

Friday 7 March 2025

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Today's Business

Meeting of the Parliament

There are no meetings today.

Committee Meetings

There are no meetings today.

Today's Business Gnothaichean an-diugh	Future Business Gnothaichean ri teachd	Motions & Questions Gluasadan agus Ceistean	Legislation Reachdas	Other Eile
Chamber Seòmar				

Meeting of the Parliament

There are no meetings today.

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Committees Comataidhean				

Committee Meetings

There are no meetings today.

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Chamber Seòmar				

Future Meetings of the Parliament

Business Programme agreed by the Parliament on 5 March 2025

Tuesday 11 March 2025

2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Kayleigh Brown (nee Haggo)

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Supporting Households with Cost of Living Pressures and Rising Energy Bills

followed by Appointment of Chair to Environmental Standards Scotland

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business — S6M-15955 Alexander Stewart: Additional Support Needs in Scotland

Wednesday 12 March 2025

2:00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:00 pm Portfolio Questions

Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands

Health and Social Care

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Debate: Equalities

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5:10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business — S6M-16573 Audrey Nicoll: International Women's Day 2025

Thursday 13 March 2025

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business — S6M-16302 Paul O'Kane: Young Carers Action Day 2025

2:30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:30 pm Portfolio Questions

Social Justice

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Chamber Seòmar				

followed by Ministerial Statement: Scottish Hospitals Inquiry Interim Report on the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and Department of Clinical Neuroscience Edinburgh

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Adoption of Innovation in Health and Social Care

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 18 March 2025

2:00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 March 2025

2:00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Approval of SSIs (if required)

5:10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 March 2025

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2:15 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:15 pm Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions

2:30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Rural Affairs and Islands Committee Debate: Salmon Farming in Scotland

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Chamber Seòmar				

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Committees Comataidhean				

Future Committee Meetings

This section includes the agendas of the forthcoming committee meetings and outlines proposed future business, which may be subject to change. Committees have the right to take items in private and this will be notified as far in advance as possible.

Many committees include details of their future business on their webpages, which can be accessed on the committee hub page.

<http://www.parliament.scot/business/committees/index.htm>

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

11 March 2025

10th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 8:45 am in T4.40-CR2 The Fairfax Somerville Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 3 in private.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—
[Environmental Protection \(Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and other Dangerous Substances\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025](#)
3. **Work programme:** The Committee will review its work programme.
4. **Land Reform (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee will continue its consideration of a draft Stage 1 report.

Proposed future business

For further information, contact the Clerk to the Committee, Peter McGrath on 85232 or at peter.mcgrath@parliament.scot

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

11 March 2025

7th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T1.60-CR4 The Clerk Maxwell Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
2. **Operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Clare Gallagher, Human Rights Officer, CEMVO (Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector Organisations) Scotland;
Jatin Haria, Executive Director, Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights (CRER);
Lindsey Millen, Head of Policy and Development, Close the Gap;
Jill Wood, Policy Manager, Engender;
and then from—
Dr Pauline Nolan, Head of Policy and Engagement, Inclusion Scotland;
Rohini Sharma Joshi, Diversity and Inclusion Manager, Age Scotland;
Vic Valentine, Scottish Trans Manager, Equality Network.
3. **Operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard under agenda item 2.
4. **Civil Legal Aid Inquiry:** The Committee will consider its approach to the inquiry.

Proposed future business

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Committees Comataidhean				

For further information, contact the Clerk to the Committee, Euan Donald on 85204 or at ewan.donald@parliament.scot

Finance and Public Administration Committee

11 March 2025

9th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in TG.40-CR1 The Burns Room

- Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill: Financial Memorandum:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Douglas Ross, Member in Charge of the Bill, and Neil Stewart, Senior Clerk, Non-Government Bills Unit, Scottish Parliament.
- Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Scottish Landfill Tax (Standard Rate and Lower Rate) Order 2025 [draft] from—
Ivan McKee, Minister for Public Finance, and Jonathan Waite, Aggregates Tax Bill Team Leader, Scottish Government.
- Subordinate legislation:** Ivan McKee (Minister for Public Finance) to move—
S6M-16546—That the Finance and Public Administration Committee recommends that the Scottish Landfill Tax (Standard Rate and Lower Rate) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/41) be approved.
- Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Part 2 Further Extension) Order 2025 [draft] from—
Ivan McKee, Minister for Public Finance, and Angus MacLeod, Head, Public Bodies Support Unit, Scottish Government.
- Subordinate legislation:** Ivan McKee (Minister for Public Finance) to move—
S6M-16547—That the Finance and Public Administration Committee recommends that the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Part 2 Further Extension) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.
- Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Proposed future business

For further information, contact the Clerk to the Committee, Joanne McNaughton, at FPA.committee@parliament.scot.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

11 March 2025

9th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in T1.40-CR5 The Smith Room

- Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 5 in private.
- Instruments subject to affirmative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Environmental Authorisations \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/Draft)
- Instruments subject to negative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Education \(Scotland\) Act 1980 \(Modification\) Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/44)
[Council Tax Reduction and Council Tax \(Discounts\) \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/55)
[Council Tax \(Exempt Dwellings\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Order 2025](#) (SSI 2025/56)

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Committees Comataidhean				

[Health and Care Professions Council \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Rules Order of Council 2025](#) (SI 2025/240)

- Instruments not subject to any parliamentary procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Bail and Release from Custody \(Scotland\) Act 2023 \(Commencement No. 2\) Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/52 (C.6))
- Framework legislation and Henry VIII powers:** The Committee will consider a draft report.

Proposed future business

For further information, contact the Clerk to the Committee, Greg Black at Greg.Black@parliament.scot

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

11 March 2025

8th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in TG.60-CR3 The Fleming Room

- Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
- sportscotland:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Maureen Campbell, Chair, and Forbes Dunlop, Chief Executive Officer, sportscotland.
- Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instruments—
[National Assistance \(Sums for Personal Requirements\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#)
[National Assistance \(Assessment of Resources\) Amendment \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#)
[National Health Service \(Common Staffing Method\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025](#)
- sportscotland:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.

Proposed future business

For further information, contact the Clerk to the Committee, Alex Bruce on 85229 or at Alex.Bruce@Parliament.scot

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

11 March 2025

8th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 10:30 am in T4.60-CR6 The Livingstone Room

- Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 4 and 5 in private.
- Public petitions:** The Committee will consider the following petitions—
PE1743: Amend the law to protect the rights of pre-1989 Scottish Secure Tenants
PE1778: Review the Scottish Landlords Register scheme
PE1912: Funding for council venues
- Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instruments—
[Non-Domestic Rate \(Scotland\) Order 2025](#) (2025/37)
[Non-Domestic Rates \(Levying and Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#) (2025/38)

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Committees Comataidhean				

[Non-Domestic Rates \(Transitional Relief\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#) (2025/39)

[Non-Domestic Rates \(Hospitality Relief\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#) (2025/40)

[Local Government Pension Scheme \(Scotland\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2025](#)
(2025/48)

4. **Correspondence:** The Committee will consider correspondence from the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee and the Finance and Public Administration Committee.
5. **Heat in Buildings:** The Committee will consider an approach to the proposed bill on heat in buildings and forthcoming draft climate change plan.

Proposed future business

For further information, contact the Clerk to the Committee, Jenny Mouncer at localgov.committee@parliament.scot

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Motions Gluasadan				

Motions

Motions and amendments are usually printed the day after lodging. When an amendment is lodged, then the original motion will be republished alongside it.

Motions and amendments can be published with symbols:

- *** before the number indicates publication for the first time
- *...*** around a section of text indicates changes to previously published material
- R** indicates a member has declared a registered interest

The Parliamentary Bureau periodically deletes motions or amendments that are over six weeks old and not scheduled for debate.

Questions regarding this section should be directed to the Chamber Desk.

