



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 6, Session 7

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 28 May 2026

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

The meeting opened at 12.00 pm.

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

2. It's Scotland's Energy: The Minister for Europe, External Affairs and Energy (Stephen Gethins) moved S7M-00159—That the Parliament believes that Scotland's energy should be in Scotland's hands, and calls for all energy powers to be immediately devolved to the Scottish Parliament.

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S7M-00159.2—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00159 in the name of Stephen Gethins (It's Scotland's Energy), leave out from second "that" to end and insert "Scotland needs a managed and just transition that relies on an integrated UK energy market, balancing the continuing role of oil and gas alongside the maturity of the North Sea activity and Scotland's climate targets, and supports the examination of all energy technologies, including nuclear, to achieve a sustainable energy mix."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 16, Against 98, Abstentions 10).

Duncan Massey moved amendment S7M-00159.1—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00159 in the name of Stephen Gethins (It's Scotland's Energy), leave out from second "that" to end and insert "Scotland's current net zero-driven energy policies are failing, contributing to deindustrialisation through high energy costs and also increasing grid instability, including with the planned closure of Torness nuclear power station, thus creating a significant risk of blackouts; recognises the continued dependence of renewables on UK Government subsidies; acknowledges Scotland's past leadership in nuclear power; calls for renewed investment in nuclear capacity, further calls on the Scottish Government to recognise the ongoing importance of oil and gas and to fully support the sector in the North Sea, including through unambiguous support for the Jackdaw and Rosebank oil fields and new drilling and licences; calls on the Scottish Government to apologise for its previous lack of support of the industry, including for what it considers has been the presumption against new developments, and considers that, in light of the challenges facing the sector, that energy powers should remain reserved to the UK Government."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 28, Against 95, Abstentions 0).

Lorna Slater moved amendment S7M-00159.3—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00159 in the name of Stephen Gethins (It's Scotland's Energy), insert at end "in order that Scotland can respond to the climate emergency, cut the cost of living and contribute to energy security; recognises that the climate emergency is an urgent priority for Scotland and for the world, and that the re-emergence of climate denial poses a serious threat; accepts that the world has far more fossil fuel than it can afford to burn without disastrous consequences, and considers that issuing licences to extract fossil fuel from new sources would therefore be indefensible; recognises that the way in which the UK Government links electricity and gas prices prevents billpayers from benefiting from the low generating cost of renewable electricity, and that changing this system would accelerate the decarbonisation of heat and transport; believes that putting Scotland's energy in Scotland's hands must include a significant increase in community-owned energy, and further believes that reducing the cost of energy and achieving a rapid and just transition away from fossil fuels will deliver jobs, investment and a strong economy, particularly in rural and island communities."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 15, Against 110, Abstentions 0).

Liam Kerr moved amendment S7M-00159.4—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00159 in the name of Stephen Gethins (It's Scotland's Energy), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "condemns the UK Labour Administration's ban on new oil and gas licences; believes that Aberdeen, the North East and Scotland is suffering due to this and other non-strategic, unevidenced, ideological policies from both the UK and Scottish governments, and calls in particular on the Scottish Government to reverse its

long-held, dogmatic and illogical presumption against new oil and gas licences and make clear that oil and gas must be part of a balanced energy mix going forward."

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

Liam McArthur moved amendment S7M-00159.5—

As an amendment to motion S7M-00159 in the name of Stephen Gethins (It's Scotland's Energy), leave out from "Scotland's energy" to end and insert "local communities which host vital renewables projects deserve proper community benefit that would provide funding for short and long-term investment such as economic development, housing and cutting energy bills; further believes that the Scottish Government's proposed good practice principles, which recommend community benefits be provided at the value of £6,000 per Mega Watt per year, will not meet the expectations of communities; calls for future ScotWind rental income to be transferred to the nearby councils so that those communities can feel the benefit of hosting national projects, and considers that new rules are needed for future ScotWind-style sales to protect the value of Scotland's assets and attract more investment."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 25, Against 98, Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 70, Against 54, Abstentions 0).

3. Decision Time: The Parliament took a decision on item 2 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.21 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
28 May 2026

Appendix

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

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