



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 1, No. 19, Session 7

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 1 September 2026

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Dr Graeme R. Wilson, Minister, Bearsden Cross 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-00983—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 1 September 2026—

after

Parliamentary Bureau Motions

insert

followed by Oaths and Affirmations

after

First Minister's Questions (Backbench Members)

insert

followed by First Minister's Statement: Programme for Government 2026-31

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government 2026-31

(b) Wednesday 2 September 2026—

after

Portfolio Questions: Social Justice and Housing; Economy, Tourism and Transport
insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Raising Standards and Delivering Excellence for Every Child

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government - Improving Lives Through Delivering for Scotland

(c) Thursday 3 September 2026—

after

First Minister's Questions (Party Leaders)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Cairngorms Wildfire

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government - Eradicating Child Poverty - the Scottish Government's Defining Mission

The motion was agreed to.

3. Oaths and Affirmations: Monica Lennon took her oath of allegiance before the Clerk.

4. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Minister.

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

6. First Minister's Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement on Programme for Government 2026-31.

7. Scottish Government Debate: Programme for Government 2026-31: The Parliament debated Programme for Government 2026-31.

8. Decision Time: There were no decisions to be taken at Decision Time on the items noted above.

9. The Growing Risk of Wildfires in Scotland: The Parliament debated S7M-00878 in the name of Andrew Baxter—That the Parliament shares its deep concern for the growing number of wildfires taking place, which, it considers is a result of both climate change and land management practices, and the increasingly significant threat that these fires pose for communities across rural Scotland, such as those in Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch; understands that the Cairngorms wildfire in particular has had a devastating impact within the Cairngorms National Park, both on its natural environment and the businesses that were forced to close; further understands that more than 100 firefighters were required to tackle the blaze; commends the work of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and retained duty firefighters for all that they have done to tackle the wildfire in the Cairngorms, as well as other fires in Holyrood Park in Edinburgh and Hill of Tarvit in Fife; further commends communities in the Cairngorms and across the wider Highlands region for the support that they have

provided alongside hard working firefighters as well as for the residents of Nethy Bridge when they were forced to evacuate; understands that the Scottish Government has published a Strategic Action Plan on Wildfires and the announcement of a £3 million fund to help those businesses which have been impacted; notes the belief that despite this action plan and fund, the Scottish Government response to the wildfire in the Cairngorms has fallen short; further notes the calls for a cross-party summit to be held to learn the lessons of the response to the Cairngorms wildfire, ensuring that there is a concrete action plan for any future wildfires, and notes the calls for better funding of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service as well so that it is better equipped to deal with these major incidents going forward.

10. Motion without Notice: Andrew Baxter 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 7.00 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
1 September 2026

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

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 24 August 2026 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Energy Performance of Buildings (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2026 [draft]
laid under section 5(1) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union
(Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021 and section 253(2)(b) of the Energy Act 2023

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 31 August 2026 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Employment Tribunals Extension of Jurisdiction (Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2026 [draft]
laid under section 41(2)(a) of the Employment Tribunals Act 1996

Negative Instruments

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

Dangerous Dogs (Compensation and Exemption Schemes) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Order 2026 (SSI 2026/212)
laid under section 1(9) of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

Tobacco and Vapes Act 2026 (Consequential, Transitional and Saving Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/213)
laid under section 169(4) of the Tobacco and Vapes Act 2026

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 20 August 2026 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Act of Sederunt (Taxation of Judicial Expenses Rules) (Amendment) 2026 (SSI 2026/238)
laid under section 28(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform
(Scotland) Act 2010

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 24 August 2026 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Act 2024 (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/240)
laid under section 34(3)(b) of the Wildlife Management and Muirburn
(Scotland) Act 2024

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 27 August 2026 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Personal Injuries (NHS Charges) (Amounts) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/245)
laid under section 195(8) of the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 26 June 2026 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Tobacco and Vapes Act 2026 (Commencement No. 1, Transitional and Saving Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/210 (C. 22))
laid under Section 30 of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 28 August 2026 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Act of Sederunt (Ordinary Cause Rules 1993 Amendment) (Judgments) 2026 (SSI 2026/246)
laid under Section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Legislative Consent Memorandums

The following memorandum was lodged on 14 July 2026—

Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Justice: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Immigration and Asylum Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S7-9)

The following memorandum was lodged on 22 July 2026—

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

The following memorandum was lodged on 28 July 2026—

Jenny Gilruth, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Public Office (Accountability) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S7-10)

The following memorandum was lodged on 6 August 2026—

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

The following memorandum was lodged on 21 August 2026—

Jenny Gilruth, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance and

Local Government: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Representation of the People Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S7-7a)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 29 June 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Annual Report to Parliament on the Monitoring Programme for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) – 2024 and 2025 (SG/2026/163) laid under Article 6.4 of assimilated Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 30 June 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Press Recognition Panel - Annual Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/103) laid under Presented to Parliament and Scottish Parliament pursuant to Sections 12.4 and 13.1 of the Royal Charter on Self-Regulation of the Press

Scottish Commission on Social Security (SCoSS): Annual Report 2025-2026 (SG/2026/156) laid under Section 22 (4B) of the Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 2025

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

General Dental Council Annual report and Accounts 2025 (SG/2026/118) laid under Section 2B and 2C of the Dentists Act 1984

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 6 July 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Offshore Wind: Compensation Hierarchy (SG/2026/155) laid under Section 53ZA(6) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 and regulation 68A(6) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 7 July 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

