

Thursday 22 September 2016

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean

Revised at 1:20pm



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Today's Business

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S5M-01629, today's business will be as follows:

Meeting of the Parliament

2:00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:00 pm Scottish Government Debate:
Reforming Local Taxation

followed by Scottish Government Debate:
Securing Scotland's Position as the Perfect
Stage for Events

followed by General Questions

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

Committee Meetings

There are no meetings today.

Meeting of the Parliament

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S5M-01629, today's business will be as follows:

2:00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

S5M-01629 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 22 September 2016—

delete

followed by Securing Scotland's Position as the Perfect Stage for Events

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

followed by Securing Scotland's Position as the Perfect Stage for Events

followed by Continuation of General Questions

5.00 pm Decision Time

2:00 pm Scottish Government Debate: Reforming Local Taxation

S5M-01580 Derek Mackay: Reforming Local Taxation—That the Parliament notes the opportunity for change created by the December 2015 report of the Commission on Local Tax Reform; recognises the initial changes to council tax proposed by the Scottish Government, and supports continued discussion by all parties, with local government and wider society, of measures to improve progressivity and local financial accountability over the current parliamentary session.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

S5M-01580.1 Murdo Fraser: Reforming Local Taxation—As an amendment to motion S5M-01580 in the name of Derek Mackay (Reforming Local Taxation), leave out from "recognises" to end and insert "but regrets that the Scottish Government's proposals for Council Tax reform undermine the principle of local accountability and autonomy and fail to address a number of issues identified by the commission; notes the opportunities to remedy this over the current parliamentary session, and commits to further discussions by all parties to seek to establish an enduring system of local government finance."

S5M-01580.2 Jackie Baillie: Reforming Local Taxation—As an amendment to motion S5M-01580 in the name of Derek Mackay (Reforming Local Taxation), insert at end "further notes the SNP manifesto commitments to scrap the Council Tax in both 2007 and 2011 and that the Scottish Government has failed to deliver on those pledges; recognises that its current proposals for reform "fall short of making the Council Tax a 'proportionate' tax" as noted by the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe); acknowledges that, in her report, the Scottish Government's poverty adviser said that the "Council Tax is widely viewed as no longer fit for purpose" and to "be bold on local taxation"; recognises the level of cuts to funding that local authorities have faced in recent years and the consequent impact on the services that local people rely on; commits the Scottish Government to bring forward reform that is more progressive than the current proposals as well as using the powers of the Parliament to invest in Scotland's economy and its people."

S5M-01580.3 Andy Wightman: Reforming Local Taxation—As an amendment to motion S5M-01580 in the name of Derek Mackay (Reforming Local Taxation), insert at end "regrets the

Scottish Government's current lack of ambition in the reform of local taxation; endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Commission, in particular that the present Council Tax system must end, that the new system should offer greater flexibility to local government and strengthen local democracy, that the system of local taxation has to include recurrent taxation on domestic property and that liabilities should be linked to up-to-date property values, and considers that the proposals outlined in the Scottish Green Party's *Fair Funding for Public Services* paper and its alternative Council Tax statutory instrument represent a fair and progressive way forward for local government finance."

followed by **Scottish Government Debate: Securing Scotland's Position as the Perfect Stage for Events**

S5M-01581 Fiona Hyslop: Securing Scotland's Position as the Perfect Stage for

Events—That the Parliament recognises the strength of Scotland's annual portfolio of events and its positive impact on the economy, tourism and in communities across Scotland; celebrates the recent successes of the summer sporting and cultural events and festivals; supports the continued ambition, as set out in the 2015 national events strategy, that Scotland's reputation as the perfect stage for events is recognised nationally and internationally; notes the importance of effective partnerships and collaboration by the industry, the Scottish Government, its relevant agencies and non-departmental public bodies and local authorities in delivering the strategy and planning for shared initiatives such as the themed years; welcomes the establishment of the Events and Festivals Industry Group, which has been brought together by the Scottish Tourism Alliance to facilitate a collective industry response to the strategy, and recognises the future opportunities for Scotland following the successful securing of major sporting events, including the 2018 European Championships, the 2019 Solheim Cup and the 2020 UEFA European Football Championships.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendment

S5M-01581.1 Rachael Hamilton: Securing Scotland's Position as the Perfect Stage for

Events—As an amendment to motion S5M-01581 in the name of Fiona Hyslop (Securing Scotland's Position as the Perfect Stage for Events), leave out from "establishment" to end and insert "support for events such as the Edinburgh International Culture Summit given by the UK Government; further welcomes the establishment of the Events and Festivals Industry Group, which has been brought together by the Scottish Tourism Alliance to facilitate a collective industry response to the strategy; recognises the future opportunities for Scotland following the successful securing of major sporting events, including the 2018 European Championships, the 2019 Solheim Cup and the 2020 UEFA European Football Championships, and notes the importance of good infrastructure and transport systems, particularly in rural and semi-rural areas, to improving access to large events for people across Scotland."

followed by **General Questions**

5. Neil Bibby: To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to improve performance on Scotland's railways. ([S5O-00175](#))

6. Alison Harris: To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the reported views of businesses regarding slow broadband speeds in the Grangemouth area. ([S5O-00176](#))

7. Tom Arthur: To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to empower communities. ([S5O-00177](#))

8. Liz Smith: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on CAP subsidy payments to farmers in Perthshire. ([S5O-00178](#))

9. Peter Chapman: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on funding for NHS Grampian. ([S5O-00179](#))

10. Daniel Johnson: To ask the Scottish Government whether all of its and its agencies' employees receive at least the Scottish living wage. ([S5O-00180](#))

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

Committee Meetings

All meetings take place in the Scottish Parliament, unless otherwise specified.

Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

Web site: <http://www.parliament.scot>

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Economy, Jobs and Fair Work	5214
Education and Skills	5204
Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform	5051
Equal Opportunities	5213
European and External Relations	5226
Finance	5451
Health and Sport	5410
Justice	5047
Local Government and Communities	6037
Public Audit	5236
Public Petitions	5178
Rural Economy and Connectivity	5244
Social Security	5208
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments	5179

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