



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 9, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 29 May 2025

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. 30 Years on from the Bosnian Genocide in Srebrenica:** The Parliament debated S6M-17419 in the name of Michelle Thomson—That the Parliament recognises the 30th anniversary of the Bosnian genocide in Srebrenica in which 8,372 innocent civilians were murdered by Bosnian Serb forces; remembers the victims who suffered violence, torture and brutality in what it believes to be the single largest act of ethnic cleansing in Europe since the Second World War; understands that 54 individuals have been prosecuted to date for their role in the massacre but considers that many more were involved in creating the culture and environment, which led to the genocide in Srebrenica, through their use of hate speech, oppression, discrimination and propaganda against the Bosnian Muslim population; praises the work of Mothers of Srebrenica, which, it understands, engaged in protests and other acts of public defiance to demand that the mass graves be found and the victims identified; believes that, to date, more than 7,000 of the reported missing from Srebrenica have been accounted for and buried in marked graves; commends the work of Beyond Srebrenica, whose efforts through its programme, Lessons of Srebrenica, challenge hate and intolerance using the lessons learned from the 1995 Srebrenica genocide, ensuring that they are better understood and prevented in the future; considers that genocide, recognised as an international crime usually carried

out during war, is complex to stop and notes the belief that all world leaders must pledge to eradicate it, but that individuals can challenge hate and intolerance, which it considers are the root causes of many conflicts, and reflects on the atrocities of the Srebrenica genocide 30 years on.

**4. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) made a statement and answered questions on Galloway and Ayrshire National Park Proposal.

**5. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) made a statement and answered questions on NHS Grampian.

**6. Ministerial Statement:** The Minister for Public Finance (Ivan McKee) made a statement and answered questions on Responding to RAAC in the Public Sector Across Scotland.

**7. Tobacco and Vapes Bill - UK Legislation:** The Minister for Public Health and Women's Health (Jenni Minto) moved S6M-17708—That the Parliament agrees that the relevant provisions of the Tobacco and Vapes Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 5 November 2024, and subsequently amended relating to age verification in relation to tobacco and vaping products etc, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**8. Motion Without Notice:** Lorna Slater, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.23pm.

The motion was agreed to.

**9. Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 7 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.24 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
29 May 2025

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

**Committee Reports**

The following reports were published on 29 May 2025—

Rural Affairs and Island Committee, 5th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Annual report of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee 2024-25 (SP Paper 795)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Annual Report of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee 2024-25 (SP Paper 801)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 38th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Supplementary Delegated Powers in the Care Reform (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 803)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 39th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Delegated powers in the Victims, Witnesses and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill (as amended at Stage 2) (SP Paper 804)

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6): Annual report of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee 2024-25 (SP Paper 807)

Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6): Annual report of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee 2024-2025 (SP Paper 808)

The following report will be published on 30 May 2025—

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 7th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Annual report of the Education, Children and Young People Committee 2024-2025 (SP Paper 802)

**Legislative Consent Memorandum**

The following memorandum was lodged on 29 May 2025—

Kate Forbes, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-50b)

**Other Documents**

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 29 May 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

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

**A report on the proposal for a National Park in Southwest Scotland (SG/2025/94)** laid under Section 3(10) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scotland's Fiscal and Economic Forecasts– May 2025 (SFC/2025/4)** laid under section 5(2) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

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