

Wednesday 17 January 2018

# Business Bulletin

*Iris Ghnothaichean*

Revised at 12:00pm



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Today's Business

### Meeting of the Parliament

**2:00 pm** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**2:00 pm** Urgent Question

**followed by** Portfolio Questions  
Education and Skills

**followed by** Scottish Labour Debate:  
Protecting Public Services

**followed by** Business Motions

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5:15 pm** Decision Time

**followed by** Members' Business — S5M-  
09328 Joan McAlpine: The Economic  
Potential of Robert Burns

### Committee Meetings

**10:00am** Local Government and  
Communities Committee

**10:00am** Rural Economy and Connectivity  
Committee

## Meeting of the Parliament

### 2:00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

### 2:00 pm Urgent Question

Colin Smyth: To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to reports that hundreds of drivers were stranded overnight on the M74.

### followed by Portfolio Questions

#### Education and Skills

- 1. Ross Greer:** To ask the Scottish Government what analysis it has carried out on the impact on schools of its proposed reductions to local authority budgets. ([S5O-01674](#))
- 2. Liam McArthur:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to ensure there are appropriate levels of accommodation available for higher education students attending courses at campus. ([S5O-01675](#))
- 3. Andy Wightman:** To ask the Scottish Government what support it provides for instrumental music education in primary and secondary schools. ([S5O-01676](#))
- 4. Kenneth Gibson:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to encourage qualified teachers who have left the profession to return. ([S5O-01677](#))
- 5. Fulton MacGregor:** To ask the Scottish Government how many local authorities pay the minimum level for school clothing grants. ([S5O-01678](#))
- 6. Dean Lockhart:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to encourage more young people into apprenticeships. ([S5O-01679](#))
- 7. David Torrance:** To ask the Scottish Government what progress is being made on widening access to university, particularly for those from the most disadvantaged areas. ([S5O-01680](#))
- 8. James Dornan:** To ask the Scottish Government how it supports distance learning for postgraduate students. ([S5O-01681](#))
- 9. Mairi Gougeon:** To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to improve teacher recruitment. ([S5O-01682](#))
- 10. Jeremy Balfour:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to address the reported high pupil-teacher ratios across the Lothian area. ([S5O-01683](#))
- 11. Alex Cole-Hamilton:** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on gender-neutral school uniforms. ([S5O-01684](#))
- 12. Ash Denham:** To ask the Scottish Government how it will ensure that young people in the Edinburgh Eastern constituency, particularly in more deprived areas, will be able to participate in the Year of Young People 2018. ([S5O-01685](#))
- 13. Margaret Mitchell:** To ask the Scottish Government how it ensures that the widest possible subject choice is available to secondary school pupils. ([S5O-01686](#))
- 14. Gordon Lindhurst:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to address the reported shortage of teachers in STEM subjects. ([S5O-01687](#))

**15. Miles Briggs:** To ask the Scottish Government when it last met Universities Scotland and what was discussed. ([S5O-01688](#))

**16. Ivan McKee:** To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to support the work of organisations that mentor care-experienced young people, such as MCR Pathways in Glasgow. ([S5O-01689](#))

**17. Tom Mason:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to improve attainment levels across Aberdeen. ([S5O-01690](#))

**18. Bill Kidd:** To ask the Scottish Government how it is improving rights for children with additional support needs. ([S5O-01691](#))

**19. Emma Harper:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to encourage children from school into higher education. ([S5O-01692](#)) R

**20. Kate Forbes:** To ask the Scottish Government what the impact is on teacher numbers of immigration policy. ([S5O-01693](#))

### followed by Scottish Labour Debate: Protecting Public Services

**[S5M-09888](#) James Kelly: Protecting Public Services**—That the Parliament believes that the Draft Budget does not protect public services.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

**[S5M-09888.1](#) Derek Mackay: Protecting Public Services**—As an amendment to motion S5M-09888 in the name of James Kelly (Protecting Public Services), leave out from “believes” to end and insert “notes the publication of the Scottish Government Draft Budget 2018-19; welcomes the ongoing scrutiny of the Draft Budget by the Parliament, including by the Finance and Constitution Committee, and agrees that further discussions should take place during the forthcoming Budget Bill process.”

**[S5M-09888.4](#) Murdo Fraser: Protecting Public Services**—As an amendment to motion S5M-09888 in the name of James Kelly (Protecting Public Services), leave out from "believes" to end and insert "acknowledges that the UK Parliament block grant to the Scottish Government is increasing in real terms from 2017-18 to 2018-19; notes that any spending cuts to local services are a choice by the Scottish Government, not a necessity, and calls on the Scottish Government to abandon its plans to raise income tax and instead deliver a Budget that will focus on growing Scotland's economy and tax base."

