

Parliamentary Bureau – Approval of Scottish Statutory Instruments

Affirmative Instruments

[Rural Support \(Improvement\) \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#)

1. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

2. Ecological Focus Area activities (EFA) improvements and changes:
To increase the number of businesses required to undertake EFA, increase the area of land managed as EFA and widen the options and choices available for those undertaking EFA.
3. Scottish Suckler Beef Support Scheme (SSBSS) improvements and changes:
To reduce the conditionality requirement faced by smaller businesses claiming support under the SSBSS. This will be achieved by implementing a derogation from the eligibility calving interval conditionality requirement for applicants claiming ten or fewer calves in a scheme year which will come into force on the 1 January 2026 for the 2026 scheme year and subsequent scheme years. To extend the end of the SSBSS application submission period to allow submissions to be made up to 14 January following the end of the relevant calendar year starting with the first extension from 31 December 2025 to 14 January 2026.

Consideration by committee

4. At its meeting on 26 November 2025 the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee agreed (by division: For 7, Against 2, Abstentions 0) to recommend that the above Instrument be approved. [The Committee's report was published on 3 December 2025.](#)

[Sheep Carcase \(Classification and Price Reporting\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#)

5. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Sheep Carcase (Classification and Price Reporting) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

6. To introduce mandatory sheep carcass classification for all licensed sheep slaughterhouses in Scotland that meet the throughput threshold of at least 500

sheep per week as a rolling annual average. Currently, abattoirs processing sheep in Scotland have carried out carcass classification and price reporting on a voluntary basis.

Consideration by committee

7. At its meeting on 26 November 2025 the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee agreed to recommend that the above Instrument be approved. The [Committee's report was published on 3 December 2025](#).

Decision

8. Business Managers are invited to note that the above motions will be lodged.
9. Business Managers should reserve their position if their party intends to speak against or oppose the motions.

Parliamentary Business Team
December 2025