



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 40, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 28 October 2025

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Rev Bryan Kerr, Parish Minister, Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark, 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-19440—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—s

(a) Tuesday 28 October 2025—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by First Minister's Statement: Scotland's Commitment to International Development

(b) Thursday 30 October 2025—

delete

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Climate Action and Energy, and Transport

and insert

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Climate Action and Energy, and Transport

after

followed by Financial Resolution: Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill

insert

followed by Motion on Legislative Consent: Planning and Infrastructure Bill – UK Legislation

followed by Financial Resolution: Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill

The motion was agreed to.

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister and a Cabinet Secretary.

4. Ministerial Statement: The First Minister (John Swinney) made a statement and answered questions on Scotland's Commitment to International Development.

5. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-19429—That the Parliament agrees that, during Stage 3 of the Land Reform (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 hr 45 minutes
Groups 4 to 5	3 hrs 30 minutes
Groups 6 to 7	5 hrs 15 minutes
Groups 8 to 9	6 hrs 30 minutes
Groups 10 to 11	8 hrs 45 minutes
Groups 12 to 13	10 hours
Groups 14 to 20	11 hours 30 minutes
Groups 21 to 24	12 hours 45 minutes
Groups 25 to 27	14 hours
Groups 28 to 29	15 hours

The motion was agreed to by division: For 86 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 29, Abstentions 0).

6. Land Reform (Scotland) Bill: The Parliament considered the Bill at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 256, 257, 134, 135, 138, 139, 140, 269, 143, 151, 152, 153, 278, 154, 280, 156, 159, 160, 161, 167, 168, 170, 172 and 173.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

117 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
235 (For 88 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
236 (For 88 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
237 (For 87 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
239 (For 68 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 42 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
243 (For 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
244 (For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
123 (For 81 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 32, Abstentions 0)
250 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
258 (For 84 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
126 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
260 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
130 (For 97 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 16 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
262 (For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
263 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 24, Abstentions 0)
141 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 24, Abstentions 0)
270 (For 84 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 25, Abstentions 0)
276 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 24, Abstentions 0)
279 (For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 25, Abstentions 0)
157 (For 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 25, Abstentions 0)
158 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 25, Abstentions 0)
162 (For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
163 (For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
164 (For 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 26, Abstentions 0)
165 (For 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
166 (For 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Against 27, Abstentions 0)
174 (For 82 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 30 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

115 (For 23 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 89 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
233 (For 23 (including 2 proxy vote), Against 88 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
116 (For 27 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
16 (For 48 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 66 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
118 (For 28, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
119 (For 7 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 108 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)

17 (For 41 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 71 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
18 (For 27, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
120 (For 26, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
121 (For 26, Against 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
240 (For 25, Against 88 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
241 (For 25, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
242 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
19 (For 27, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
122 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
20 (For 27, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
245 (For 27, Against 84 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
246 (For 27, Against 88 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
247 (For 27, Against 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
248 (For 27, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
21 (For 27, Against 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
125 (For 27, Against 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
251 (For 41 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 71 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
252 (For 27, Against 84 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
259 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
128 (For 30, Against 81 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
22 (For 42 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 71 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
6 (For 23 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
23 (For 25, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
1 (For 25, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
24 (For 24 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 87 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
265 (For 25, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
136 (For 24, Against 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
266 (For 23 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 88 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
137 (For 25, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
142 (For 27 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 80, Abstentions 0)
28 (For 25, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
29 (For 42 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 68 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
30 (For 30, Against 81 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
31 (For 29, Against 81 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
32 (For 29, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
34 (For 30, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
145 (For 30, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
35 (For 29, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
36 (For 30, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
146 (For 26, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
147 (For 46 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 62 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
37 (For 26, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)

148 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 271 (For 28, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 272 (For 29, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 149 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 38 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 150 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 273 (For 30, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 274 (For 28, Against 82 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 39 (For 37 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 63 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 277 (For 25, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 41 (For 26, Against 85 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 42 (For 24, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 155 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 43 (For 25, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 7 (For 24 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 89 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
 46 (For 26, Against 86 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 47 (For 24 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 89 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 0)
 51 (For 43 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 70 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 169 (For 26, Against 87 (including 3 proxy votes), Abstentions 0)
 285 (For 21 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 91 (including 2 proxy votes), Abstentions 0).

The following amendment was moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 232.

The following amendment was pre-empted: 131.

The following amendments were not moved: 234, 238, 124, 249, 253, 254, 255, 127 (and as a consequence 127A), 129, 261, 132, 133, 264, 25, 26, 27, 267, 268, 144, 33, 275, 40, 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 281, 282, 283, 284, 171, 286.

7. Urgent Question: An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government, in light of the recent sentencing of a grooming gang in Dundee, what urgent action it will take to establish a national taskforce to identify and dismantle any exploitation networks targeting children and vulnerable adults in Scotland, was answered by Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance).

8. Decision Time: The Parliament took no decisions as a result of today's business.

The meeting closed at 9.49 pm.

