

Thursday 7 March 2024

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Chamber Desk Announcement

Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions - 21 March 2024

SPCB Questions will take place on Thursday 21 March.

The deadline for lodging oral questions to the SPCB is 4.30 pm on Wednesday 13 March. Up to 12 questions will be randomly selected and published in the Business Bulletin on Friday 15 March. Members are reminded that questions to the SPCB can be only on matters concerning the SPCB or the staff of the Parliament.

Members, and Members' staff, are also reminded that it is not possible to submit SPCB oral questions via the portal, therefore, please ensure that any questions are sent by email to chamberdesk@parliament.scot

Today's Business

Meeting of the Parliament

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business — S6M-11697 Mark Ruskell: Site-specific Just Transition for Mossmorran

2:30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:30 pm Portfolio Questions

followed by Urgent Statement: Emma Caldwell Case

followed by Scottish Government Debate: International Women's Day: Global Perspective

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:15 pm Decision Time

Committee Meetings

9:00am Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

9:00am Social Justice and Social Security Committee

9:15am Public Audit Committee

Meeting of the Parliament

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

- 1. Oliver Mundell:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to support rural NHS boards. ([S6O-03174](#))
- 2. Sandesh Gulhane:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it has intervened to direct NHS Fife and the relevant education authorities to permit schools to issue basic medication, such as paracetamol and ibuprofen, without the need for a GP prescription, in light of reports that primary care is struggling in NHS Fife. ([S6O-03175](#)) **R**
- 3. Maurice Golden:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to reduce the number of assaults by pupils in schools. ([S6O-03176](#))
- 4. Martin Whitfield:** To ask the Scottish Government when it last met the EIS and other teacher unions to discuss school-based violence. ([S6O-03177](#))
- 5. Ben Macpherson:** To ask the Scottish Government how it is taking forward the work and priorities of its Ministerial Population Taskforce. ([S6O-03178](#))
- 6. Gillian Mackay:** To ask the Scottish Government what public health measures are being taken to minimise harm from vaping, prior to the introduction of the proposed ban on single-use vapes. ([S6O-03179](#))
- 7. Colin Smyth:** To ask the Scottish Government when it last discussed NHS Dumfries and Galloway's funding deficit with the NHS board. ([S6O-03180](#))
- 8. Pauline McNeill:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to stop image-based abuse of girls. ([S6O-03181](#))

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

- 1. Douglas Ross:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-02884](#))
- 2. Anas Sarwar:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-02885](#))
- 3. Brian Whittle:** To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government can take to help encourage children into sport and cultivate future world class athletes, in light of the recent *successes* of Josh Kerr and Jemma Reekie at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in Glasgow. ([S6F-02891](#))
- 4. Kenneth Gibson:** To ask the First Minister what impact the Spring Statement will have on Scotland. ([S6F-02887](#))
- 5. Sharon Dowey:** To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government is taking to promote community deer management on publicly owned land. ([S6F-02896](#))
- 6. Rona Mackay:** To ask the First Minister, in light of International Women's Day on 8 March, what steps the Scottish Government is taking to tackle gender-based violence. ([S6F-02905](#))
- 7. Colin Smyth:** To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government is taking to reduce waiting times for children referred for a neurodevelopmental assessment. ([S6F-02904](#))

followed by Members' Business Debate on the subject of—

[S6M-11697](#) Mark Ruskell: Site-specific Just Transition for Mossmorran—That the Parliament understands that the Mossmorran petrochemical site, in the Mid Scotland and Fife region, which comprises of Shell's Natural Gas Liquids (NGL) Plant and ExxonMobil's Fife Ethylene Plant, is responsible for nearly 10% of Scotland's industrial emissions; notes the view that limiting global temperature increases to 1.5°C and well below 2°C, in line with the Paris Agreement, will require rapid and sustained reductions in emissions across all sectors; understands that industry is the second-highest emitting sector in Scotland, and notes the view that a worker-led just transition for the sector is essential for reaching Scotland's ambition to achieve net zero by 2045; notes the view that industrial decarbonisation plans cannot omit emissions from Mossmorran, and that a decarbonisation pathway for the site needs to be identified collaboratively with operators, workers, unions, and local and national governments at the earliest opportunity; understands that the two Mossmorran plants directly employ approximately 250 workers, and periodically many more through short-term maintenance contracts, and notes the belief that the process of just transition for Scotland's industrial sites needs to be worker-led and delivered in a way that leaves nobody behind.

