



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 34, Session 7

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 6 October 2026

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Gavin Niven, John Knox Parish Church, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Jamie Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S7M-01502—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for

(a) Tuesday 6 October 2026;

after

followed by First Minister's Questions (Backbench Members)

delete

followed by Ministerial Statement: Improving Outcomes for Neurodivergent People, Autistic People and People with Learning Disabilities

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Syngenta Grangemouth

(b) Wednesday 7 October 2026;

after

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Finance and Local Government, Parliamentary Business and Veterans; Public Service Reform, Europe, External Affairs and Energy

Insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Improving Outcomes for Neurodivergent People, Autistic People and People with Learning Disabilities

after

followed by Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Debate: Scottish Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund

insert

followed by Motion on Legislative Consent: Civil Aviation (Consumer Protection and Regulatory Reform) Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Motion on Legislative Consent: Cyber Security and Resilience (Network and Information Systems) Bill - UK Legislation

followed by Motion on Legislative Consent: Armed Forces Bill - UK Legislation

The motion was agreed to.

3. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

4. First Minister's Questions (Backbench Members): Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

5. Ministerial Statement: The Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport (Stephen Flynn) made a statement and answered questions on Syngenta Grangemouth.

6. Scotland's Prosperity and Future in Europe: The Minister for Europe, External Affairs and Energy (Stephen Gethins) moved S7M-01448—That the Parliament believes that the best future for Scotland lies within the European Union (EU) and that EU membership should be sought as swiftly as possible.

Neil Bibby moved amendment S7M-01448.3—

As an amendment to motion S7M-01448 in the name of Stephen Gethins (Scotland's Prosperity and Future in Europe), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "welcomes the Prime Minister's recent commitment to comprehensively review the UK's relationship with the European Union (EU), including examining options for closer integration; believes that Brexit has

caused profound economic harm and that a close relationship with Europe is fundamental to Scotland and the rest of the UK's prosperity and security; recognises that the interests of Scotland are best served by any return to European frameworks being negotiated on a UK wide basis to protect Scotland's trade with the rest of the UK, and therefore calls on the Scottish Government to work constructively with the UK Government regarding its approach to the upcoming EU-UK summit and to find a consensus on a long term relationship with the EU that people in Scotland and the rest of the UK can unite around."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 16, Against 93, Abstentions 9).

Gillian Mackay moved amendment S7M-01448.2—

As an amendment to motion S7M-01448 in the name of Stephen Gethins (Scotland's Prosperity and Future in Europe), insert at end "; recognises that Brexit has been a disaster for the economy and for individuals, and looks forward to the restoration of the benefits of EU membership."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 77, Against 25, Abstentions 16).

Murdo Fraser moved amendment S7M-01448.4—

As an amendment to motion S7M-01448 in the name of Stephen Gethins (Scotland's Prosperity and Future in Europe), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "notes that in a referendum in 2016 the people of the UK voted to leave the EU; believes that the result of referendums should be respected; notes that trade between Scotland and the rest of the UK is three times the level of trade between Scotland and the EU; believes that in exiting the UK and joining the EU, Scotland would create a hard border and potentially currency divergence with our largest trading partner, which would be deeply damaging to Scotland's economic interests, and accordingly commits to a future within an unrestricted UK domestic market for goods and services."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 25, Against 66, Abstentions 26).

David Green moved amendment S7M-01448.1—

As an amendment to motion S7M-01448 in the name of Stephen Gethins (Scotland's Prosperity and Future in Europe), insert at end ", and therefore believes that the first essential steps must be for the UK to join the single market as a member of the European Free Trade Area and European Economic Area, form a new UK-EU customs union and reach a new defence pact, in order to fully remove trade barriers to Europe, reverse years of economic damage that has been caused by the Brexit deal negotiated by the Conservative UK administration, and make the UK richer, safer and stronger."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 10, Against 94, Abstentions 15).

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 78, Against 25, Abstentions 16).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament believes that the best future for Scotland lies within the European Union (EU) and that EU membership should be sought as swiftly as possible; recognises that Brexit has been a disaster for the economy and for individuals, and looks forward to the restoration of the benefits of EU membership.

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 6 as noted above.

8. 150th Anniversary of the Founding of Blantyre in Malawi: The Parliament debated S7M-00862 in the name of Clare Haughey—That the Parliament congratulates Blantyre, in Malawi, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary, to be celebrated in October 2026; understands that the city was founded on 23 October 1876 by Scottish missionaries, and was named after Blantyre in Scotland, the birthplace of the explorer David Livingstone; recognises that Scotland and Malawi share a deep historical friendship dating back to Livingstone's explorations in the region; highlights the publication of the book by Jonathan Waters, *Blantyre: Urban Evolution – A Photographic History*, which chronicles the city's people, places and transformation since 1876, and pays tribute to the many individuals, businesses, third sector organisations, including the Scotland Malawi Partnership and Rutherglen-based Classrooms for Malawi, schools and universities and governments that have maintained the links between the two countries over the past century and a half.

The meeting closed at 6.37 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
6 October 2026

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 2 October 2026—

Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee, 3rd Report, 2026 (Session 7):
Report on the Legislative Consent Memorandums for the Sporting Events Bill
(UK Parliament legislation) (SP Paper 17)

The following report was published on 6 October 2026—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 10th Report, 2026 (Session 7): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 6 October 2026 (SP Paper 18)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 5 October 2026 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Qualifications Scotland and His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland (Miscellaneous Listings) Regulations 2026 [draft]
laid under section 210(2) of the Equality Act 2010, section 26(2)(b) of the Consumer (Scotland) Act 2020 and section 19(3) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024

The following instrument was re-laid on 6 October 2026—

Visitor Levy (Amendment of Returns and Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft]
laid under sections 28A(3), 45(4) and 69(6) of the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Act 2024

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 2 October 2026 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Sale of Tobacco (Miscellaneous and Consequential Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/278)
laid under section 40(3) of the Tobacco and Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2010 and section 169(4) of the Tobacco and Vapes Act 2026

Private Residential Tenancies (Prescribed Notices and Forms) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/279)
laid under section 77(4) of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 201

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 2 October 2026 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Bluetongue (Scotland) Amendment Order 2026 (SSI 2026/281)
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform
(Scotland) Act 2010

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 5 October 2026 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 15) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/280 (C. 31))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform
(Scotland) Act 2010

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 2 October 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Heat in Buildings: Progress Report 2026 (SG/2026/216) laid under section 62 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 6 October 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

City of Edinburgh Council - Low Emission Zone Annual Report (LEZAR) Year 2: April 2025 to March 2026 (CEC/2026/02) laid under Section 29(1)(a) and Section 29(2) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

Consumer Scotland - Consumer Welfare Report (CS/2026/02) laid under subsection (4) (a) of section 17 of the Consumer Scotland Act 2020

Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/203) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Published by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

All documents are available on
the Scottish Parliament website at:

www.parliament.scot/documents

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Public Information on:

Telephone: 0131 348 5000 or 0800 092 7500

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