Members' Business motions that have not achieved cross party support

***[S6M-16705](#) Tess White: Addressing Sexual Violence in Scotland's Hospitals**—That the Parliament considers that single-sex spaces for women and girls across Scotland's public services are being eroded, with worrying implications for their rights and safety; acknowledges what it sees as the fundamental importance of the dignity, privacy and safety of women and girls in sanitary and changing facilities, as well as in hospital settings where women and children are often at their most vulnerable; highlights the Women's Rights Network Scotland report, *How safe are our Scottish hospitals?*, authored by Carolyn Brown and Mary Howden and published in March 2025, which found that, over a five-year period between 2019 and 2024, 276 sexual assaults and 12 rapes took place across 57 hospitals; considers that the actual figures will likely be much higher given that, it understands, data is not routinely kept by all Scottish hospitals; notes in particular that 22 sexual assaults and one rape reportedly took place in NHS Grampian over this period, while 17 sexual assaults and three rapes reportedly took place in NHS Tayside, with, it understands, a high number occurring on hospital wards; believes that hospitals should be a place of safety for patients and staff, and notes the view that urgent action should be taken to address any sexual violence on the NHS estate, and further notes the view that such action should include the introduction of robust and transparent record keeping procedures to help inform preventative practices, as well as accommodating women on single-sex wards wherever possible and protecting single-sex spaces for biological female patients and staff.

Supported by: Craig Hoy*, Murdo Fraser*, Jeremy Balfour*, Douglas Ross*, Annie Wells*, Meghan Gallacher*, Miles Briggs*, Russell Findlay*, Edward Mountain*, Michelle Thomson*, John Mason*

Other new and altered motions and amendments

***[S6M-16728](#) Mercedes Villalba: Fire Brigades Union "Fight for 52" Campaign and International Women's Day 2025**—That the Parliament commends the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) in Scotland for its "Fight for 52" campaign, which seeks to improve maternity provision within the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service by extending arrangements for maternity leave to 12 months on full pay; recognises what it sees as the fragmented arrangements for maternity leave in the sector across the UK, and highlights the reported under-representation of women in the fire and rescue services; acknowledges the reported increased risk to expectant mothers and newborn

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Motions Gluasadan				

babies from firefighting-related contaminants; understands that the FBU has created a comprehensive case focusing on the occupational hazards, recruitment, retention and inclusion issues related with the current maternity arrangements, and notes that, as part of International Women's Day 2025, the FBU will be pushing the Scottish Government to support the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to deliver the proposals made as part of the "Fight for 52" campaign.

Supported by: Katy Clark*, Maggie Chapman*, Foyso Choudhury*

[*S6M-16723](#) Fulton MacGregor: Dads' Survey 2024 Report Published—That the Parliament acknowledges the results of the 2024 Dads' Survey, which was run by Fathers Network Scotland (FNS); notes that this is the sixth Dads' Survey to be run by FNS; understands that the survey received over 400 responses, which expressed the needs and concerns of fathers and families across Scotland; acknowledges that the survey found that fathers remain committed to positive engagement with their children and families post-COVID-19, despite increased financial pressure; notes with concern, however, that the survey indicated that poor mental health is at a record high, and that fewer fathers than ever are seeking support; further notes with concern that many more dads are reportedly struggling to balance work and family life, particularly new dads and dads on the edge of poverty; believes that it is crucial that both parents are treated as equal caregivers by services, to ensure the best outcomes for children; asserts that parental leave should be affordable for parents to take, give a substantial allowance of time, and support equality among parents; supports the calls for increased support for the whole family around every child, and the services that assist them; praises the work of FNS and, in particular, its director, Cathy Sexton, whose work on this topic is, it considers, vital for advising policy, and believes that surveys and reports such as the 2024 Dads' Survey are invaluable in shedding light on how escalating pressures on families are affecting fathers across Scotland.

Supported by: Audrey Nicoll*, Miles Briggs*, Stephanie Callaghan*, Jeremy Balfour*, David Torrance*, Colin Beattie*, Bill Kidd*, Emma Harper*, John Mason*

[*S6M-16721](#) Paul Sweeney: Marie Curie's Great Daffodil Appeal 2025—That the Parliament welcomes the Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal 2025, which runs throughout March; believes that the Great Daffodil Appeal is Marie Curie's most prominent awareness-raising campaign of the year; understands that Marie Curie is the biggest charitable funder of palliative care research in the UK; notes that it aims to better understand unmet palliative care need and support a better end of life for all; commends Marie Curie, which, it believes, is the largest third sector provider of palliative and end of life care for adults in Scotland; recognises that Marie Curie is able to support people to die at home, if that is their wish, through its Hospice Care at Home teams in local authorities across Scotland; commends the work of the two Marie Curie hospices in Edinburgh and Glasgow in providing inpatient and outpatient support in the community; further commends the Marie Curie volunteers who work to address isolation and loneliness at the end of life; believes that, due to Scotland's ageing population, more people will be dying with palliative care needs than ever before and that this trend is projected to increase further; considers that this rising need for palliative care places a burden on the health and social care system; believes that failing to deliver the care and support that people need at the end of life places unscheduled, secondary and primary care services under increased pressure; believes that what it sees as the current unmet and growing need for palliative care means that the care and support from Marie Curie will remain an essential service in Scotland; recognises that Marie Curie is a social justice and campaigning organisation committed to working whole-system to address end of life poverty; believes that everyone in Scotland should have an end of life experience that reflects what is important to them, and encourages people to support the Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal.

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Motions Gluasadan				

***[S6M-16720](#) Jackie Dunbar: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Hosts Fire Skills Course for Northfield Academy Students—**That the Parliament welcomes the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service hosting a fire skills course at North Anderson Drive Community Fire Station from 3 to 7 March 2025; understands that this course has been organised in partnership with Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service to offer students from Northfield Academy an opportunity to gain firefighting knowledge and emergency response skills; notes the course has team exercises and basic firefighting training for the students, as well as them learning about first aid and receiving safety advice from Police Scotland; commends the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service for teaching the students valuable life skills, and wishes them all the best.

Supported by: Audrey Nicoll*, Annabelle Ewing*, Jeremy Balfour*, Clare Haughey*, Stuart McMillan*, Karen Adam*, David Torrance*, Colin Beattie*, Rona Mackay*, Bill Kidd*, Emma Harper*

***[S6M-16719](#) Alexander Burnett: Hollie Davidson Receives Referee Cap—**That the Parliament congratulates Hollie Davidson, from Aboyne, on being presented with her referee cap by Scottish Rugby at the Scottish Gas Murrayfield Stadium; notes that Hollie took up refereeing after injury ended her playing career; further notes that Hollie became the second recipient of a Scottish Rugby referees' cap; understands that the cap is awarded to living referees who have controlled a test match involving a Tier 1 union in the men's game; further understands that Hollie has taken charge of 11 men's international matches at all levels of the game and 24 women's international matches, and wishes Hollie every success in the future.

Supported by: Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Karen Adam*, Murdo Fraser*, Liam McArthur*, Jeremy Balfour*, Douglas Ross*, Liam Kerr*, Annie Wells*, Sandesh Gulhane*, Stuart McMillan*, Meghan Gallacher*, Martin Whitfield*, Russell Findlay*, Colin Beattie*, Edward Mountain*

***[S6M-16718](#) Alexander Burnett: Cromar Community Council Provides 1,400 Meals Through its Christmas Food Help Run—**That the Parliament commends Cromar Community Council on its Christmas Food Help Run; understands that two hinds were donated from Invercauld Estate, Glen Muick and Balmoral and butchered and packed by Highland Game, along with 200 pheasant casseroles, that were provided by Findrack Estate; further understands that this resulted in 1,400 meals being delivered in the community to older people who were no longer in receipt of the winter fuel payment; believes that Highland Game has offered its services again for 2026, and acknowledges all the support in providing vulnerable people in the community with a nutritious meal this year and in future years.

Supported by: Tim Eagle*, Craig Hoy*, Meghan Gallacher*, Edward Mountain*, Douglas Ross*, Liam Kerr*, Alexander Stewart*, Brian Whittle*, Annie Wells*, Murdo Fraser*, Jeremy Balfour*, Sandesh Gulhane*, Russell Findlay*, Miles Briggs*

***[S6M-16716](#) Finlay Carson: Curler Katie Wins Back-to-back National Titles—**That the Parliament warmly congratulates Katie McMillan, from Stranraer, who achieved what it sees as stunning success in winning back-to-back titles at the recent Scottish National Curling Championships, which were staged at Dumfries Ice Bowl, understands that Katie was part of Team Henderson, which triumphed during a thrilling competition, and wishes Katie continued success in future curling events both nationally and internationally.

