



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 73, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 27 January 2026

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Emily Stephen and Julian Staniszewski, Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors, led Time for Reflection.

2. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-20568— That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 27 January 2026—

delete

9.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

10.00 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 28 January 2026—

after

followed by Motion on Legislative Consent: Sustainable Aviation Fuel Bill – UK Legislation

insert

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill

delete

5.30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

and insert

9.30 pm Decision Time

(c) Thursday 29 January 2026—

delete

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

and insert

2.15 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.15 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

after

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill

insert

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Fruit and Vegetables) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft]

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.25 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

4. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-20557—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 1 hour 25 minutes

Groups 4 to 5: 2 hours 55 minutes

Groups 6 to 8: 5 hours

Groups 9 to 11: 7 hours 15 minutes

Groups 12 to 15: 8 hours 50 minutes

Groups 16 to 19: 9 hours 50 minutes

The motion was agreed to.

5. Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 27, 29, 72, 73, 74, 75, 3, 10, 49, 51, 52, 53, 97, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 141, 34 and 21.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

22 (For 69, Against 43, Abstentions 0)
23 (For 85, Against 27, Abstentions 0)
70 (For 85, Against 27, Abstentions 0)
30 (For 86, Against 21, Abstentions 0)
48 (For 84, Against 25, Abstentions 0)
71 (For 86, Against 23, Abstentions 0)
32 (For 84, Against 25, Abstentions 0)
79 (For 84, Against 26, Abstentions 0)
11 (For 103, Against 7, Abstentions 0)
50 (For 84, Against 24, Abstentions 0)
20E (For 78, Against 28, Abstentions 0)
20 (For 105, Against 1, Abstentions 1)
33 (For 100, Against 8, Abstentions 0)
102 (For 86, Against 23, Abstentions 0)
140 (For 100, Against 9, Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

63 (For 44, Against 68, Abstentions 0)
46 (For 24, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
47 (For 24, Against 87, Abstentions 0)
64 (For 25, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
65 (For 26, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
66 (For 7, Against 92, Abstentions 13)
67 (For 24, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
68 (For 48, Against 61, Abstentions 0)
69 (For 50, Against 62, Abstentions 0)
76 (For 52, Against 58, Abstentions 0)
77 (For 25, Against 85, Abstentions 0)
1 (For 43, Against 67, Abstentions 0)
2 (For 43, Against 66, Abstentions 0)
4 (For 26, Against 85, Abstentions 0)
5 (For 25, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
6 (For 27, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
7 (For 26, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
78 (For 26, Against 81, Abstentions 1)
9 (For 27, Against 84, Abstentions 0)

80 (For 26, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
81 (For 25, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
82 (For 27, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
83 (For 25, Against 81, Abstentions 0)
84 (For 27, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
85 (For 27, Against 81, Abstentions 0)
86 (For 27, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
87 (For 27, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
88 (For 27, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
13 (For 26, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
14 (For 23, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
15 (For 26, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
89 (For 27, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
90 (For 27, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
91 (For 26, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
92 (For 27, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
93 (For 27, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
16 (For 27, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
17 (For 25, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
18 (For 27, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
94 (For 24, Against 83, Abstentions 1)
95 (For 25, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
20A (For 26, Against 80, Abstentions 0)
20B (For 25, Against 81, Abstentions 0)
20C (For 51, Against 56, Abstentions 0)
20D (For 49, Against 55, Abstentions 0)
98 (For 22, Against 87, Abstentions 0)
99 (For 26, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
100 (For 26, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
101 (For 25, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
103 (For 26, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
104 (For 24, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
105 (For 26, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
106 (For 39, Against 67, Abstentions 0)
107 (For 40, Against 67, Abstentions 0)
108 (For 25, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
109 (For 25, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
110 (For 24, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
111 (For 23, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
112 (For 24, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
113 (For 41, Against 66, Abstentions 0)
114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125 and 126 en bloc (For 24, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
127 (For 26, Against 80, Abstentions 0)
128 (For 26, Against 81, Abstentions 0)
129 (For 25, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
130 (For 25, Against 84, Abstentions 0)
131 (For 25, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
132 (For 24, Against 85, Abstentions 0)
133 (For 47, Against 61, Abstentions 0)

