



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 12, Session 7

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 11 June 2026

Note: (DT) signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

The meeting opened at 1.30 pm.

- 1. General Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.
- 2. First Minister's Questions (Party Leaders):** Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).
- 3. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Care (Angela Constance) made a statement and answered questions on Improving Maternity Services Across Scotland.
- 4. Public Service Reform: Empowering Staff, Service Users and Local Communities:** The Cabinet Secretary for Public Service Reform (Ivan McKee) moved S7M-00309—That the Parliament welcomes that the Scottish Government's Public Service Reform Strategy centres on the importance of prevention in the development of public services; believes that it is vital to empower staff, service users and local communities to be part of the design and delivery of services that meet the needs of the people of Scotland, and agrees that the delivery of excellent and sustainable public services should be the goal of public service reform, rather than the preservation of existing corporate structures.

Michael Marra moved amendment S7M-00309.3—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00309 in the name of Ivan McKee (Public Service Reform: Empowering Staff, Service Users and Local Communities),

insert at end "; that the Scottish Government's approach to public service reform should align with the principles of Community Wealth Building, Fair Work and the European Charter for Local Self-Government and the need to encourage economic growth, and calls on the Scottish Government to produce a detailed timetable for the reduction in the number of public bodies as part of a drive to reduce broader waste and to produce a holistic assessment of the impact of the public sector reform programme on Scotland's vital third sector."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 94, Against 15, Abstentions 9).

Malcolm Offord moved amendment S7M-00309.4—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00309 in the name of Ivan McKee (Public Service Reform: Empowering Staff, Service Users and Local Communities), leave out from "welcomes" to end, and insert "believes that public money is limited, whereas demand is infinite; further believes that meaningful reform starts in its chamber by using the time available to reach meaningful and defined decisions; believes that using parliamentary time to debate a motion that lacks any substantive action, and therefore leads to no definitive change, undermines the Parliament's expressed desire for reform; recognises that emphasis on public service provision should be focussed on outcomes and not inputs; believes that the recipients of public services are the most important people in this process and must be the focus of the Parliament's attention; looks forward to co-operation with staff and legitimate representative groups to raise standards and improve provision, and calls on the Scottish Government to publish a programme of concrete action."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 17, Against 92, Abstentions 9).

Lorna Slater moved amendment S7M-00309.2—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00309 in the name of Ivan McKee (Public Service Reform: Empowering Staff, Service Users and Local Communities), insert at end "; agrees that any programme of public sector reform must be worker-led; believes that public service reform must incorporate community wealth building principles, including procurement reform, to ensure that more public money is spent locally; agrees that public bodies and organisations receiving public funding must adhere to fair work principles, and that public bodies should have clear duties to protect the environment, build resilience to climate change and uphold human rights and that public sector reform should be accompanied by a greater devolution of powers to Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 66, Against 27, Abstentions 26).

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S7M-00309.5—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00309 in the name of Ivan McKee (Public Service Reform: Empowering Staff, Service Users and Local Communities), leave out from "welcomes" to end and insert "acknowledges that the Scottish National Party administration has failed to deliver on public service reform during its 19 years in power; agrees that the delivery of excellent and sustainable public services should be the goal of public service reform, rather than the preservation of existing corporate structures; notes that, while a long overdue commitment to deliver public service reform is welcome, the Scottish Government's finances will remain unsustainable until Social Security Scotland's ever-rising benefits bill is controlled, and calls on the Scottish Government to clearly set out how it plans to close the near £5 billion forecast black-hole in Scotland's finances."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 26, Against 91, Abstentions 0).

David Green moved amendment S7M-00309.1—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00309 in the name of Ivan McKee (Public Service Reform: Empowering Staff, Service Users and Local Communities), insert at end "notes concerns that previous reforms undertaken by the Scottish Government have led to the centralisation of public services, including through the creation of Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the proposed National Care Service; believes that the centralisation of services and the adoption of a one-size-fits-all approach have had a detrimental impact on rural Scotland, and further believes that any future public service reform should be guided by the principle of local decision-making, with communities empowered to shape the services on which they rely."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 36, Against 67, Abstentions 16).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 67, Against 25, Abstentions 26).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament welcomes that the Scottish Government's Public Service Reform Strategy centres on the importance of prevention in the development of public services; believes that it is vital to empower staff, service users and local communities to be part of the design and delivery of services that meet the needs of the people of Scotland; agrees that the delivery of excellent and sustainable public services should be the goal of public service reform, rather than the preservation of existing corporate structures; that the Scottish Government's approach to public service reform should align with the principles of Community Wealth Building, Fair Work and the European Charter for Local Self-Government and the need to encourage economic growth; calls on the Scottish Government to produce a detailed timetable for the reduction in the number of public bodies as part of a drive to reduce broader waste and to produce a holistic assessment of the impact of the public