Supported by: Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Jeremy Balfour*, Murdo Fraser*, Colin Beattie*, Alexander Stewart*, Elena Whitham*, Martin Whitfield*, Tim Eagle*, Meghan Gallacher*, Douglas

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Motions Gluasadan				

Ross*, Edward Mountain*, Liam Kerr*, Brian Whittle*, Annie Wells*, Emma Harper*, Sandesh Gulhane*, Stuart McMillan*, Russell Findlay*, David Torrance*, Foyso Choudhury*

***[S6M-16711](#) Liam McArthur: Green Marine UK Secures Investment for New Subsea Services Department**—That the Parliament congratulates Green Marine UK on the news that it has received the financial backing to launch a new Subsea Services Department; recognises that the seven-figure investment will target the burgeoning offshore wind sector, which it believes holds the potential to unlock Scotland's potential as a renewable powerhouse; considers that Green Marine UK benefits from its base location in Orkney, with the world's second largest installed offshore wind capacity on the doorstep; further considers that this investment represents an opportunity to increase jobs and business development both locally in Orkney and nationwide; recognises that the company's expansion has been boosted by financial backing from the Highlands and Islands Enterprise, and will facilitate the purchase of cutting-edge subsea technology from Rovtech, Sonardyne, Norbit, Voyis, Trittech, Digital Edge Subsea and EIVA, as well as a range of other sensors; understands that this technology has redefined industry benchmarks and offers significant versatility for modern subsea data collection, with adaptability to a number of challenging underwater environments; considers the impact that this technology will have on offshore wind, oil and gas, defence and decommissioning projects to be highly valuable, and further congratulates Green Marine UK on its success in securing this investment and expansion opportunity.

Supported by: Audrey Nicoll*, Martin Whitfield*, Jeremy Balfour*, Miles Briggs*, Annabelle Ewing*, Annie Wells*, Stephanie Callaghan*, Stuart McMillan*, Colin Beattie*, Tim Eagle*, Karen Adam*, Sandesh Gulhane*, David Torrance*

***[S6M-16708](#) Alexander Stewart: 100th Birthday for May Cameron from Menstrie**—That the Parliament congratulates May Cameron, who is a veteran from the Second World War, on becoming Clackmannanshire's latest centenarian; understands that May celebrated her 100th birthday on 2 March 2025 with a party at Menstrie Parish Church and was presented with flowers as she attended the Sunday morning service, with her friends and family gathering in the church hall to mark her special day; welcomes the news that the party was attended by Sheila Bulloch, the Deputy Lieutenant of Clackmannanshire, who presented May with a card on behalf of King Charles III; notes that the Provost presented her with flowers from Clackmannanshire Council, a card from the wider Menstrie community was given to her by Eileen Turnbull from the village's community council and she also received a handmade card, which had been signed by her friends from the church, and commends May on her service during the Second World War where she served in the Women's Royal Air Force as a plotter involved in the D-Day operations.

Supported by: Craig Hoy*, Douglas Ross*, Murdo Fraser*, Pam Gosal*, Monica Lennon*, Annabelle Ewing*, Tim Eagle*, Meghan Gallacher*, Jeremy Balfour*, Edward Mountain*, Colin Beattie*, Evelyn Tweed*, Brian Whittle*, Annie Wells*, Sandesh Gulhane*, Russell Findlay*, David Torrance*

***[S6M-16680](#) Clare Haughey: Rutherglen Café, Buon Appetito, Celebrates 50 Years**—That the Parliament congratulates the café, Buon Appetito, in Rutherglen, on its 50th anniversary of being a popular fixture within the town's Mitchell Arcade; understands that current owner, Lee Conetta, took over the running of the café from her parents in 1975 when it moved to its current location, and that it quickly became established as a popular local venue; further understands that Lee had considered selling the café, but that an outpouring of support and affection from the local community led her to have a change of heart and refurbish it, and install a mural to honour her grandfather and the support that he provided to families in Cambuslang and the surrounding area

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Motions Gluasadan				

during the miners' strike; considers that "The Bonny" often welcomes customers from across Scotland and further afield when they return to Rutherglen for a "taste of home", and wishes Lee and the rest of the Buon Appetito team all the very best for their continued success.

Supported by: Jeremy Balfour*, Annabelle Ewing*, Monica Lennon*, Colin Beattie*, Stephanie Callaghan*, Annie Wells*, Audrey Nicoll*, Stuart McMillan*, Miles Briggs*, David Torrance*, Emma Harper*

[S6M-16678](#) Alexander Burnett: Cairngorms Glamping Wins the Channel 4 Show, Four in a Bed—That the Parliament congratulates Pam Taylor, who owns Cairngorms Glamping in Strathdon, for her win on the Channel 4 show, *Four in a Bed*; notes that Pam beat three other Scottish B&Bs and hotels to be named best host; commends Pam, who was up against Blackfriars in Inverness, Bogenraith House in Durris and the Lovat Hotel in Perthshire; notes that Cairngorms Glamping has four self-catering pods, each with a kitchenette, en-suite shower room, lounge and hot tub; understands that it was the spaciousness of her pods and the beautiful Donside location that won the show, and wishes Pam and her husband every success in the future.

Supported by: Tim Eagle*, Meghan Gallacher*, Craig Hoy*, Tess White*, Douglas Ross*, Edward Mountain*, Liam Kerr*, Alexander Stewart*, Brian Whittle*, Annie Wells*, Murdo Fraser*, Jeremy Balfour*, Sandesh Gulhane*, Russell Findlay*, Miles Briggs*

Motions and amendments which have attracted additional support

[S6M-16717](#) Fulton MacGregor: Baby Loss Retreat Recognised at the People's Choice Awards 2025. (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Tim Eagle*, Karen Adam*

[S6M-16714](#) Marie McNair: Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel Wins Two Categories at the National Hotel of the Year Awards (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Colin Beattie*, Jeremy Balfour*, Stephanie Callaghan*, Miles Briggs*, Emma Harper*, Stuart McMillan*

[S6M-16713](#) Miles Briggs: Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2025 (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Tess White*, Craig Hoy*, Tim Eagle*, Karen Adam*, Liam Kerr*

[S6M-16710](#) Foyso Choudhury: Ramadan 2025 (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Sarah Boyack*, Liam McArthur*, Miles Briggs*, Pauline McNeill*, Karen Adam*, Beatrice Wishart*

[S6M-16707](#) Colin Smyth: Implementing the National Primary Care Diagnostic Pathway for Lower Gastrointestinal Symptoms (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Miles Briggs*, Monica Lennon*, Martin Whitfield*, Jeremy Balfour*

[S6M-16706](#) David Torrance: Jack Vettriano Remembered Fondly for his Art and Connection with Kirkcaldy (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Miles Briggs*, Tim Eagle*, Karen Adam*

[S6M-16704](#) Clare Haughey: Codfather Named Best Fish and Chip Shop in the Glasgow Region (lodged on 05 March 2025)

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Motions Gluasadan				

New Support: Jeremy Balfour*, Colin Beattie*, Audrey Nicoll*, Annabelle Ewing*, Bob Doris*, Stephanie Callaghan*, Karen Adam*, Stuart McMillan*, Miles Briggs*, David Torrance*

[S6M-16703](#) Jackson Carlaw: Busby Bowling Club Celebrates 150-year Anniversary in 2025 (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Tess White*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*

[S6M-16702](#) Jackson Carlaw: Williamwood High Wins National Badminton Tournament for Two Years in a Row (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*, Karen Adam*

[S6M-16701](#) Jackson Carlaw: Giffnock's Glasgow Hutcheson's Aloysians Rugby Team Wins League Title Undefeated (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*

[S6M-16700](#) Jackson Carlaw: Cathcart Castle Golf Club Raises £14,600 for Charity (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Tess White*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*

[S6M-16699](#) Jackson Carlaw: Eastwood High Achieves SCQF School Ambassador Gold Award (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Tess White*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*, Karen Adam*

[S6M-16698](#) Jackson Carlaw: Newton Mearns Care Home Launches Warm Cafe Initiative (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Tess White*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*

[S6M-16697](#) Jackson Carlaw: Busby Lawn Tennis Club Raises Money to Support Cancer Charity (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Tess White*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*, Karen Adam*

[S6M-16696](#) Jackson Carlaw: Education Scotland Delivers Excellent Inspection Report for St Joseph's Primary School in Eastwood (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Tess White*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*

[S6M-16694](#) John Mason: Education in Pakistan (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Murdo Fraser*, Bob Doris*, Stephanie Callaghan*, Rona Mackay*, Humza Yousaf*, Stuart McMillan*, Miles Briggs*, David Torrance*

[S6M-16693](#) Kevin Stewart: University of Aberdeen, Greener Clinical Trials (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Karen Adam*

[S6M-16683](#) Stuart McMillan: Cholangiocarcinoma Awareness Month (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Ben Macpherson*, Karen Adam*