David McGill
 Clerk of the Parliament
 28 October 2025

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 21 October 2025—

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 9th Report, 2025 (Session 6):
Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill
(SP Paper 357)

The following report was published on 23 October 2025—

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 10th Report, 2025 (Session 6):
Scottish Statutory Instruments relating to administration of the Scottish
Aggregates Tax (SP Paper 891)

The following report was published on 24 October 2025—

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 9th Report, 2025 (Session 6):
Carer's Assistance (Miscellaneous and Consequential Amendments,
Revocation, Transitional and Saving Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2025
[draft] (SP Paper 892)

The following report was published on 27 October 2025—

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 6th Report,
2025 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation relating to the holding of dual
mandates (SP Paper 893)

Legislative Consent Memorandums

The following memorandum was lodged on 24 October 2025—

Gillian Martin, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy:
Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Planning and
Infrastructure Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-56b)

The following memorandum was lodged on 27 October 2025—

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Transport: Supplementary Legislative
Consent Memorandum on the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Bill (UK
Parliament legislation) (LCM-S6-61a)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 10 October 2025 and
are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Energy Performance of Buildings (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 5(1) of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021 and section 253(2)(b) of the Energy Act 2023

Rural Support (Improvement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 2(3) of the Agriculture (Retained EU Law and Data) (Scotland) Act 2020

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 27 October 2025 and are subject to the affirmative procedure—

Cross-Border Public Procurement (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 122(14) of the Procurement Act 2023

Good Food Nation (Specified Functions and Descriptions) (Scottish Ministers) Regulations 2025 [draft]

laid under section 27(5) of the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022

Negative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 17 October 2025 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2025 (SI 2025/1101)

laid under section 48 and paragraph 12 of schedule 3 of the Climate Change Act 2008

Laid Only Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 23 October 2025 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Parliament Elections (Regional Returning Officers and Constituency Returning Officers) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/287)

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

Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (Non-Party Campaigner Code of Practice) (Appointed Date) (Scotland) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/288)

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

Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 (Statutory Guidance on Imprints on Electronic Materials) (Appointed Date) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/289)

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

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 27 October 2025 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 (Commencement No. 4) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/291)

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

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 10 October 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Environmental Standards Scotland Strategy Accompanying Statement (ESS/2025/02) laid under Schedule 2(2)4 of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 13 October 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Dundee City Council Annual Low Emission Zone Report (DCC/2025/01) laid under Section 19 of Part 2 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

Independent Monitoring Authority's Annual Report to the Specialised Committee on Citizens' Rights established under the Withdrawal Agreement and the Joint Committee established under the EEA EFTA Separation Agreement (SG/2025/228) laid under Paragraph 31 of Schedule 2 to the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020

Scottish Fiscal Commission Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (SFC/2025/9) laid under section 12(1) of the Scottish Fiscal Commission Act 2016

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 14 October 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority Annual Report and Accounts 2024/25 (SG/2025/227) laid under section 26 of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 15 October 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Annual Report: Inspectors of Burial, Cremation and Funeral Directors 1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025 (SG/2025/245) laid under Section 93 of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 16 October 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024-25 (SG/2025/258) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 17 October 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Revenue Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 - Resource Accounts (RS/2025/01) laid under the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act 2014

Revenue Scotland Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 - Devolved Taxes Accounts (RS/2025/02) laid under the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act 2014

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 21 October 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

First Statutory 3-Year Review of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Code of Practice (SG/2025/237) laid under Section 14 of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Act 2020

Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2024/25 (SG/2025/212) laid under Section 31 and 32 of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Act 2020

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 22 October 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland Annual Report 2024/25 (CES/2025/01) laid under section 25(1) of the Scottish Parliamentary Commissions and Commissioners etc. Act 2010 as amended

Health and Care Professions Council Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25 (SG/2025/171) laid under Articles 44(2) and 46(7) of the Health Professions Order 2001

Health and Care Professions Council Fitness to Practise Annual Report 2024-25 (SG/2025/216) laid under Article 44(1) of the Health Professions Order 2001

Independent National Whistleblowing Officer: Compendium of Case Reports for October 2025 (INWO/2025/10) laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Independent Report by a Tribunal constituted under Section 21 of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 to report into the fitness for office of a Judicial Office Holder - Summary Sheriff (SG/2025/226) laid under Section 24 of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Annual Report 2024-25 (SPSO/2025/AR) laid under Sections 17(1) and (3) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for October 2025 (SPSO/2025/10) laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

Scottish Sentencing Council Annual Report 2024-25 (SG/2025/257) laid under section 13(5) of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 23 October 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Housing Regulator - Annual Performance Report & Accounts 2024/25 (SG/2025/186) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 24 October 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland's annual report for children and young people 2024-25 (CCYP/2025/02) laid under Section 10(1) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003

National Galleries of Scotland Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements, for the year ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/261) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 27 October 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Children's Hearings Scotland - Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25 (SG/2025/246) laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Children's Hearings Scotland Impact Report 2024-25 (SG/2025/247) laid under Paragraph 21 of schedule 3 of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

Ethical Standards Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2024/25 (SG/2025/263) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002: Report on exercise of section 5 power (SG/2025/256) laid under Section 7A of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

GTC Scotland Annual Report and Accounts - Year to 31 March 2025 (GTCS/2025/01) laid under Schedule 3, para 5(1) of the Public Services Reform (General Teaching Council for Scotland) Order 2011

Scottish Information Commissioner Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25 (SG/2025/234) laid under Section 46(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

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