134 (For 47, Against 61, Abstentions 0)
135 (For 50, Against 56, Abstentions 0)
138 (For 26, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
139 (For 26, Against 83, Abstentions 0)
142 (For 20, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
143 (For 26, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
144 (For 21, Against 86, Abstentions 0)
145 (For 21, Against 87, Abstentions 0)
146 (For 21, Against 87, Abstentions 0)
147 (For 38, Against 71, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were not moved: 24, 25, 26, 31 (and as a consequence, 31A, 31B), 8, 12, 19, 96, 59, 136 and 137.

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

The meeting closed at 10.01 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
27 January 2026

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 23 January 2026—

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 4th Report, 2026 (Session 6): Stage 1 report on the Ecocide (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 968)

Criminal Justice Committee, 2nd Report, 2026 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on the Prostitution (Offences and Support) (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 970)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 11th Report, 2026 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 975)

The following report was published on 26 January 2026—

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 2nd Report, 2026 (Session 6): Stage 1 report on the Freedom of Information Reform (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 974)

The following reports were published on 27 January 2026—

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 3rd Report, 2026 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on 21 January 2026 (SP Paper 969)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 2nd Report, 2026 (Session 6): Stage 1 Report on Non-surgical Procedures and Functions of Medical Reviewers (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 976)

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 3rd Report, 2026 (Session 6): Standing Order rule changes arising from the Committee's report 'Strengthening committees' effectiveness' (SP Paper 977)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 12th Report, 2026 (Session 6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee on 27 January 2026 (SP Paper 979)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 23 January 2026 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Absent Voting (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft] laid under section 201(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and paragraphs 1 and 2 of schedule 7 of the Scotland Act 1998

Absent Voting (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2026 [draft]
laid under paragraphs 1 and 2 of schedule 7 of the Scotland Act 1998

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 27 January 2026 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Skin Piercing and Tattooing) Amendment Order 2026 [draft]

laid under section 44(3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982

Public Services Reform (Scottish Water) Order 2026 [draft]

laid under section 25(2)(b) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

The following affirmative instrument was withdrawn on 27 January 2026—

National Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2026 [draft]

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 23 January 2026 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (Modification) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/19)

laid under section 133(2) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980

National Health Service (Functions of the Common Services Agency) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Order 2026 (SSI 2016/20)

laid under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

NHS Education for Scotland and Common Services Agency (Transfer of Staff) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2016/23)

laid under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

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

Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 (Rules of Procedure in Children's Hearings) Amendment Rules 2026 (SSI 2026/30)

laid under section 196 of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Laid Only Instruments

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

Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Act 2023 (Commencement No. 3) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2016/24 (C.2))

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 23 January 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Police (Ethics, Conduct & Scrutiny) (Scotland) Act 2025 – Code of Ethics for Policing in Scotland (PSoS/2026/01) laid under section 36A of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 as amended by the Police (Ethics, Conduct & Scrutiny) (Scotland) Act 2025

Statement of Reasons for the Proposed Draft Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 Remedial Order 2026 (SG/2026/34) laid under section 13(3)(a) of the Convention Rights (Compliance) (Scotland) Act 2001 for the purposes of consultation required by section 13(3)(b) of that Act

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 26 January 2026 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Edinburgh Low Emission Zone Annual Report (LEZAR) Year 1: June 2024 to March 2025 (CEC/2026/01) laid under Section 29 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 27 January 2026 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Water Interim Accounts: For the six months to 30 September 2025 (SG/2026/23) laid under Section 57(8) of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002

Explanatory Document: The Public Services Reform (Scottish Water) Order 2026 (SG/2026/37) laid under section 25(2)(b) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

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