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Motions Gluasadan				

S6M-16682 Kevin Stewart: University of Aberdeen, Cutting the NHS Carbon Footprint (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16681 Kevin Stewart: Tall Ships Quayside Concerts (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16679 Alexander Burnett: Generous Farming Brothers Legacy to The Archie Foundation (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Tess White*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*, Tim Eagle*

S6M-16674 Mark Ruskell: Annual BeeWalk Report (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Jeremy Balfour*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16671 Annie Wells: Girlguiding Scotland Celebrates Own Your Path Pilot (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Tess White*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16670 Sharon Dowey: South Ayrshire "Build Your Future" Event Success (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Tess White*, Liam Kerr*

S6M-16668 Neil Bibby: Congratulating Gleniffer High School's Cameron Keay on Scoring Four Goals Against England (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Karen Adam*

S6M-16666 Alexander Stewart: Jack Vettriano OBE (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Tess White*

S6M-16664 Annabelle Ewing: Cardenden Community Development Forum Lottery Success (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16663 Annabelle Ewing: Cardenden Scouts Lottery Success (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16662 Annabelle Ewing: Inverkeithing Community Garden Lottery Success (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Jackie Dunbar*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16661 Liam Kerr: New RNLI Coxswain for Aberdeen (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Tess White*

S6M-16660 Clare Adamson: Borrow Cup, an Initiative by Reposit and Hubbub (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Bill Kidd*, Karen Adam*

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Motions Gluasadan				

S6M-16659 Miles Briggs: Young Carers Action Day 2025 (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Liam Kerr*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16651 Tess White: Strathmore Primary School Receives Scotland's First ADHD Friendly School Award (lodged on 28 February 2025)

New Support: Pam Gosal*, Miles Briggs*, Craig Hoy*, Liam Kerr*

S6M-16649 Tess White: Brechin High School Pupils Compete in the First Scottish Esports Tournament (lodged on 28 February 2025)

New Support: Karen Adam*

S6M-16648 Tess White: Dr Gerald Lip, Consultant at NHS Grampian, Appointed President of the British Society of Breast Radiology (lodged on 28 February 2025)

New Support: Karen Adam*

S6M-16643 Foyso Choudhury: Recognising Broxburn Academy Students for Winning Schools' Mace Debating Competition (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Karen Adam*

S6M-16642 Foyso Choudhury: Inspirational Primary School Pupils Raise Money for Charity by Selling Handmade Soap (lodged on 04 March 2025)

New Support: Karen Adam*

S6M-16631 Emma Harper: Brain Tumour Awareness Month 2025 (lodged on 28 February 2025)

New Support: David Torrance*, Karen Adam*

S6M-16615 Collette Stevenson: Concerns Over UK Government Foreign Aid Reductions (lodged on 27 February 2025)

New Support: Karen Adam*, Gordon MacDonald*

S6M-16610 John Mason: UK's Foreign Aid Budget (lodged on 27 February 2025)

New Support: Karen Adam*

S6M-16569 Emma Harper: New Community Service Partnership, ELVES CIC in Dumfries (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Audrey Nicoll*, Karen Adam*, Jeremy Balfour*, Rona Mackay*, Annabelle Ewing*, Stuart McMillan*, Stephanie Callaghan*, David Torrance*, Colin Beattie*

S6M-16557 Stuart McMillan: Bladder Cancer in Scotland (lodged on 05 March 2025)

New Support: Colin Beattie*, Jeremy Balfour*, Annie Wells*, Edward Mountain*, Audrey Nicoll*, Annabelle Ewing*, Murdo Fraser*, Tim Eagle*, Bob Doris*, Stephanie Callaghan*, Karen Adam*, Miles Briggs*, David Torrance*

S6M-16512 Monica Lennon: Celebrating SELECT's 125th Anniversary (lodged on 24 February 2025)

New Support: Alex Rowley*

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Motions Gluasadan				

[S6M-16356](#) Sarah Boyack: Scottish Youth Parliament's Work on Transport (lodged on 07 February 2025)

New Support: Monica Lennon*, Colin Beattie*, Martin Whitfield*, Graham Simpson*, Finlay Carson*, John Mason*, Miles Briggs*, David Torrance*

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Questions Ceistean				

Written Questions

Questions in which a member has indicated a declarable interest are marked with an "R".

Written questions lodged on 06 March 2025

[S6W-35433](#) Monica Lennon: To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the use of the woody residue from filters used to clean emissions from wood drying and board pressing processes, known as crumb waste, as a fuel for electricity generation.

[S6W-35435](#) Liam McArthur: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on how the £4 million of investment for the hospice sector, outlined in its Budget for 2025-26, will be used to bring hospice staff under the Agenda for Change terms and conditions, and what the proposed timeline is for fulfilling this commitment.

[S6W-35436](#) Ariane Burgess: To ask the Scottish Government when it will announce a decision on the review into banning lead ammunition, and whether it plans to provide an update and information to the Parliament or the relevant committee on (a) how the decision was reached and (b) its rationale for the decision.

[S6W-35437](#) Ariane Burgess: To ask the Scottish Government when the Scottish Animal Welfare Commission report into the treatment of cleaner fish in salmon farms is due to be published, and for what reason the report's publication has reportedly been delayed.

[S6W-35438](#) Maurice Golden: To ask the Scottish Government, regarding the target in Zero Waste Scotland's Corporate Plan to reduce Scotland's extraction of raw materials by one third, what the (a) start and (b) end date is for this target; what data this is based on, and for what reason one third was chosen as the target.

[S6W-35439](#) Maurice Golden: To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S6W-23191 by Lorna Slater on 7 December 2023, which states that a review was being conducted by Zero Waste Scotland into methodological changes to the Material Flow Accounts, whether this review has been completed, and, if so, what the main conclusions were.

[S6W-35440](#) Maurice Golden: To ask the Scottish Government when Zero Waste Scotland will publish (a) the 2019 update and (b) other upcoming updates to the Material Flow Accounts and accompanying carbon footprint of waste.

[S6W-35441](#) Maurice Golden: To ask the Scottish Government for what reason its indicator, the carbon footprint of Scotland's waste, has reportedly not been updated since 4 November 2021.

[S6W-35442](#) Mark Ruskell: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the work by the Scottish Prison Service to address reports of noise disturbance at HMP Cornton Vale.

[S6W-35443](#) Stephen Kerr: To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the impact of the third sector early intervention fund.

[S6W-35444](#) Stephen Kerr: To ask the Scottish Government how much funding it has provided to the Scottish Communities Climate Action Network since 2021.

[S6W-35445](#) Stephen Kerr: To ask the Scottish Government what items were covered under the heading "Catering; Bar Equipment and Accessories" in the information provided under freedom of information (FOI) release FOI/202500450646 (*Scottish Government office equipment spend*).

[S6W-35446](#) Paul Sweeney: To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the comment by the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport on *Scotland Tonight* on 28 January 2025, in which she said that such spending has "increased", whether it will publish a breakdown of all direct mental health spending set out in the 2025-26 Budget, including spending outwith the mental health services line.

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Glusadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Questions Ceistean				

S6W-35447 Pam Duncan-Glancy: To ask the Scottish Government what consideration it has given to creating a unique learner number system; whether legislation would be required to implement such a system, and, if so, whether it plans to bring forward such legislation.

S6W-35448 Liam McArthur: To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S6W-35124 by Angela Constance on 4 March 2025, whether any of the liquidated damages provisions contained in the contract for HMP Barlinnie have been triggered, and if so, how much was paid.

S6W-35449 Jeremy Balfour: To ask the Scottish Government how many applications to provide vehicles and equipment under the Accessible Vehicles and Equipment Scheme, from organisations other than Motability, it has (a) approved and (b) rejected in each of the last five years, and what steps it is taking to broaden the range and scope of such providers, in particular those that are independent businesses or social enterprises.

S6W-35450 Miles Briggs: To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to open the Fairer Funding Fund, following the closure of the recent pilot.

S6W-35451 Pam Gosal: To ask the Scottish Government what steps are being taken to support at-risk families through trained support workers, and how it will ensure that such families are directed to relevant and effective services to resolve crises that may lead to homelessness.

S6W-35452 Pam Gosal: To ask the Scottish Government how it plans to incorporate the role of GPs and other primary healthcare providers who have contact with children into new approaches to homelessness prevention, and what strategies are being developed to ensure their involvement.