sector reform programme on Scotland's vital third sector; agrees that any programme of public sector reform must be worker-led; believes that public service reform must incorporate community wealth building principles, including procurement reform, to ensure that more public money is spent locally; agrees that public bodies and organisations receiving public funding must adhere to fair work principles, and that public bodies should have clear duties to protect the environment, build resilience to climate change and uphold human rights and that public sector reform should be accompanied by a greater devolution of powers to Scotland.

5. Committee membership: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Jamie Hepburn) moved S7M-00346— That the Parliament agrees the membership of committees of the Parliament as follows—

Climate Action Committee

Membership: Stuart McMillan, Ariane Burgess, David Barratt, Martyn Day, Claire Baker, Sanne Dijkstra-Downie, Douglas Lumsden.

Criminal Justice Committee

Membership: Alyn Smith, David Linden, Marie McNair, Maggie Chapman, Pauline McNeill, Amanda Bland, Stephen Kerr.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

Membership: Calum Kerr, Q Manivannan, Colm Merrick, Amanda Lindsay, Paul Sweeney.

Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee

Membership: Duncan Massey, Daniel Johnson, Kate Campbell, Gary Bouse, Martyn Day, Kristopher Leask, Rachael Hamilton.

Education and Gaelic Committee

Membership: Karen Adam, Katherine Sangster, George Adam, Patricia Gibson, Duncan Dunlop, Angela Ross, Laura Moodie.

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Membership: Katie Hagmann, Meghan Gallacher, Collette Stevenson, Fulton MacGregor, Holly Bruce, Amanda Lindsay, Carol Mochan.

Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Membership: Patrick Harvie, Senga Beresford, Colin Beattie, Keith Brown, Pauline Stafford, Jenny Young, David Green.

Finance and Public Administration Committee

Membership: Clare Haughey, Alan Brown, Pauline Stafford, Michael Marra, Kim Schmulian, Liam Kerr, Liam McArthur.

Health, Care and Sport Committee

Membership: Helen McDade, Jack Middleton, Paul McLennan, Heather Anderson, Joe Long, Adam Harley, Kayleigh Kinross-O'Neill.

Public Audit Committee

Membership: Neil Bibby, Dawn Black, Alan Brown, Miles Briggs, David Kirkwood.

Public Petitions Committee

Membership: Paul Sweeney, David Torrance, Marie McNair, Julie MacDougall, Cara McKee.

Public Service Reform Committee

Membership: Bob Doris, Michelle Campbell, Alex Kerr, Max Bannerman, Lorna Slater, Joe Fagan, Murdo Fraser.

Rural Affairs Committee

Membership: Mark Ruskell, Andrew Baxter, Laura Mitchell, Emma Roddick, Dawn Black, Jamie Langan, Finlay Carson.

Social Justice, Housing and Local Government Committee

Membership: Craig Hoy, Thomas Kerr, Steven Bonnar, Kate Campbell, Gary Bouse, Mark Griffin, Morven-May MacCallum.

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Membership: Jenni Minto, Tim Eagle, David Linden, Mark Simpson, Jackie Baillie.

Transport Committee

Membership: Willie Rennie, Lloyd Melville, Zen Ghani, Collette Stevenson, Iris Duane, Donald MacKinnon, Graham Simpson.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

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

7. Recognising the Damaging Impact of Antisocial Behaviour: The Parliament debated S7M-00018 in the name of Colin Beattie—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the damaging impact that antisocial behaviour has on communities, including in Midlothian North; understands that this behaviour impacts on residents' safety and hurts local businesses; believes that there is a need to support young people and their families to ensure that such behaviour is stopped at the source; recognises the hard work of Police Scotland in dealing with the issue, and notes calls for the Scottish Government to review and continue to support programmes aimed at preventing youth antisocial behaviour.

The meeting closed at 6.23 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
11 June 2026

Appendix

(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 11 June 2026 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Dangerous Dogs (Compensation and Exemption Schemes) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2026 (SSI 2026/204)
laid under section 1(5) of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

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