MG Alba Aithisg Bhliadhnail & Aithris Nan Cunntasan - Annual Report & Statement of Accounts 2025/26 (SG/2026/165) laid under Schedule 19 (12) of the Broadcasting Act 1990

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 8 July 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care Annual Report and Accounts 2025/26 (SG/2026/134) laid under Schedule 7, Paragraph 16(2) of the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002

The National Lottery Community Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/153) laid under Section 34 and paragraph 21 of Schedule 4A of the National Lottery etc Act 1993

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 9 July 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board: Annual report and accounts 2025/2026 (SG/2026/142) laid under Section 13(8) of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board Order 2008

Annual Report and Financial Statements of TS Prestwick HoldCo Limited for year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/158) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

British Tourist Authority Trading as VisitBritain and VisitEngland Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/145) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

British Transport Police Authority Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/140) laid under Section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

Competition and Markets Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2025 to 2026 (CMA/2026/03) laid under the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013, sch4 s14(3)(a) (as amended by the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, s40(3))

Industrial Development Act 1982: Annual Report by The Secretary of State for Business and Trade, the First Minister of Scotland, and the Welsh Ministers For the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/72) laid under Sections 11 and 15 of the Industrial Development Act 1982

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service Corporate Plan 2026-29 (SCTS/2026/01) laid under section 66(4)(a) of the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008

The Office of Communications Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/148) laid under paragraph 12(4) of Schedule 1 to the Office of Communications Act 2002

UK Statistics Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2025/26 (UKSA/2026/01) laid under section 27(2) of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 13 July 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

NHS Blood and Transplant Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/154) laid under section 88 of the Scotland Act 1998

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

Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2025 to 2026 (SG/2026/151) laid under section 6 of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1995

Electoral Commission Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (ELC/2026/02) laid under Paragraph 20 A (1) of Schedule 1 to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

Office of Rail and Road Annual report and accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/170) laid under section 74(3A) of the Railways Act 1993

Transport Focus Annual report and accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/144) laid under section 19 and schedule 5 of the Railway Act 2005

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 14 July 2026 and is subject to parliamentary procedure—

BBC Group Annual Report & Accounts 2025/26 (BBC/2026/01) laid under the Memorandum of Understanding

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 15 July 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

National Heritage Memorial Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2025/160) laid under Section 7 of the National Heritage Act 1980

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2026/159) laid under Sections 14(8) and 26(11) of the Energy Act 2004

Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem) Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 (SG/2025/147) laid under Section 5 of the Utilities Act 2000

The National Lottery Heritage Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26 SG/2025/161 laid under Sections 34(3) and 35(5) of the National Lottery etc. Act 1993

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 17 July 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Civil Justice Council Annual Report 2025/26 and Programme 2026/27 (SCJC/2026/01) laid under section 5(4) of the Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Act 2013

Scottish Civil Justice Council Strategic Plan 2026-2029 (SCJC/2026/02) laid under section 5(4) of the Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Act 2013

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

Independent National Whistleblowing Officer: Compendium of Case Reports for July 2026 (INWO/2026/O4) laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish

Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for July 2026 (SPSO/2026/06) laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 31 July 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Transport Scotland - Section 70 Grant Payments In accordance with: Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 Section 70(4) Financial Year 2025-26 (SG/2026/149) laid under Section 70(4) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 13 August 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Water Annual Report and Accounts: Performance and Prospects 2025/26 (SG/2026/169) laid under Section 57(8) of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 17 August 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish National Investment Bank: Review of performance 2026 (SG/2026/164) laid under section 21(3) of the Scottish National Investment Bank Act 2020

Standards Commission for Scotland: Annual Report and Accounts Year Ending 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/183) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 19 August 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Independent National Whistleblowing Officer: Compendium of Case Reports for August 2026 (INWO/2026/05) laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for August 2026 (SPSO/2026/07) laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 20 August 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland Annual Report 2025-26 (SG/2026/186) laid under Section 82(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 21 August 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

The Scottish National Investment Bank Annual Report and Accounts 2026

(SG/2026/181) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 24 August 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Boundaries Scotland: Further Review of Electoral Arrangements Argyll and Bute Council Area Report to Scottish Ministers (SG/2026/175) laid under Section 17A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

Boundaries Scotland: Further Review of Electoral Arrangements The Highland Council Area Report to Scottish Ministers (SG/2026/174) laid under Section 17A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Act 2024 - Secure Transport Standards (SG/2026/179) laid under section 25 of the Children (Care and justice) (Scotland) Act 2024

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 25 August 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Adoptions, Births, Deaths, Marriages and Civil Partnerships in Scotland, 2025 – Registrar General's Annual Statistical Tables of Vital Events (SG/2026/184) laid under Section 1(4) of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965

Fiscal Update – August 2026 (SFC/2026/4) laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

Forecast Evaluation Report - August 2026 (SFC/2026/5) laid under section 5(3) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

HMICS and HIS Joint review of police custody recommendations (HMICS/2026/06) laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 28 August 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service Annual Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/171) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

SCOTTISH COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE – ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2025/26 laid under section 67 of the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008 and section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Enterprise Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/166) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Housing Regulator - National Report on the Scottish Social Housing Charter 2025/2026 (SG/2026/177) laid under Section 41 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2010

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 31 August 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

South of Scotland Enterprise Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026 (SG/2026/162) laid under section 16 of the South of Scotland Enterprise Act 2019

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