S6W-35453 Pam Gosal: To ask the Scottish Government what measures are being taken to increase the supply of permanent family-sized social homes, and how this will (a) help households with children to move out of the homelessness system and (b) improve the quality of temporary accommodation.

S6W-35454 Pam Gosal: To ask the Scottish Government what steps are being taken to increase the availability of good quality temporary accommodation for households with children.

S6W-35455 Pam Gosal: To ask the Scottish Government how it will ensure that all temporary accommodation, including any supplied by private sector leasing schemes, is maintained to the same standard as permanent social housing stock.

S6W-35456 Craig Hoy: To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S6W-35094 by Shirley-Anne Somerville on 5 March 2025, whether it has the capacity to (a) identify the number of distinct recipients removed from the claimant count for Adult Disability Payment in a given time frame and (b) break such data down by cause of removal.

S6W-35457 Craig Hoy: To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S6W-34365 by Shona Robison on 28 February 2025, whether it will provide a breakdown of its annual spend on contingent workers since 2021-22 by (a) project, (b) directorate and (c) contract name.

S6W-35468 Annie Wells: To ask the Scottish Government what action it plans to take to address and improve fertility and reproduction rates in Glasgow, in light of reports suggesting that the city has the fifth lowest in the UK.

S6W-35476 Liam McArthur: To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the UK Government regarding the impact of proposed employer national insurance charge increases on GP practices in Scotland, including whether there is an option for applying exemption thresholds.

S6W-35477 Liam McArthur: To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to renegotiate the current GP contract.

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

Amendments

Amendments to Bills lodged on 6 March 2025

Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill — Stage 2

After section 9

Jamie Greene

234 After section 9, insert—

<Victims' charter

Victims' charter

- (1) The Commissioner must, before the expiry of the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which section 1 comes into force—
 - (a) prepare and publish a victims' charter, and
 - (b) lay a copy of the charter before the Scottish Parliament.
- (2) The victims' charter is to contain a description of—
 - (a) the criminal justice system and how victims may interact with it,
 - (b) the rights of victims in relation to criminal investigations and proceedings, at all stages when victims may interact with the criminal justice system,
 - (c) the processes available for upholding the rights of victims in relation to criminal investigations and proceedings,
 - (d) the manner, frequency and methods of communication with victims which criminal justice agencies must adhere to.
- (3) The victims' charter may include any other information the Commissioner considers appropriate.
- (4) The Commissioner may, at any time, review and revise the victims' charter.
- (5) In preparing a victims' charter under subsection (1), or reviewing a charter under subsection (4), the Commissioner must consult—
 - (a) victims,
 - (b) persons providing victim support services,
 - (c) criminal justice agencies,
 - (d) such other persons as the Commissioner considers appropriate.>

After section 23

Sharon Dowey

235 After section 23, insert—

<Expiry of Part 1

Expiry of Part 1

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), Part 1 expires at the end of the period of 5 years beginning with the day after section 1 comes into force.

- (2) If, before Part 1 would otherwise expire under subsection (1), the Scottish Parliament agrees to a motion that the Victims and Witnesses Commissioner be established on a permanent basis, then subsection (1) is of no effect.
- (3) The Scottish Parliament may agree to the motion mentioned in subsection (2) no earlier than 12 months before Part 1 would otherwise expire under subsection (1).>

Jamie Greene

236 After section 23, insert—

<PART

VICTIMS' CHARTER

Victims' charter

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, before the expiry of the period of 12 months beginning with the day after Royal Assent—
 - (a) prepare and publish a victims' charter, and
 - (b) lay a copy of the charter before the Scottish Parliament.
- (2) The victims' charter is to contain a description of—
 - (a) the criminal justice system and how victims may interact with it,
 - (b) the rights of victims in relation to criminal investigations and proceedings, at all stages when victims may interact with the criminal justice system,
 - (c) the processes available for upholding the rights of victims in relation to criminal investigations and proceedings,
 - (d) the manner, frequency and methods of communication with victims which criminal justice agencies must adhere to.
- (3) The victims' charter may include any other information the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate.
- (4) The Scottish Ministers may, at any time, review and revise the victims' charter.
- (5) In preparing a victims' charter under subsection (1), or reviewing a charter under subsection (4), the Scottish Ministers must consult—
 - (a) victims,
 - (b) persons providing victim support services,
 - (c) criminal justice agencies,
 - (d) such other persons as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate.
- (6) For the purposes of this section—

“criminal justice agency” means—

 - (a) the Lord Advocate,
 - (b) the Scottish Ministers,
 - (c) the chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland,
 - (d) the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service,
 - (e) the Parole Board for Scotland,

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

“victim” means a person against whom or in respect of whom an offence has been, or is suspected to have been committed or carried out,

“victim support services” has the meaning given by section 3D(5) of the 2014 Act.>

After section 29

Jamie Greene

237 After section 29, insert—

<PART

SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS

Referral to providers of victim support services

- (1) The 2014 Act is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 3D (referral to providers of victim support services)—
 - (a) for subsection (1), substitute—
 - “(1) The chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland must ensure that, as soon as reasonably practicable after a constable identifies a person who is or appears to be a victim in relation to an offence or alleged offence, a constable refers the person to a provider of victim support services, unless that person intimates that they do not wish to be referred.
 - (1A) Where the person intimates that they do not wish to be referred, the constable must inform the person that—
 - (a) the person may request a referral to providers of victim support services from any competent authority at another time, and
 - (b) the person may contact providers of victim support services directly without referral.”,
 - (b) in subsection (2), in the opening words, after second “offence” insert “is referred to or”,
 - (c) in subsection (3), for “(1) and (2)” substitute “(1), (1A) and (2)”.>

Jamie Greene

238 After section 29, insert—

<Parole Board: referral of victims to providers of victim support services

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland), after subsection (4) insert—
 - “(4ZA) Provision under subsection (4) must include in particular provision requiring the Parole Board, when first contacting any victim in relation to a case, to—
 - (a) ask whether the victim wishes their details to be disclosed to such providers of victim support services as the Board considers appropriate to the victim’s needs,
 - (b) if the victim does so wish, disclose those details to the providers of victim support services referred to in paragraph (a).
 - (4ZB) For the purposes of subsection (4ZA)—

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

“victim” means a person against or in respect of whom the prisoner has committed an offence,

“victim support services” has the same meaning as in section 3D(5) of the Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014.”.>

Jamie Greene

239 After section 29, insert—

<PART

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

Victims’ right to be informed of decision not to prosecute or to discontinue proceedings

(1) The 2014 Act is amended as follows.

(2) Before section 4 (rules: review of decision not to prosecute) insert—

“3K Victims’ right to be informed of decision not to prosecute or to discontinue proceedings

(1) Where a prosecutor decides—

(a) not to prosecute a person for an offence or alleged offence, or

(b) to discontinue criminal proceedings against a person for an offence or alleged offence,

the prosecutor must, as soon as reasonably practicable, inform any person who is, or appears to be, a victim in relation to that offence or alleged offence of the prosecutor’s decision.

(2) In this section, “prosecutor” means Lord Advocate, Crown Counsel or procurator fiscal.”.

(3) The italic cross heading immediately preceding section 4 becomes “*Decisions not to prosecute or to discontinue proceedings*”.>

Jamie Greene

240 After section 29, insert—

<PART

VICTIM STATEMENTS

Victim statements

(1) The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 is amended as follows.

