



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 10, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 3 June 2025

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

**1. Time for Reflection:** The Reverend Mark Goodman, Rector, St. Columba's SEC, Largs, led Time for Reflection.

**2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by a Minister.

**3. Ministerial Statement:** The Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Allan) made a statement and answered questions on A Just Transition for Aberdeen and the North East.

**4. A Blueprint for Participation - Embedding Deliberative Democracy in the Work of the Scottish Parliament:** Jackson Carlaw, on behalf of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee, moved S6M-17733—That the Parliament welcomes the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee's 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6), A blueprint for participation - embedding deliberative democracy in the work of the Scottish Parliament (SP Paper 789), including the blueprint for this work in Session 7 with a view to making the use of such panels a regular feature of committee scrutiny from Session 7 onwards; endorses the principles for the future use of deliberative democracy that are set out in the blueprint, and acknowledges the work already being done by Parliament staff to develop and improve engagement methods.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**5. Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 4 as noted above.

**6. Combatting Commercial Sexual Exploitation:** The Parliament debated S6M-17004 in the name of Rhoda Grant—That the Parliament understands that prostitution is recognised by the Scottish Government as a form of violence against women; considers that, despite the Scottish Government's commitment to deterring demand for prostitution, it is currently legal to perpetrate this form of violence against women in Scotland, including in the Highlands and Islands region; further considers that Scotland is an attractive destination for sex traffickers due to pimping websites and paying for sex being legal; notes the findings of the report, International Insights: How Scotland can learn from international efforts to combat commercial sexual exploitation, which was published by the survivor-led campaign, A Model For Scotland; further notes the support for its conclusion that outlawing pimping websites and paying for sex, and decriminalising victims, is critical to reducing the demand that drives commercial sexual exploitation; understands that the right has been secured to introduce the proposed Prostitution (Offences and Support) (Scotland) Bill; believes that the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Girls recommends that states adopt the prostitution law reforms advocated by the campaign, A Model For Scotland, and contained in the proposed Prostitution (Offences and Support) (Scotland) Bill, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to outlaw pimping websites and paying for sex, and to decriminalise and support victims of sexual exploitation.

The meeting closed at 5.47 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
3 June 2025

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

**Committee Reports**

The following report was published on 30 May 2025—

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, 1st Report, 2025  
(Session 6): Annual Report of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice  
Committee 2024-25 (SP Paper 806)

The following reports were published on 3 June 2025—

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, 6th Report, 2025 (Session 6):  
Subordinate legislation considered by the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee  
on 28 May 2025 (SP Paper 797)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 40th Report, 2025 (Session  
6): Delegated powers in the Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1  
(SP Paper 811)

**Legislative Consent Memorandum**

The following memorandum was lodged on 3 June 2025—

Mairi Gougeon, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands:  
Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Animal Welfare (Import of Dogs,  
Cats and Ferrets) Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-58)

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Affirmative Instruments**

The following instrument was withdrawn on 3 June 2025—

Scottish Parliament (Disqualification) Order 2025 [draft]

**Laid Only Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 2 June 2025 and is not  
subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 1)  
Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/167 (C. 15))  
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 30 May 2025 and are  
not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Report to the Scottish Parliament on the number of Assessors and Availability of Resources – Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board (AVJB/2025/01)** laid under section 24 of the non-Domestic Rates (Scotland) Act 2020

**Report to the Scottish Parliament on the number of Assessors and Availability of Resources – Glasgow City Council Valuation Joint Board (GCCVJB/2025/01)** laid under section 24 of the non-Domestic Rates (Scotland) Act 2020

**Report to the Scottish Parliament on the number of Assessors and Availability of Resources – Grampian Valuation Joint Board (GVJB/2025/01)** laid under section 24 of the non-Domestic Rates (Scotland) Act 2020

**Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Report to Parliament 2020-2024 (SG/2025/102)** laid under Section 2(7) of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004

**Report to the Scottish Parliament on the number of Assessors and Availability of Resources – Tayside Valuation Joint Board (TVJB/2025/01)** laid under section 24 of the non-Domestic Rates (Scotland) Act 2020

**Report to the Scottish Parliament on the number of Assessors and Availability of Resources – Orkney & Shetland Valuation Joint Board (OSVJB/2025/01)** laid under section 24 of the non-Domestic Rates (Scotland) Act 2020

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