The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minutes of Proceedings

Parliamentary year 1, number 37, Session 7

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 27 October 2026

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

The meeting opened at 2:00pm.

1. Time for Reflection: John Dalton Member, Crisis Scotland Lived Experience Campaigns Group, led Time for Reflection.

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

3. First Minister's Questions (Backbench Members): Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister (Jenny Gilruth).

4. Ministerial Statement: The Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise (Siobhian Brown) made a statement and answered questions on Keeping The Promise: Progress and Delivery to 2030.

5. Scotland's Commitment to International Climate Justice: Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Rural Affairs (Gillian Martin) moved S7M-01726—That the Parliament reaffirms its commitment to climate justice, accepting that those in the Global South who have done the least to cause climate change are facing the worst impacts, and recognises that Scotland's commitment to play its role in the global response to tackling climate change and biodiversity loss, including addressing climate related loss and damage, is guided by the principles of climate justice, fairness and global solidarity.

> Paul Sweeney moved S7M-01726.1—As an amendment to motion S7M-01726 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Commitment to International Climate Justice), insert at end "; believes that any overseas development assistance (ODA) should be disbursed with the highest levels of transparency and a focus on maximising its impact, and recognises the importance of a just transition to a green economy, both domestically and across Scotland's international supply chains, to ensure climate justice for all."
>
> After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 91, Against 24, Abstentions 0).
>
> Duncan Massey moved S7M-01726.2—As an amendment to motion S7M-01726 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland's Commitment to

International Climate Justice), leave out from “reaffirms” to end, and insert "must redefine its definition of climate justice, as harming the economic growth potential of the developing world is not justice; considers the reported pleas from leaders, including Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, to European leaders to invest in their countries instead of lecturing them, to represent evidence that debates of this kind are not welcomed in the developing world, and agrees that, given the cost of energy and what it views as a de-industrialisation crisis, the priority should be to provide cheap, abundant and reliable energy and ensure that well-paid jobs remain in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 14, Against 100, Abstentions 0).

Mark Ruskell moved S7M-01726.5—As an amendment to motion S7M-01726 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland’s Commitment to International Climate Justice), insert at end "; reaffirms the importance of the Paris Agreement Goals to limit the global average temperature increase to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C; accepts scientific evidence from the International Energy Agency, United Nations Environment Programme and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which shows that new fossil fuel exploration risks exceeding the 1.5°C threshold; believes that new fossil fuel production beyond that which is currently approved, such as the proposed Rosebank oil field, will move the world out of alignment with the Paris Agreement Goals, and supports international dialogue and action on advancing a just, orderly and equitable transition away from fossil fuels.

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 14, Against 24, Abstentions 77).

Finlay Carson moved S7M-01726.4—As an amendment to motion S7M-01726 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland’s Commitment to International Climate Justice), leave out from "reaffirms” to end and insert "recognises that those in the Global South often experience a disproportionate share of the impacts of climate change; notes, however, that international development and overseas aid are reserved matters under the devolution settlement and are therefore the responsibility of the UK Government; further notes that substantial sums have been committed through the Scottish Government's International Climate Justice Fund at a time when other domestic priorities face increasing financial pressures; highlights concerns regarding pressures on justice, health and other public services, and calls on the Scottish Government to focus its resources on supporting Scottish communities, businesses and public services to reduce emissions, improve climate resilience and deliver practical environmental improvements in Scotland."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 24, Against 91, Abstentions 0).

Sanne Dijkstra-Downie moved S7M-01726.3—As an amendment to motion S7M-01726 in the name of Gillian Martin (Scotland’s Commitment to International Climate Justice), insert at end “urges the Scottish Government to advocate at COP31 for rapid progress in scaling up the mobilisation of climate finance, with grant-based finance prioritised over loans to ensure that

climate-vulnerable countries are not pushed further into debt as they respond to the climate crisis; believes that there is a strong need to drive down domestic demand for fossil fuels combined with the need to decarbonise heating, transport and industry, and highlights that this must happen in order both to meet net zero objectives and to uphold the commitment to climate justice."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 91, Against 24, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 91, Against 24, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament reaffirms its commitment to climate justice, accepting that those in the Global South who have done the least to cause climate change are facing the worst impacts; recognises that Scotland's commitment to play its role in the global response to tackling climate change and biodiversity loss, including addressing climate related loss and damage, is guided by the principles of climate justice, fairness and global solidarity; believes that any overseas development assistance (ODA) should be disbursed with the highest levels of transparency and a focus on maximising its impact; recognises the importance of a just transition to a green economy, both domestically and across Scotland's international supply chains, to ensure climate justice for all; urges the Scottish Government to advocate at COP31 for rapid progress in scaling up the mobilisation of climate finance, with grant-based finance prioritised over loans to ensure that climate-vulnerable countries are not pushed further into debt as they respond to the climate crisis; believes that there is a strong need to drive down domestic demand for fossil fuels combined with the need to decarbonise heating, transport and industry, and highlights that this must happen in order both to meet net zero objectives and to uphold the commitment to climate justice.

6. Revision to Business Programme: Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (James Hepburn), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S7M-01752—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business forThursday 29 October 2026—

after

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Strengthening Scotland's Public Health Approach to Preventing Alcohol and Drug Deaths

insert

followed by Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Debate: Amendment to Reimbursement of Members' Expenses Scheme Resolution

The motion was agreed to.

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 5 as noted above.