(2) In section 14 (victims statements)—

(a) subsection (1) is repealed,

(b) in subsection (2), for the words “a prescribed” substitute “an”,

(c) for subsection (15), substitute—

“(15) An order under subsection (13) may make different provision for different purposes, including provision of temporary or local effect.”,

(d) subsection (16) is repealed.>

Sharon Dowey

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

241 After section 29, insert—

<PART

NON-HARASSMENT ORDERS

Non-harassment orders: domestic abuse cases

- (1) The 1995 Act is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 234AZA (non-harassment orders: domestic abuse cases)—
 - (a) for subsection (4), substitute—

“(4) The court must make a non-harassment order in the person’s case.”,
 - (b) subsection (5) is repealed,
 - (c) for subsection (6), substitute—

“(6) In the operation of section 234A along with subsection (4)—

 - (a) subsections (1A), (2), (2A), (2BA) and (2C) of that section are of no effect,
 - (b) the reference in subsection (6) of that section to the prosecutor at whose instance the order is made is to be read as being to the prosecutor in the case in which the non-harassment order is made.”.>

Maggie Chapman

242 After section 29, insert—

<PART

NON-HARASSMENT ORDERS

Non-harassment orders: sexual offence cases

- (1) The 1995 Act is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 234AZA (non-harassment orders: domestic abuse cases), insert—

“234AZB Non-harassment orders: sexual offence cases

 - (1) Section 234A applies subject to this section if an offence referred to in subsection (1) of that section is one listed for the time being in schedule 3 of the Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Act 2024.
 - (2) The court must make a non-harassment order in the person’s case unless—
 - (a) the victim requests that such an order not be made, and
 - (b) the court considers that the degree of risk to the victim means that an order is not necessary.
 - (3) The persons listed in subsection (4) may apply to the court which made the order for its revocation or variation.
 - (4) The persons mentioned in subsection (3) are—
 - (a) the victim in the case in which the non-harassment order is made,
 - (b) the prosecutor in the case in which the non-harassment order is made, or
 - (c) the person against whom a non-harassment order is made.
 - (5) In relation to any application made under subsection (3), the court concerned may, if

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

it is satisfied on a balance of probabilities that it is appropriate to do so, revoke the order or vary it in such manner as it thinks fit.

- (6) In the operation of section 234A along with subsection (2), subsections (1A), (2), (2A), (2BA), (2C) and (6) are of no effect.
- (7) For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this section affects the ability to make a non-harassment order in addition to dealing with the person in any other way.”.>

Jamie Greene

243 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Victim’s right to receive information concerning release

- (1) The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 16 (victim’s right to receive information concerning release etc. of offender), after subsection (1) insert—

“(1A) A person who has, on one previous occasion, intimated that they do not wish to receive the information described in subsection (3) must, before the convicted person is released, be offered a second opportunity to intimate whether or not they wish to receive that information.”.
- (3) In section 17 (release on licence: right of victim to receive information and make representations), after subsection (11) insert—

“(11A) A person who has, on one previous occasion, intimate that they do not wish to receive the information described in subsections (6), (8) or (10) must, before the convicted person is released, be offered a second opportunity to intimate whether or not they wish to receive that information.”.>

Jamie Greene

244 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Timing of provision of information to victim concerning release

- (1) The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 16 (victim’s right to receive information concerning release etc. of offender), after subsection (2) insert—

“(2A) Information must be given to a person under subsection (1) before the convicted person is released, unless it is not reasonably practicable to do so.”
- (3) In section 17 (release on licence: right of victim to receive information and make representations), after subsection (10A) insert—

“(10B) Subsections (6), (8) and (10) must be complied with—

 - (a) as soon as reasonably practicable after any decision is made as to—
 - (i) whether or not to recommend or direct release of a person,

- (ii) whether the person released is to comply with conditions, and
- (b) where the person is to be released, before the date of that release, unless it is not reasonably practicable to do so.”.>

Jamie Greene

245 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Release on licence: victim’s right to make representations

- (1) The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 17 (release on licence: right of victim to receive information and make representations), in subsection (1), in paragraph (b), the words “if the convicted person is serving a sentence of life imprisonment” are repealed.>

Jamie Greene

246 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Release on licence: victim’s right to attend hearings

- (1) The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 17ZA (release on licence: provision of information to person supporting victim), insert—

“17ZB Release on licence: victim’s right to attend hearings

- (1) Subject to subsection (2)—
 - (a) a person entitled to receive information under section 16 of this Act (the “victim”) as respects a convicted person, or
 - (b) where the victim is deceased, a family member of the victim (a “family member”),

must be afforded the opportunity to attend, for the purpose of observing proceedings, any oral hearing relating to the release of the convicted person on licence.

- (2) The chairing member of the Parole Board panel dealing with the person’s case may, where the chairing member considers it appropriate to do so, exclude a victim or family member from any part of an oral hearing but only if the chairing member in writing—
 - (a) notifies the victim or family member of that exclusion in advance of the oral hearing,
 - (b) provides the victim or family with the reasons for that exclusion.
- (3) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations make further provision about the attendance at oral hearings by victims and family members.
- (4) Regulations under subsection (3) are subject to the affirmative procedure.
- (5) In this section, “family member” means a person who is—

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

- (a) married to, or in a civil partnership with, the victim,
- (b) living together with the victim, as if they were married, and has been so living together with the victim for a minimum period of 6 months,
- (c) a child or step-child of the victim,
- (d) anyone the victim cares for, as defined in paragraph 20 of schedule 12 to the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010,
- (e) a parent or step-parent of the victim,
- (f) a grandparent or great-grandparent of the victim,
- (g) a grandchild or great-grandchild of the victim.”.>

Jamie Greene

247 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Information for Parole Board: victim statements

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland), after subsection (4) insert—
 - “(4ZA) Provision under subsection (4) must include in particular provision requiring the Scottish Ministers, when referring a case to the Board, to send the Board—
 - (a) any victim statement, within the meaning of section 14(2) of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003,
 - (b) any other statement of crime made by a victim to a criminal justice agency.
 - (4ZB) For the purposes of subsection (4ZA)—
 - “criminal justice agency” means—
 - (a) the Lord Advocate,
 - (b) the Scottish Ministers,
 - (c) the chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland,
 - (d) the Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service,
 - (e) the Parole Board for Scotland,
 - “victim” means a person against or in respect of whom the prisoner has committed an offence.”.>

Jamie Greene

248 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Information for Parole Board: written representations from victims

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.

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(2) In section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland), after subsection (4) insert—

“(4ZA) Provision under subsection (4) must include in particular provision that any written representations made by a victim—

- (a) remain representative of the victim’s views, and
- (b) may be taken into account by the Parole Board throughout the duration of the prisoner’s case,

unless the victim requests to update the representations made.

(4ZB) For the purposes of subsection (4ZA), “victim” means a person against or in respect of whom the prisoner has committed an offence.”.>

Jamie Greene

249 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Parole Board decisions: safety and security of victims and family members

(1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.

(2) In section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland)—

- (a) in subsection (4), in paragraph (c), after “matters” insert “must or”,
- (b) after subsection (4A) insert—

“(4AA) Provision mentioned in subsection (4)(c) must in particular include provision that the Board must take into account the likely impact of its decision on the safety and security of—

- (a) any victim,
- (b) any family member of a victim.”.>

Jamie Greene

250 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Temporary release decisions: safety and security of victims and family members

(1) The Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989 is amended as follows.

(2) In section 39 (rules for the management of prisons and other institutions), after subsection (6) insert—

“(6A) Rules made under this section which provide for the temporary release on licence of a prisoner must provide that the governor of the prison in which the prisoner is detained must, when deciding whether to grant the prisoner temporary release, take into account the likely impact of the decision on the safety of—

- (a) any victim,
- (b) any family member of the victim.”.>

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

Jamie Greene

251 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Parole Board decisions: remorse shown by prisoner

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland)—
 - (a) in subsection (4), in paragraph (c), after “matters” insert “must or”,
 - (b) after subsection (4A) insert—

“(4AA) Provision mentioned in subsection (4)(c) must in particular include provision that the Board must take into account any remorse shown by the prisoner in relation to the impact of the prisoner’s offence on any victim of that offence.”.>

Jamie Greene

252 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Parole Board: duty to prevent delay

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland) insert—

“20A Duty on Parole Board to prevent delay of parole hearings

- (1) This section applies where—
 - (a) the Parole Board is required under this Part to make a decision as to whether to recommend or direct the release of a prisoner on licence,
 - (b) a hearing has been scheduled for the purpose of considering that prisoner’s release, and
 - (c) there is any victim against or in respect of whom an offence has been committed by the prisoner.
- (2) The Parole Board must take reasonable steps to prevent any delay in the hearing mentioned in subsection (1)(b).
- (3) The steps taken under subsection (2) must include steps to ensure that the documentation required for the hearing is prepared in advance of the hearing.”.>

Jamie Greene

253 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Scottish Prison Service: timing of provision of information to Parole Board

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.

