



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 63, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 18 December 2025

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

- 1. General Questions:** Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 2. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).
- 3. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Social Justice and Housing were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 4. Contract (Formation and Remedies) (Scotland) Bill:** The Minister for Victims and Community Safety (Siobhian Brown) moved S6M-20173—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Contract (Formation and Remedies) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

- 5. Sentencing Bill - UK Legislation:** The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-20174—That the Parliament agrees that all relevant provisions of the Sentencing Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 2 September 2025, and subsequently amended, affecting changes which align the treatment of national security offenders with terrorist offenders under the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 and the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993, so far as these matters alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Motion Without Notice: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved a motion without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 2.10 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

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

8. Fairer Funding Allocation for Scotland's Fishing and Coastal Communities: The Parliament debated S6M-19427 in the name of Alasdair Allan— That the Parliament considers the UK Government's allocation of the £360 million UK-EU Fishing and Coastal Growth Fund, which is based on population rather than fishing industry size, to be wholly unfair and deeply damaging to the Scottish fishing industry; understands that Scottish vessels consistently land more than half of the UK's total catch, 63% of total catch value, and over 60% of seafood exports; believes that prior to Brexit, allocations of funds under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund were 36% for England, 46% for Scotland, 10% for Northern Ireland and 8% for Wales, in comparison to the allocation of under 8% for Scotland via Barnett consequentialists used as the mechanism for allocating the Fishing and Coastal Growth Fund; recognises what it sees as the vital importance of the fishing industry both economically and culturally to Scotland's coastal communities, including in the Western Isles, and notes calls on the UK Government to reconsider its position on the Fishing and Coastal Growth Fund allocation to better reflect the significant economic contribution of Scotland's fishers and coastal communities.

The meeting closed at 2.46 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
18 December 2025

Appendix

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

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