Year ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/50)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Edinburgh College Annual Report and Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/51)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Fife College Annual Accounts For the year ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/52)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Forth Valley College of Further and Higher Education Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/53)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

23 April 2025

City of Glasgow College Annual Report and Accounts 2023-24 (SG/2025/48)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Glasgow Clyde College Annual Report and Financial Statements for Year Ending 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/54)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Glasgow Colleges Regional Board Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2023-24 (SG/2025/55)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Glasgow Kelvin College Annual Report & Financial Statements 2023 - 2024 (SG/2025/56)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

HM Fire Service Inspectorate in Scotland - The Chief Inspector's Plan 2025-2028 (SG/2025/83)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

North East Scotland College Financial Statements for the year to 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/59)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

UHI Moray Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/58)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

24 April 2025

New College Lanarkshire Regional Financial Statements Year Ended: 31st July 2024 (SG/2025/66)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

South Lanarkshire College Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st July 2024 (SG/2025/65)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

UHI Inverness College Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/64)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

West College Scotland Annual Accounts and Financial Statements (SG/2025/62)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

West Lothian College Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024 (SG/2025/63)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

25 April 2025

Scottish Legal Complaints Commission Budget 01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026 (SLCC/2025/01)

laid under section 29(10) of the Legal Profession and Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 2007

30 April 2025

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium Investigations Reports and Report of Discontinued Investigations (SPSO/2025/04)

laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for April 2025

Volume 1 of 4: Investigation Report

- 202309999, Scottish Ambulance Service

Volume 2 of 4: Investigation Report

- 202301375, Forth Valley NHS Board

- 202306732, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership

Volume 3 of 4: Report of Discontinued Investigations PSC

Volume 4 of 4: Report of Discontinued Investigations INWO

The Scottish Ministers response to the Scottish Commission on Social Security Recommendations on the Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SG/2025/90)

laid before the Scottish Parliament under section 97(9)(a) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

1 May 2025

Final Outturn Report for the Scottish Budget 2023-2024 (SG/2025/84)

laid under Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 - Section 20 subsection 6

7 May 2025

The North Highland College Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 (SG/2025/4)

laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

8 May 2025

Scottish Discretionary Housing Payments guidance manual Updated April 2025 (SG/2025/43)

laid under Part 5, Section 91 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Annex E: Committee Reports

The following reports were published on the dates indicated—

14 May 2024

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 5th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 (SP Paper 581)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 35th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill, as amended at Stage 2 (SP Paper 586)

15 May 2024

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 2nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Additional Support for Learning inquiry (SP Paper 585)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 36th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 14 May 2024 (SP Paper 584)

17 May 2024

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Transport Partnerships (Transfer of Functions) (Scotland) Order 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 592)

22 May 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 37th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 21st May 2024 (SP Paper 593)

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 4th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 21 May 2024 (SP Paper 594)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 10th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Health, Social Care, and Sport Committee 2023-24 (SP Paper 590)

23 May 2024

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 6th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee on 23 May 2024 (SP paper 589)

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Complaint against Michael Matheson MSP (SP Paper 597)

28 May 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 38th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual report of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee 2023- 24 (SP Paper 571)

29 May 2024

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 3rd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Child Friendly Complaints Handling Principles (SP Paper 598)

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 5th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee for 2023-24 (SP Paper 599)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 39th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 28th May 2024 (SP Paper 601)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Social Justice and Social Security Committee 2023 to 2024 (SP Paper 602)

30 May 2024

Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee, 1st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee 2023/24 (SP Paper 607)

Public Audit Committee, 2nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report 2023/24 (SP Paper 595)

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual report 2023-24 (SP Paper 603)

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered on 1 May 2024 (SP Paper 604)

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 4th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report 2023-24 (SP Paper 609)

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 2nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee (SP Paper 610)

31 May 2024

Criminal Justice Committee, 5th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Criminal Justice Committee 2023-24 (SP Paper 608)

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 4th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Education, Children and Young People Committee 2023 - 2024 (SP Paper 600)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 6th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Finance and Public Administration Committee 2023-24 (SP Paper 605)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee (SP Paper 611)

3 June 2024

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 11th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee on 21 May 2024 (SP Paper 591)

4 June 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 40th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 4th June 2024 (SP Paper 612)

6 June 2024

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 6th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Economy and Fair Work Committee on 5 June 2024 (SP Paper 614)

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Economy and Fair Work Committee on 5 June 2024 (SP Paper 615)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee on 30 May 2024 (SP Paper 617)

10 June 2024

Public Audit Committee, 3rd Report, 2024 (Session 6): The 2022/23 audit of the Scottish Prison Service (SP Paper 613)

11 June 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 42nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 619)

12 June 2024

Criminal Justice Committee, 6th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Early Release of Prisoners and Prescribed Victim Supporters (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 618)

14 June 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 43rd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on the Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 620)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 44th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 621)

18 June 2024

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 3rd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill (SP Paper 622)

20 June 2024

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 9th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Document subject to parliamentary control considered on 06 June 2024 (SP Paper 623)