**[S5M-09888.3](#) Patrick Harvie: Protecting Public Services**—As an amendment to motion S5M-09888 in the name of James Kelly (Protecting Public Services), leave out from "Draft Budget" to end and insert "Budget for 2018-19 must protect public services, fund a fair pay increase for public sector workers and invest in low-carbon infrastructure; urges the Scottish Government to amend the proposals in the Draft Budget to achieve this, and considers that all opposition parties have a responsibility in a period of minority government to put forward positive and constructive proposals for change."

**[S5M-09888.2](#) Willie Rennie: Protecting Public Services**—As an amendment to motion S5M-09888 in the name of James Kelly (Protecting Public Services), insert at end ", and further believes that the Draft Budget fails to deliver the transformation required in both education and mental health services, and that it defies the will of the Parliament, and the Scottish Government's own commitment, by omitting fair funding for internal ferries in the Northern Isles."

## followed by Business Motions

**[S5M-09925](#) Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion—That the Parliament agrees—**

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 23 January 2018

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Finance and Constitution Committee Debate: European Union (Withdrawal) Bill LCM – Interim Report

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 24 January 2018

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions

Health and Sport

*followed by* Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 25 January 2018

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

*followed by* Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Stage 1 Debate: Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 30 January 2018

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Stage 3 Proceedings: Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 31 January 2018

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions

Communities, Social Security and Equalities

*followed by* Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 1 February 2018

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

*followed by* Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Stage 3 Proceedings: Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

and (b) that, in relation to First Minister's Questions on 25 January 2018, in rule 13.6.2, insert at end "and may provide an opportunity for Party Leaders or their representatives to question the First Minister".

### **followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions**

#### **[S5M-09926](#) Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Sub-Committee**

**Membership**—That the Parliament agrees that Daniel Johnson be appointed to replace Mary Fee as a member of the Justice Sub-committee on Policing.

### **5:15 pm Decision Time**

#### **followed by Members' Business**

##### **Debate on the subject of—**

**[S5M-09328](#) Joan McAlpine: The Economic Potential of Robert Burns**—That the Parliament welcomes the contribution that Robert Burns continues to make to Scotland's economic and cultural life; understands that business generated during the Burns season includes spending on food and drink, hospitality, accommodation, kilt hire, printing and merchandising; notes that the creative economy is boosted through arts events such as the Big Burns Supper Festival in Dumfries, which is the culmination of Scotland's £390,000 Winter Festivals Programme; understands that year-round Burns-related tourism is on the increase thanks to Burns Scotland partner destinations such as the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum in Alloway, Ellisland Farm near Auldgirth, the Monument Centre in Kilmarnock and Burns House Museum in Mauchline, as well as numerous places around Scotland associated with the poet; notes that Burns the brand helps

promote Scotland's exports and trade links through Burns suppers around the globe, including through more than 250 member clubs of the Robert Burns World Federation; understands that Burns contributes to the success of Scotland's higher education institutions, including the Centre for Robert Burns Studies at the University of Glasgow, which encourages interest in the Bard through publications, seminar series, conferences, community and performance events, advice to exporters, research grant funding and international students and donor gifts, while providing strong strategic support to the National Burns Collection; understands that the last evaluation of Robert Burns' economic impact on modern Scotland was completed in 2003 for the BBC by the World Bank economist, Lesley Campbell, who estimated that he generated £157 million each year for Scotland, and believes that this figure has grown exponentially since the research was carried out and that celebrations of the Bard's birthday on 25 January will be an enriching experience in every sense of the word.

## Committee Meetings

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

### Local Government and Communities Committee 2nd Meeting, 2018

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in the James Clerk Maxwell Room (CR4)

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 5 in private at this and future meetings.
2. **Barclay Review of Non-Domestic Rates:** The Committee will take evidence from-

Derek Mackay, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution, and Douglas McLaren, Head of Local Taxation, Scottish Government.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instruments—  
The Letting Agent (Registration and Code of Practice) (Scotland) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2017 (SSI 2017/428);

The Fife Council Area and Perth and Kinross Council Area (Keltybridge and Fife Environmental Energy Park at Westfield) Boundaries Amendment Order 2017 (SSI 2017/430).

4. **Barclay Review of Non-Domestic Rates (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
5. **Homelessness:** The Committee will consider a draft report.

### Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee 2nd Meeting, 2018

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in the Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)

1. **Post Legislative Scrutiny:** The Committee will consider its approach to Post Legislative Scrutiny.
2. **Islands (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft Stage 1 report.

## Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

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

General Enquiries	5000
Chamber Desk (Motions and Questions)	5199
Parliamentary Business Team (Chamber, Parliamentary Bureau)	5187
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### Committee web sites at:

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/committees.aspx>

<a href="#">Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations</a>	5234
<a href="#">Delegated Powers and Law Reform</a>	5212
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<a href="#">Education and Skills</a>	5204
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<a href="#">Rural Economy and Connectivity</a>	5211
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### Parliamentary Bureau

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### The Conveners Group

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/21516.aspx>

### Scottish Commission for Public Audit

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/101154.aspx>

### MSP Details

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/msps.aspx>

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<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/help/769.aspx>



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