

# Parliamentary Bureau – Meetings of the Parliament Programme of Business

## Introduction

1. The business programme is proposed by the Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans for discussion and agreement by the Parliamentary Bureau.
2. It is anticipated that the Minister for Parliamentary Business will send out the proposed business programme for the weeks commencing 18 and 25 May and 1 June 2026 on Monday afternoon.
3. The Presiding Officer has announced that the selection of the Parliament's nominee for First Minister will take place at 2.00pm on Tuesday 19 May. Once the Bureau has agreed the proposed business programme, a motion to revise business for the remainder of the week will be required. The revised business motion will be taken at the end of business on Tuesday.

## The weekly management of the programme of business

4. Each week, the Minister for Parliamentary Business provides the Bureau with a proposed programme of business on Monday afternoon so that it can be considered by the Bureau at its meeting. The first item of business at the Bureau meeting is the consideration of the business programme.
5. The paper provided by the Minister normally includes the following:
  - The business programme for week 1 (the current week). While this week is an exception because it is the beginning of the Session, the business for week 1 has normally been agreed by the Parliament. Sometimes changes are proposed to the business for week 1, and a revised business motion is lodged and taken by the Parliament to revise business (typically on the Tuesday).
  - The business programme for week 2, which provides detail of the following week's business.
  - An outline business programme for week 3 indicating the type of debates (for example, Scottish Government debate/opposition business/committee debate).
6. A motion setting out the future business programme agreed by the Bureau is lodged after the Bureau meeting and is taken by the Parliament at the end of business on a Wednesday afternoon. Thursday's Business Bulletin then includes this information on future business.
7. Business Managers are invited to note that some items of parliamentary business will be added to the business programme when key decisions relevant to them have been taken, for example the format and cycle of portfolio question times.