2:30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:30 pm Portfolio Questions

Transport

- 1. Ruth Maguire:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking, including through discussion with the UK Government, to ensure that rail services are safe and accessible for all. ([S6O-03166](#))
- 2. Willie Coffey:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will revisit the feasibility of a bus lane corridor on the northbound M77 into Glasgow. ([S6O-03167](#))
- 3. Russell Findlay:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on how it plans to support local authorities to address the issue of potholes in the road network. ([S6O-03168](#))
- 4. Rachael Hamilton:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the Bus Partnership Fund, including what the spending plans are for the £473.1 million that is reportedly unspent to date, and when the fund will be resumed. ([S6O-03169](#))
- 5. Katy Clark:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to support ferry users, in light of reports that MV Caledonian Isles will be out of action for four more months. ([S6O-03170](#))
- 6. Sharon Dowey:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the reopening of the train line south of Ayr, in light of the fire at the Ayr Station Hotel. ([S6O-03171](#))
- 7. Alasdair Allan:** To ask the Scottish Government what factors are assessed when determining vessel deployment decisions for Western Isles ferry routes. ([S6O-03172](#))
- 8. Annabelle Ewing:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the improvement plan for the Fife Circle railway line. ([S6O-03173](#))

followed by Urgent Statement: Emma Caldwell Case

followed by **Scottish Government Debate: International Women's Day: Global Perspective**

[S6M-12416](#) Kaukab Stewart: International Women's Day: Global Perspective—That the Parliament welcomes the 2024 International Women's Day theme of "Inspire Inclusion", which recognises that, when people understand and value women's inclusion, they forge a better world; acknowledges that, at a time of increasing conflict affecting civilians around the world, the specific impact on women and girls can be profound; recognises that achieving gender equality is more vital than ever and remains one of the greatest human rights challenges globally; marks International Women's Day and the second anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, and welcomes the efforts of organisations and communities working tirelessly in pursuit of peace, inspiring inclusion, pushing forward on gender equality and amplifying the voices of women and marginalised groups, and notes the Scottish Government's investment in women as advocates for human rights, and initiatives such as the Warm Scots Future, Women in Conflict 1325 Fellowship and Human Rights Defender Fellowship, and its commitment to a feminist approach to international relations.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendment

[S6M-12416.1](#) Meghan Gallacher: International Women's Day: Global Perspective—As an amendment to motion S6M-12416 in the name of Kaukab Stewart (International Women's Day: Global Perspective), after "profound;" insert "expresses concern over the practice of female genital mutilation, which is still taking place in certain parts of the world; congratulates all parents and carers on raising the next generation of wonderful women;".

followed by **Business Motions**

followed by **Parliamentary Bureau Motions**

5:15 pm Decision Time

Committee Meetings

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

Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee 6th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in TG.40-CR1 The Burns Room

1. **Review of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement inquiry:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Ed Barker, Head of Policy and External Affairs, Agricultural Industries Confederation Scotland;
Jonnie Hall, Director of Policy, National Farmers Union Scotland;
Sarah Millar, Chief Executive, Quality Meat Scotland.

Social Justice and Social Security Committee 7th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in T4.40-CR2 The Fairfax Somerville Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Social Security (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—
Erica Young, Policy Officer (Social Justice), Citizens Advice Scotland;
Jon Shaw, Welfare Rights Worker, Child Poverty Action Group Scotland;
Richard Gass, Welfare Rights and Money Advice Manager, Glasgow City Council;
Michael Clancy OBE, Director of Law Reform, Law Society of Scotland;
Diane Connock, Advice Services and Welfare Reform Team Leader, Stirling Council.
3. **Consideration of evidence:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
4. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Public Audit Committee 8th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:15 am in T1.60-CR4 The Clerk Maxwell Room

1. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take agenda items 4 and 5 in private.
3. **Investing in Scotland's infrastructure:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Alyson Stafford, Director-General Scottish Exchequer, Morag Angus, Chief Surveyor, Dr Alison Cumming, Director of Budget and Public Spending, and Alan Morrison, Deputy Director Health Infrastructure, Investment and PPE, Scottish Government;
Alison Irvine, Chief Executive, Transport Scotland;
Peter Reekie, Chief Executive, Scottish Futures Trust.
4. **Investing in Scotland's infrastructure:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard at agenda item 3 take further evidence from—
Stephen Boyle, Auditor General for Scotland;
Dharshi Santhakumaran, Senior Manager, and Ashleigh Madjitey, Audit Manager, Audit Scotland.

5. **Investing in Scotland's infrastructure:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard at agenda items 3 and 4 and agree any further action it wishes to take.

Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

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

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Chamber Desk (Motions and Questions)	5199
Parliamentary Business Team (Chamber, Parliamentary Bureau)	5187
Legislation Team	5277
Non-Government Bills Unit (NGBU)	6124

Committee web sites at:

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees>

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MSP Details

<https://www.parliament.scot/msps/current-and-previous-msps>

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