



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 81, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 12 February 2026

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

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

**1. General Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

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

**3. Securing a Long-term Home for Edinburgh South FC and Recognising the Important Role of Grassroots Football:** The Parliament debated S6M-20146 in the name of Daniel Johnson—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the significant contribution that Edinburgh South FC (ESFC) Inch Park Community Sports Club makes to grassroots sport and community participation across the Edinburgh Southern constituency; notes that the ESFC is one of the largest community football organisations in the country, with over 1,000 players across 75 teams, and supported by more than 200 volunteers; understands that the area of Inch Park, which is known locally as the "nursery site" has been identified as the preferred location for a new all-weather pitch and new changing facilities to support year-round participation and reduce cancellations; acknowledges that ESFC's plans have received support from the SFA; notes calls encouraging more local authorities and leisure centres to work alongside football clubs to secure sustainable long-term homes for clubs; believes that good access to high-quality and affordable football facilities is essential to supporting participation, improving health and wellbeing and offering opportunities for young people in communities across Scotland, and recognises what it sees as the important role that grassroots football clubs play nationwide in fostering inclusion, developing talent and strengthening communities.

**4. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Social Justice and Housing were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

**5. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) made a statement and answered questions on Sentencing and Penal Policy Commission.

**6. Budget (Scotland) (No. 5) Bill:** The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-20720—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Budget (Scotland) (No. 5) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65, Against 30, Abstentions 24).

**7. Medical Training (Prioritisation) Bill – UK Legislation:** The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved S6M-20719—That the Parliament agrees that the relevant provisions of the Medical Training (Prioritisation) Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 13 January 2026, relating to clauses 1 to 8, so far as they relate to matters which fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament or alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**8. Amendments to the Scottish Parliament Salaries Scheme:** Jackson Carlaw, on behalf of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body, moved S6M-20738—That the Parliament, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 81(1), 81(5)(b) and 83(5) of the Scotland Act 1998 resolves that, with effect from the day of the poll at the first general election for membership of the Parliament following the day on which this Resolution is approved, the Scottish Parliament Salaries Scheme is amended as follows—

(a) for paragraph 2(2) substitute—

"For any period during which a salary is payable to a member of the Parliament pursuant to a resolution of the House of Lords relating to the remuneration of members of that House, the yearly rate of the salary payable by virtue of this Scheme to that member for that period shall be reduced by two-thirds."

(b) after paragraph 2(2) insert—

"(2A) No salary shall be paid to a member of the Parliament in respect of any period in which the member is or was also a member of the House of Commons. This does not apply to any salary payable to a member of the Parliament in their capacity as the First Minister, a Scottish Minister, a junior Scottish Minister, the Lord Advocate, the Solicitor General for Scotland, the Presiding Officer or a Deputy Presiding Officer.

(2B) If remuneration is also payable to a member of the Parliament in respect of the same period under regulations made under section 11(1) of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 then the amount of salary payable to the member shall be

reduced by the amount specified as payable to a councillor (who is not designated the Leader of the Council, the Civic Head or a senior councillor) by those regulations made under section 11(1) of the 2004 Act."

(c) in paragraph 2(1), after "sub-paragraph (2)" add ", (2A) and (2B)".

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**9. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 6, 7 and 8 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.11 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
12 February 2026

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

**Committee Reports**

The following reports were published on 12 February 2026—

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 4th Report, 2026 (Session 6): Draft Climate Change Plan as it relates to agriculture and land use (SP Paper 1000)

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 3rd Report, 2026 (Session 6): Care Leaver Payment (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft] (SP Paper 1003)

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Affirmative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 12 February 2026 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Prisoners (Early Release) (Miscellaneous Amendment and Transitional Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft]  
laid under section 27A(2)(d) of the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993

**Negative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 12 February 2026 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Non-Domestic Rates (Levying and Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/68)  
laid under section 153(6) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994

Non-Domestic Rates (Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Relief) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/69)  
laid under section 153(6) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994

Non-Domestic Rates (Transitional Relief) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/70)  
laid under section 153(6) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994

Council Tax (Dwellings and Part Residential Subjects) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/72)  
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Environmental Protection (Wet Wipes Containing Plastic) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/75)  
laid under section 160A(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

## **Laid Only Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 12 February 2026 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Act of Sederunt (Registration Appeal Court) 2026 (SSI 2026/73)  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform  
(Scotland) Act 2010

Act of Sederunt (Lands Valuation Appeal Court) 2026 (SSI 2026/76)  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform  
(Scotland) Act 2010

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