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(2) After section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland) insert—

“20A Duty on Scottish Prison Service to provide information for parole hearings

- (1) This section applies where—
 - (a) the Parole Board is required under this Part to make a decision as to whether to recommend or direct the release of a prisoner,
 - (b) a hearing has been scheduled for the purpose of considering that prisoner’s release, and
 - (c) there is any victim against or in respect of whom an offence has been committed by the prisoner.
- (2) The Scottish Prison Service must provide the documentation required for the hearing mentioned in subsection (1)(b) to the Parole Board no later than 7 days before the hearing.”.>

Jamie Greene

254 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Release on licence: notification of victims where hearings delayed

- (1) The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 17 (release on licence: right of victim to receive information and make representations), in subsection (6), after paragraph (a), insert—

“(aa) where there is a delay in any hearing to determine whether or not to direct or recommend release, inform the victim of that delay and the reasons for it;”.>

Jamie Greene

255 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Parole Board: notification of victims where hearings delayed

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland), in subsection (4), after paragraph (b), insert—

“(bza) requiring the Board to notify victims of any delay in dealing with cases and the reasons for such delay;”.>

Jamie Greene

256 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Release on licence: reasons for decisions

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Glusadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
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- (1) The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 17 (release on licence: right of victim to receive information and make representations)—
 - (a) in subsection (6)—
 - (i) in paragraph (a), after “release” insert “, including a summary of the reasons for its decision”,
 - (ii) in paragraph (b), after “conditions” insert “, including a summary of the reasons for its decision”,
 - (b) in subsection (8), in paragraph (a), after “conditions” insert “, including a summary of the reasons for its decision”,
 - (c) in subsection (10), in paragraph (a), after “conditions” insert “, including a summary of the reasons for their decision”.>

Jamie Greene

257 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Parole Board: publication of decisions

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland) insert—

“20A Publication of decisions by Parole Board

- (1) This section applies where—
 - (a) the Parole Board decides whether to recommend or direct the release of a prisoner on licence under this Part (the “decision”), and
 - (b) there is any victim against or in respect of whom an offence has been committed by the prisoner.
- (2) The Parole Board must, as soon as reasonably practicable after making the decision, publish that decision and a summary of the reasons for it.
- (3) Information published under subsection (2) may be anonymised—
 - (a) only so far as that is required to protect the identity of any victim or witness relating to an offence committed by the prisoner, or
 - (b) where the chairing member considers it appropriate to do so.”.>

Sharon Dowey

258 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Publication of decisions to direct release of certain life prisoners

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

- (2) In section 2 (duty to release discretionary life prisoners), after subsection (5) insert—

“(5ZA) Where—

- (a) the Parole Board gives a direction under subsection (4) in the case of a life prisoner to whom subsection (1)(ab) applies, and
- (b) there is any victim against or in respect of whom an offence has been committed by the prisoner,

the Board must publish a summary of the reasons for its decision to direct the prisoner’s release.

(5ZB) Information published in a summary under subsection (5ZA) may be anonymised, but only so far as that is required to protect the identity of any victim or witness relating to an offence committed by the prisoner.”.>

Sharon Dowey

259 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Victims’ right to summary of reasons for decisions to release certain life prisoners

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 2 (duty to release discretionary life prisoners), after subsection (5) insert—

“(5ZA) Where the Parole Board gives a direction under subsection (4) in the case of a prisoner who is subject to an order for lifelong restriction in respect of an offence, the Board must provide any victim of that offence with a summary of the reasons for its decision to direct the prisoner’s release.

(5ZB) Where a victim is deceased, the Parole Board must provide the summary under subsection (5ZA) to a family member of that victim.

(5ZC) Information provided in a summary under subsection (5ZA) may be anonymised, but only so far as that is required to protect the identity of any other victim or witness in relation to the offence committed by the prisoner.

(5ZD) For the purposes of subsection (5ZB), “family member” means anyone who, immediately before the victim’s death was—

- (a) married to, or in a civil partnership with, the victim
- (b) living together with the victim, as if they were married, and was so living together with the victim for a minimum period of 6 months,
- (c) a child or step-child of the victim,
- (d) anyone the victim cared for, as defined in paragraph 20 of schedule 12 to the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010,
- (e) a parent or step-parent of the victim,
- (f) a sibling of the victim,
- (g) a grandparent or great-grandparent of the victim,
- (h) a grandchild or great-grandchild of the victim.”.>

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Amendments Atharrachaidhean				

Jamie Greene

260 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Parole Board rules: decisions where prisoner has information about victim's remains

- (1) The Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 20 (the Parole Board for Scotland)—
 - (a) in subsection (4), in paragraph (c), after “matters” insert “must or”,
 - (b) after subsection (4A) insert—

“(4AA) Provision under subsection (4)(c) must in particular include provision that the Board, when making any decision as to the release of a prisoner serving a sentence imposed following a conviction for murder or culpable homicide, must take into account whether—

 - (a) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the prisoner has information about how or where the victim's remains were disposed of, and
 - (b) the prisoner has not disclosed that information.

(4AB) For the purposes of subsection (4AA), “victim” means the person against whom the offence of murder or culpable homicide was committed.”.>

Jamie Greene

261 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Temporary release: prisoner has information about victim's remains

- (1) The Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 39 (rules for the management of prisons and other institutions), after subsection (6) insert—

“(6A) Where—

 - (a) rules made under this section provide for the temporary release on licence of a prisoner, and
 - (b) that prisoner is serving a sentence that was imposed following a conviction for murder or culpable homicide,

the rules must provide that the governor of the prison in which the person is detained must, when deciding whether to grant the person temporary release, take into account the matters in subsection (6B).

(6B) The matters mentioned in subsection (6A) are—

 - (a) whether the governor has reasonable grounds to believe that the person has information about how or where the victim's remains were disposed, and
 - (b) the person has not disclosed that information.

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- (6C) For the purposes of subsection (6B), “victim” means the person against whom the offence of murder or culpable homicide was committed.”.>

Jamie Greene

262 After section 29, insert—

<PART

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Review of victims’ rights in relation to the parole process

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, before the expiry of the period of 12 months beginning with the day after Royal Assent, undertake a review of victims’ rights in relation to the parole process.
- (2) The review under subsection (1) must, in particular, include a review of—
 - (a) the information provided to victims in relation to the parole process,
 - (b) the information provided to victims in relation to decisions to release prisoners on licence,
 - (c) how the views of victims are taken to account when making decisions to release prisoners on licence, including the representations that can be made by victims,
 - (d) the extent to which victims can attend, observe and participate in parole hearings,
 - (e) the extent to which victims are treated in a way that accords with trauma-informed practice during the parole process,
 - (f) such other matters as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate.
- (3) As soon as reasonably practicable after completing the review under subsection (1), the Scottish Ministers must—
 - (a) prepare and publish a report on the review,
 - (b) lay a copy of the report before the Scottish Parliament.>

After section 33

Jamie Greene

263 After section 33, insert—

<PART

ACCESS TO COURT TRANSCRIPTS

Access to court transcripts: fund for victims

- (1) The 1995 Act is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 94 (transcripts of record and documentary productions) insert—

“94A Fund for victims to access transcripts

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, by regulations, establish a fund for the purpose of meeting any charges payable under section 94(2)(b) by a victim.
- (2) Regulations under subsection (1) may, in particular, make provision—
 - (a) about how an application to the fund is to be made,
 - (b) about the procedure to be followed by the Scottish Ministers in relation to such

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- applications,
- (c) about the eligibility of victims to receive a payment from the fund.
- (3) Before making regulations under subsection (1), the Scottish Ministers must consult—
- (a) the Lord Justice General,
- (b) the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service,
- (c) such persons as they consider to be representative of victims,
- (d) such other persons as they consider appropriate.
- (4) Regulations under subsection (1) are subject to the affirmative procedure.
- (5) For the purposes of this section, “victim” means a person against or in respect of whom an offence has been, or is alleged to have been, committed or carried out.”>

After section 64

Maggie Chapman

264 After section 64, insert—

<Independent advocacy support for complainers

Provision of independent advocacy support to complainers during criminal investigation and proceedings

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, by regulations, provide for a person who is or appears to be a victim of a sexual offence (the “complainer”) to be entitled to independent advocacy support.
- (2) The provision of independent advocacy support under subsection (1) must be available—
- (a) from the initial point of contact with—
- (i) a constable or member of police staff of the Police Service of Scotland,
- (ii) a provider of victim support services, or
- (iii) any other person as specified in regulations under subsection (1), and
- (b) until the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day after any criminal investigation or proceedings are concluded.
- (3) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide for the independent advocacy support to be provided free of charge to the complainer.
- (4) Before laying a draft of regulations under subsection (1) before the Scottish Parliament for approval, the Scottish Ministers must consult—
- (a) complainers,
- (b) the Lord Justice General,
- (c) the Faculty of Advocates,
- (d) the Law Society of Scotland,
- (e) the chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland,
- (f) the Scottish Legal Aid Board,
- (g) such persons providing victim support services as Ministers consider appropriate, and