8. Celebrating Scotland's 25th Black History Month: The Parliament debated S7M-01411 in the name of Iris Duane—That the Parliament recognises and celebrates the 25th anniversary of Black History Month in Scotland across October

2026; acknowledges the contributions of the African and Caribbean diaspora to history in Scotland; welcomes events and initiatives across the country that highlight the important role of African and Caribbean communities and individuals in Scottish history and society; affirms that a person's skin colour or ethnicity does not define their nationality, intelligence, ambition or character; acknowledges the benefits of fostering a Scotland where individuals of African and Caribbean descent feel proud of their cultural roots alongside their Scottish heritage and history; recognises the theme of the month, Acknowledging Our Communities, and notes the view that work should be carried out towards achieving a Scotland where "Black history" is both acknowledged and simply seen as "Scottish history", no more or no less.

9. Motion without notice: Iris Duane moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 7:03pm.

David McGill

Clerk of the Parliament

28 October 2026

Appendix

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

Subordinate Legislation

Subject to affirmative procedure

The following instrument was re-laid before the Parliament on 21 October 2026 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Electronic Monitoring (Use of Devices and Information) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/Draft)
laid under section 15(2) of the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2019

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 26 October 2026 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Deposit and Return Scheme for Scotland (Designation of Scheme Administrator) Amendment Order 2026 (SSI 2026/Draft)
laid under section 96(4) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Deposit and Return Scheme for Scotland Amendment Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/Draft)
laid under section 96(4) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

Environmental Regulation (Enforcement Measures) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2026 (SSI 2026/Draft)
laid under section 58(3) of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Subject to negative procedure

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 16 October 2026 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Scotland Act 1998 (Specification of Functions and Transfer of Property etc.) (Amendment) Order 2026 (SI 2026/1095)
laid under section 115 and schedule 7 of the Scotland Act 1998

Scottish Administration (Offices) Order 2026 (SI 2026/1097 (S. 1))
laid under section 118 of the Scotland Act 1998

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 26 October 2026 and is subject to the negative procedure—

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber (Procedure) Amendment Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/288)
laid under Paragraph 5(2) of schedule 9 of the Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014.

Not subject to any parliamentary procedure

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 9 October 2026 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

The Housing (Scotland) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 4 and Transitional

Provisions) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/286 (C. 33))
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Withdrawal of instrument

The following instrument laid before the Parliament on 8 October 2026 was withdrawn on 16 October 2026—

Electronic Monitoring (Use of Devices and Information) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/Draft)
laid under Section 15 of the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2019

Legislative Consent Memorandums

The following memorandum was lodged on 9 October 2026—

Flynn, Stephen, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Commercial Payments Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S7-5b)

The following memorandum was lodged on 20 October 2026—

Flynn, Stephen, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Sporting Events Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S7-1c)

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 14 October 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

GTC Scotland Annual Report and Accounts – Year to 31 March 2026 (GTCS/2026/01) laid
under Schedule 3, para 5(1) of the Public Services Reform (General Teaching Council for Scotland) Order 2011

Health and Care Professions Council Annual Report and Accounts 2025–26 (SG/2026/197) laid
under articles 44(2) and 46(7) of the Health Professions Order 2001

Health and Care Professions Council Fitness to Practise Annual Report 2025–26 (SG/2026/136) laid
under article 44(2) of the Health Professions Order 2001

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 21 October 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Benefit Take-Up Strategy 2026-2031 (SG/2026/143) laid
under section 8(3)(a) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland Annual Report 2025-2026 (SG/2026/243) laid

under section 18 of the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008

Scottish Sentencing Council Annual Report 2025-26 (SG/2026/233) laid under section 13(5) of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 22 October 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

CalMac Ferries Limited Strategic Report, Directors' Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/218) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

David MacBrayne HR (UK) Limited Directors' Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/219) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

David MacBrayne Limited Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/217) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scotland's Land Use Strategy Annual Progress Report– 2025/2026 (SG/2026/222) laid under section 37A of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 23 October 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Transport Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/225) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 26 October 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/253) laid under Section 10(3) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

Children's Hearings Scotland - Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/200) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Children's Hearings Scotland – The Feedback Loop 2025-26 (SG/2026/202) laid under Section 181 of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Children's Hearings Scotland Impact Report 2025-26 (SG/2026/201) laid under paragraph 21 of schedule 3 of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Commissioner for Children and Young People Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (CCYP/2026/03) laid under Section 10(1) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 9 October 2026—

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 1st Report 2026 (Session 7): Subordinate legislation considered by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee (SP Paper 22)

The following report was published on 13 October 2026—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 10th Report 2026 (Session 7): Representation of the People Bill (UK Parliament legislation) - delegated powers exercisable within devolved competence, with reference to LCM-S6-74, LCM-S7-7 and LCM S7-7a

The following report was published on 15 October 2026—

Health, Care and Sport Committee, 1st Report 2026 (Session 7): Report on Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 Remedial Order 2026 [draft] (SP Paper 25)

The following report was published on 21 October 2026—

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 1st Report 2026 (Session 7): Scottish Statutory Instruments relating to Airport Departure Tax (SP Paper 26)

The following report was published on 26 October 2026—

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 2nd Report, 2026 (Session 7): Maximum Number of Judges (Scotland) Order 2026 [draft] (SP Paper 27)

The following reports were published on 27 October 2026—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 12th Report, 2026 (Session 7): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 27 October 2026 (SP Paper 28)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 11th Report, 2026 (Session 7): Sporting Events Bill (UK Parliament legislation) – delegated powers exercisable within devolved competence, with reference to LCM-S7-1c. (SP Paper 30)

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