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 4th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Standing Order rule changes – Procedures on consent in relation to UK Parliament Bills (SP Paper 627)

21 June 2024

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Post-legislative scrutiny of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 (SP Paper 624)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 46th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Circular Economy (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 628)

26 June 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 48th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Instruments considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee during the fourth quarter of the Parliamentary Year 2023-24 (SP Paper 630)

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 5th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) (Amendment) Order 2024 (SP Paper 631)

2 July 2024

Criminal Justice Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill Stage 1 Report (SP Paper 633)

24 July 2024

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 5th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Scottish Languages Bill - Stage 1 Report (SP Paper 634)

Please note that this report has also been published in Gaelic - SP Paper 634 (Gaelic) – and in Scots – SP Paper 634 (Scots)

4 September 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 49th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 3rd September 2024 (SP Paper 636)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 50th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Housing (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 637)

9 September 2024

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 12th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Post-legislative scrutiny of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013: Phase 2 (SP Paper 638)

10 September 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 51st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 10th September 2024 (SP Paper 640)

12 September 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 52nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 643)

16 September 2024

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on Scotland's Commissioner Landscape: A Strategic Approach (SP Paper 642)

18 September 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 53rd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 17th September 2024 (SP Paper 644)

19 September 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 54th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 646)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 10th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Environmental Protection (Single-Use Vapes) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (draft) (SP Paper 648)

20 September 2024

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 10th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on Housing (Scotland) Bill: Part 5 (homelessness prevention) and Part 6 (other housing matters – fuel poverty) (SP Paper 645)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 55th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 647)

24 September 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 56th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 24th September 2024 (SP Paper 649)

25 September 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 57th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Work of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee 2023-24 (SP Paper 650)

27 September 2024

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): report on the Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 651)

2 October 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 58th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 1st October 2024 (SP Paper 652)

3 October 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 59th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Education (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 655)

4 October 2024

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 11th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Stage 1 report on the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 656)

7 October 2024

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 13th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Remote and Rural Healthcare Inquiry (SP Paper 654)

9 October 2024

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 12th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (SP Paper 657)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 60th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 8 October 2024 (SP Paper 658)

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 6th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee on 8 October 2024 (SP Paper 659)

14 October 2024

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 14th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Pre-Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 (SP Paper 663)

21 October 2024

Criminal Justice Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): The Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Act 2022 (Extension of Temporary Justice Measures) Regulations 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 662)

22 October 2024

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 13th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (Amendment) Order 2024 (draft) (SP Paper 665)

25 October 2024

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 14th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on Environmental Standards Scotland's Investigation into Climate Change Delivery (SP Paper 666)

28 October 2024

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 10th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on 9 October 2024 (SP Paper 667)

29 October 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 61st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 29th October 2024 (SP Paper 670)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 15th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee report on the Local Services Franchises (Traffic Commissioner Notices and Panels) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SP Paper 671)

30 October 2024

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee on 29 October 2024 (SP Paper 672)

1 November 2024

Citizen Participation and Public Participation Committee, 2nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Inquiry into A9 Dualling Project (SP Paper 669)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 62nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 673)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 63rd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 674)

4 November 2024

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 15th Report, 2024 (Session 6): National Performance Framework: proposed National Outcomes considered by the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee (SP Paper 675)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the Scotland Act 1998 (Specification of Devolved Tax) (Building Safety) Order 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 676)

5 November 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 64th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 5th November 2024 (SP Paper 677)

7 November 2024

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 11th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on 30 October 2024 (SP Paper 679)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 9th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on Pre-Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 – Managing Scotland's Public Finances: A Strategic Approach (SP Paper 678)

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 6th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on planning regulations considered on 29 October 2024 (SP Paper 680)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 11th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee on 31 October 2024 (SP Paper 681)

12 November 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 65th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 12th November 2024 (SP Paper 682)

14 November 2024

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Housing (Scotland) Bill Stage 1 Report (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 684)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 13th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee on 7 November 2024 (SP Paper 686)

15 November 2024

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report tracking the work of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee 2023-24 (SP Paper 687)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 10th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on the National Performance Framework: Review of National Outcomes (SP Paper 685)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 66th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 688)

20 November 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 67th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Instruments considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee during the first quarter of the Parliamentary Year 2024-25 (SP Paper 690)

21 November 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 68th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 19 November 2024 (SP Paper 689)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 69th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Renters' Rights Bill (SP Paper 691)

26 November 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 70th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 26th November 2024 (SP Paper 692)

27 November 2024

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 12th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Interim report on petition PE1758: End greyhound racing in Scotland (SP Paper 693)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 71st Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 694)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 11th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Budget (Scotland) Act 2024 Amendment Regulations 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 695)

28 November 2024

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 14th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee on 21 November 2024 (SP Paper 698)

3 December 2024

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 13th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on 20 November 2024 (SP Paper 696)

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 6th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Education (Scotland) Bill - Stage 1 Report (SP Paper 697)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 72nd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 700)

4 December 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 73rd Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 3 December 2024 (SP Paper 701)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 16th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee report on the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2024 (SP Paper 702)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 17th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee report on the Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 703)

