



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of Parliamentary Bureau meeting

03 March 2026

Present:

- Alison Johnstone (Chair)
- Graeme Dey
- Martin Whitfield
- Sharon Dowe
- Lorna Slater
- Willie Rennie

Also attended:

- Annabelle Ewing
- Rona Mackay

Apologies:

- Liam McArthur
- Tim Eagle

Officials present:

- David McGill
- Callum Thomson
- Tracey White
- Irene Fleming
- Katy Orr
- Mark Brough
- Sigrid Robinson
- Lucy Scharbert
- Katrina Venters
- David Millett
- Jason Nairn
- Fran Iwanyckyj
- Jennifer Griffin
- Gail Grant
- Samantha Currie
- Olivia Hynd
- Matthew Linden

Agenda item 1 – Previous minutes and matters arising

1. The Bureau agreed the minutes of its meeting on 24 February 2026.

Agenda item 2 – Business Programme

2. The Bureau agreed a revised programme of business for the week beginning 2 March and agreed a programme of business for the weeks beginning 9 March and 16 March 2026.
3. Business Managers agreed to schedule an additional Bureau meeting to take place on Thursday 5 March at a time to be confirmed.
4. Business Managers noted that Members' Business for the week commencing 2 March would be —
 - Tuesday 3 March: Jackie Baillie: Recognising the Pressures Facing A & E Departments.
 - Wednesday 4 March: Jackie Dunbar: Banking Charges for Charities and Not-for-Profit Organisations.
 - Thursday 5 March: Jeremy Balfour: Recognising Lived Experience and Strengthening Disabled People's Representation in Scottish Democracy.

Agenda item 3 – Correspondence

5. Business Managers noted the response from the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee to the referral back of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Bill to that Committee.
6. Business Managers considered and agreed draft correspondence to the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee in relation to the Ecocide (Scotland) Bill.

Agenda item 4 – Approval of SSIs

7. Business Managers noted that motions to approve the following instruments would be lodged —
 - Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities) (Scottish Inshore Region) Amendment Order 2026
 - Conservation of Habitats and Species (Offshore Wind) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2026
 - Budget (Scotland) Act 2025 Amendment Regulations 2026
 - National Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Order 2026
 - Legal Aid and Advice and Assistance (Fees) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026
 - Care Home Services (Visits to and by Care Home Residents) (Scotland) Regulations 2026
 - Community Care (Personal Care and Nursing Care) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2026

- Early Removal of Prisoners from the United Kingdom (Amendment of Specified Time Periods) (Scotland) Order 2026
 - Social Security Up-rating (Scotland) Order 2026
 - Social Security (Up-rating) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2026
8. Lorna Slater reserved her party's position on the Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities) (Scottish Inshore Region) Amendment Order 2026. Sharon Dowey reserved her party's position on the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Offshore Wind) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2026.

Agenda item 5 – Referral of LCMs

9. Business Managers agreed to recommend under Rule 9B3.5 of Standing Orders that the Parliament designate:
- The Criminal Justice Committee as the lead committee in consideration of the supplementary LCM on the Northern Ireland Troubles Bill (UK Legislation).
 - the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee as the lead committee in consideration of the supplementary LCM on the Railways Bill.
 - the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee as the lead committee in consideration of the second supplementary LCM on the Tobacco and Vapes Bill.

Agenda item 6 – Removal of motions from the Business Bulletin

10. Business Managers agreed to retain the following motions from the Business Bulletin:
- S6M-20371 David Torrance – Kirkcaldy YMCA Marks Milestone 140th anniversary
 - S6M-20434 Kenneth Gibson – Towards the Fourth Anniversary of Russia's Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine
 - S6M-Fulton MacGregor – Awareness and Support for People Affected by PANS and PANDAS Scotland
 - S6M-20497 Brian Whittle – Sport and Activity as a Force for Good

Agenda item 7 – Suspension of Standing Orders rule

11. Business Managers agreed to recommend to the Parliament by motion that Rule 9.5.3A of Standing Orders be suspended for the purposes of consideration of the Visitor Levy (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill and noted that the motion would be taken at Decision Time on Tuesday 3 March.

Agenda item 8 – Committee request to meet at the same time as the Parliament

12. Business Managers agreed to recommend to the Parliament that the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee be given permission to meet at the same time as the Chamber on Wednesday 4 March:

- after Portfolio Questions and before Decision Time; and
- after Decision Time, during Members' Business.

13. Business Managers noted that the motion would be taken at Decision Time on Tuesday 3 March.

Agenda item 9 – Committee substitute

14. Business Managers agreed to lodge a motion proposing a committee substitute to the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, and noted that the motion would be taken at Decision Time on Tuesday 3 March, to take effect from that point forward.

Agenda item 10 – Progress of Legislation

15. Business Managers noted the current status of Bills progressing through the Parliament.

Katy Orr
Clerk to the Parliamentary Bureau
March 2026