5 December 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 74th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill (SP Paper 704)

10 December 2024

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 8th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on the Disability Commissioner (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 705)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 75th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 706)

11 December 2024

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 7th Report, 2024 (Session 6): The Regulated Roles (Prohibitions and Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] (SP Paper 699)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 76th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 10 December 2024 (SP Paper 708)

12 December 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 77th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 707)

17 December 2024

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 78th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 17 December 2024 (SP Paper 709)

18 December 2024

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 16th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee on 10 December 2024 (SP Paper 710)

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 9th Report, 2024 (Session 6): Report on a Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) for the Renters' Rights Bill (SP Paper 711)

6 January 2025

Criminal Justice Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Criminal Justice Committee on 18 December 2024 (SP Paper 714)

7 January 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 7th January 2025 (SP Paper 713)

8 January 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Budget (Scotland) (No.4) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 715)

10 January 2025

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Additional Amount: Transactions relating to second homes etc.) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 (SP Paper 716)

13 January 2025

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill (SP Paper 717)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 718)

14 January 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 14 January 2025 (SP Paper 719)

17 January 2025

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Follow-up inquiry into salmon farming in Scotland (SP Paper 720)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 5th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Land Reform (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 721)

20 January 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 6th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Data (Use and Access) Bill (SP Paper 723)

21 January 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 7th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 21 January 2025 (SP Paper 724)

22 January 2025

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): A report by the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee on the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (Amendment) Order 2025 (SP Paper 727)

24 January 2025

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on 22 January 2025 (SP Paper 726)

28 January 2025

Criminal Justice Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Report on the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 729)

29 January 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 8th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 28 January 2025 (SP Paper 728)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 (SP Paper 730)

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Data (Use and Access) Bill (SP Paper 731)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 9th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Instruments considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee during the second quarter of the Parliamentary Year 2024-25 (SP Paper 732)

31 January 2025

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Post-legislative scrutiny of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 (SP Paper 733)

4 February 2025

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill - Stage 1 (SP Paper 734)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 10th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 4 February 2025 (SP Paper 735)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee Report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum and supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill (SP Paper 736)

7 February 2025

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Report on subordinate legislation considered by the Economy and Fair Work Committee on 29 January and 5 February 2025 (SP Paper 737)

18 February 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 11th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 18 February 2025 (SP Paper 738)

19 February 2025

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee Report on a further supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Great British Energy Bill (SP Paper 739)

24 February 2025

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on 19 February 2025 (SP Paper 740)

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Committee on 19 February 2025 (SP Paper 741)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 12th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Leases (Automatic Continuation etc.) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 742)

25 February 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 13th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 25 February 2025 (SP Paper 743)

26 February 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 14th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Scottish Languages Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 744)

28 February 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 15th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Tobacco and Vapes Bill (SP Paper 745)

4 March 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 17th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 4 March 2025 (SP Paper 746)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 16th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Employment Rights Bill (SP Paper 747)

6 March 2025

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Economy and Fair Work Committee on 5 March (SP Paper 748)

11 March 2025

Criminal Justice Committee, 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Stage 1 report - Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 749).

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 18th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 11 March 2025 (SP Paper 750)

12 March 2025

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Scottish Landfill Tax (Standard Rate and Lower Rate) Order 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 751)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee on 6 March 2025 (SP Paper 752)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): The Community Care (Personal Care and Nursing Care) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 753)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee report on the Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2025 (SP Paper 754)

14 March 2025

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): The Public Appointments and Public Bodies etc. (Scotland) Act 2003 (Treatment of Qualifications Scotland as Specified Authority) Order 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 756)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Part 2 Further Extension) Order 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 757)

17 March 2025

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 5th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Budget (Scotland) Act 2024 Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 758)

18 March 2025

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19 March 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 20th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Instruments considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee during the third quarter of the Parliamentary Year 2024-25 (SP Paper 759)

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21 March 2025

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on 19 March 2025 (SP Paper 763)

24 March 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 21st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Inquiry into Framework Legislation and Henry VIII powers (SP Paper 762)

27 March 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 22nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 25 March 2025 (SP Paper 765)

1 April 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 23rd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 1 April 2025 (SP Paper 767)

7 April 2025

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): The Social Security Information-sharing (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 768)

15 April 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 24th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Supplementary Delegated powers in the Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 766)

22 April 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 25th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 22 April 2025 (SP Paper 769)

23 April 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 26th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Dog Theft (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 (SP Paper 771)

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29 April 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 28th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 29 April 2025 (SP Paper 773)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 27th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers relevant to Scotland in the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill (SP Paper 775)

30 April 2025

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 770)

6 May 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 29th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers exercisable within devolved competence conferred on Scottish Ministers in the Tobacco and Vapes Bill on 29 April 2025 (SP Paper 776)

7 May 2025

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 30th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 6 May 2025 (SP Paper 777)

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 6th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation: The Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Group Relief and Sub-sale Development Relief Modifications) (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft] (SP Paper 778)

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