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- (h) any other person Ministers consider appropriate.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers must lay draft regulations under subsection (1) before the Scottish Parliament for approval within the period of 12 months beginning with the day after Royal Assent.
- (6) In this section—
 - “sexual offence” means—
 - (a) an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,
 - (b) attempting to commit an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,
 - “victim support services” has the meaning given by section 3D(5) of the 2014 Act.>

Maggie Chapman

265 After section 64, insert—

<Report on provision of independent representation to complainers

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, within the period of 12 months beginning with the day after Royal Assent—
 - (a) publish a report on options for the provision of independent legal representation, free of charge, to a person who is or appears to be a victim of a sexual offence (the “complainer”) during the course of any criminal investigation or proceedings related to the offence,
 - (b) lay the report before the Scottish Parliament.
- (2) Before publishing the report under subsection (1), the Scottish Ministers must consult—
 - (a) complainers,
 - (b) the Lord Justice General,
 - (c) the Faculty of Advocates,
 - (d) the Law Society of Scotland,
 - (e) the chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland,
 - (f) the Scottish Legal Aid Board,
 - (g) such persons providing victim support services as Ministers consider appropriate, and
 - (h) any other person Ministers consider appropriate.
- (3) In this section—
 - “sexual offence” means—
 - (a) an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,
 - (b) attempting to commit an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,
 - “victim support services” has the meaning given by section 3D(5) of the 2014 Act.>

Maggie Chapman

266 After section 64, insert—

<Provision of independent representation to complainers during criminal proceedings

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, by regulations, provide for a person who is or appears to be a victim of a sexual offence (the “complainer”) to be entitled to independent legal representation during the course of any criminal proceedings related to the offence.
- (2) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide for the independent representation to be provided free of charge to the complainer.
- (3) Before laying a draft of regulations under subsection (1) before the Scottish Parliament for approval, the Scottish Ministers must consult—
 - (a) complainers,
 - (b) the Lord Justice General,
 - (c) the Faculty of Advocates,
 - (d) the Law Society of Scotland,
 - (e) the chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland,
 - (f) the Scottish Legal Aid Board,
 - (g) such persons providing victim support services as Ministers consider appropriate, and
 - (h) any other person Ministers consider appropriate.
- (4) The Scottish Ministers must lay draft regulations under subsection (1) before the Scottish Parliament for approval within the period of 12 months beginning with the day after Royal Assent.
- (5) In this section—

“sexual offence” means—

 - (a) an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,
 - (b) attempting to commit an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,

“victim support services” has the meaning given by section 3D(5) of the 2014 Act.>

Maggie Chapman

267 After section 64, insert—

<Provision of independent legal advice to complainers during criminal investigation and proceedings

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, by regulations, provide for a person who is or appears to be a victim of a sexual offence (the “complainer”) to be entitled to independent legal advice.
- (2) The provision of independent legal advice under subsection (1) must be available—
 - (a) from the initial point of contact with—
 - (i) a constable or member of police staff of the Police Service of Scotland,
 - (ii) a provider of victim support services, or
 - (iii) any other person as specified in regulations under subsection (1), and
 - (b) until the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day after any criminal investigation or proceedings are concluded.

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- (3) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide for the independent legal advice to be provided free of charge to the complainer.
- (4) Before laying a draft of regulations under subsection (1) before the Scottish Parliament for approval, the Scottish Ministers must consult—
 - (a) complainers,
 - (b) the Lord Justice General,
 - (c) the Faculty of Advocates,
 - (d) the Law Society of Scotland,
 - (e) the chief constable of the Police Service of Scotland,
 - (f) the Scottish Legal Aid Board,
 - (g) such persons providing victim support services as Ministers consider appropriate, and
 - (h) any other person Ministers consider appropriate.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers must lay draft regulations under subsection (1) before the Scottish Parliament for approval within the period of 12 months beginning with the day after Royal Assent.
- (6) In this section—

“sexual offence” means—

 - (a) an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,
 - (b) attempting to commit an offence listed for the time being in schedule 3,

“victim support services” has the meaning given by section 3D(5) of the 2014 Act.>

Housing (Scotland) Bill — Stage 2

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee Daily List

Section 7

Edward Mountain

- 142** In section 7, page 5, line 19, leave out <may> and insert <must>

Edward Mountain

- 143** In section 7, page 5, line 20, at end insert—

<() Guidance under subsection (1) must include provision about the eligible reasons for any such recommendations which may be given in a local authority’s report under section 1(1).>

Section 9

Maggie Chapman

- 144** In section 9, page 6, line 19, after <5(2)> insert <—

(a) if the local authority has recommended to the Scottish Ministers that they designate all or any part of the area of the local authority as a rent control area, the Scottish Ministers

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must—

- (i) lay a statement before the Scottish Parliament with the local authority's recommendation,
- (ii) subject to subsection (1A), by regulations designate the recommended area as a rent control area,
- (b) otherwise>

Maggie Chapman

145 In section 9, page 6, line 20, at end insert—

<(1A) The Scottish Parliament may, within two weeks of a statement being laid under subsection (1)(a)(i), by resolution agree that, notwithstanding the recommendation of the local authority, no regulations should be made under subsection (1)(a)(ii).>

Maggie Chapman

146 In section 9, page 6, line 21, leave out <(1)> and insert <(1)(b)>

Edward Mountain

147 In section 9, page 6, line 36, at end insert—

<() Regulations under subsection (1) must provide that the amount specified must be calculated with reference to the quality, state of repair, and energy efficiency of a property.>

Maggie Chapman

148 In section 9, page 6, line 37, after <effect> insert <—
()>

Maggie Chapman

149 In section 9, page 6, line 39, at end insert—

<() for the period during which regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*) are in force.>

Section 13

Edward Mountain

150 In section 13, page 9, line 3, leave out <may> and insert <must, within six months of this section coming into force,>.

Edward Mountain

151 In section 13, page 9, line 10, at end insert—

<() Regulations under subsection (1) must include in the definition of an exempt property any property under a relevant tenancy for which the landlord is the Secretary of State for Defence.>

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Edward Mountain

152 In section 13, page 9, line 10, at end insert—

<() Regulations under subsection (1) must include in the definition of an exempt property any property under a relevant tenancy for which the tenant is an employee of the landlord.>

Section 15

Edward Mountain

153 In section 15, page 10, line 22, after second <house,> insert <the number of bathrooms in the house, and>

Edward Mountain

154 In section 15, page 10, line 23, remove <and the floor area of the house>

Edward Mountain

155 In section 15, page 10, line 25, at end insert—

<() the quality, state of repair, and energy efficiency of the house.>

Edward Mountain

156 In section 15, page 10, line 36, at end insert—

<() The information mentioned in subsection (2) must be entered by a local authority in the authority's landlord register.>

Edward Mountain

157 In section 15, page 10, line 36, at end insert—

<() A local authority must not charge a person who is entered in the authority's landlord register any fees in accordance with entering information mentioned in subsection (2).>

After section 18

Maggie Chapman

158 After section 18, insert—

<CHAPTER

EMERGENCY RENT CAP

Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap

- (1) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations designate the whole of Scotland as a rent control area (a “national rent control area”) if they are satisfied that restricting the rate of increase in rent payable under each residential tenancy—
 - (a) is necessary and proportionate for the purpose of addressing the social and economic circumstances in Scotland,
 - (b) is a necessary and proportionate control of landlords' use of their property in Scotland, and

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- (c) no alternative approaches would address the social and economic circumstances identified.
- (2) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide that the rent payable under a residential tenancy in Scotland may not be increased by more than the amount specified in the regulations which may include—
 - (a) a specified percentage (which may be 0%),
 - (b) an amount falling within a specified range,
 - (c) an amount calculated with reference to—
 - (i) one or more specified factors, or
 - (ii) other specified criteria (including a formula).
- (3) Any regulations under subsection (1) cease to have effect on the expiry of a period specified in the regulations (unless they are revoked before the expiry of that period).
- (4) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations provide that, instead of expiring at the time they would otherwise expire, regulations under subsection (1) will expire at the end of a period specified in the regulations made under this subsection.
- (5) The effect of regulations under subsection (1) is that for any period during which regulations under subsection (1) are in force, any regulations made under section 9(1) for the time being in force cease to have effect.
- (6) In this Chapter—
 - “rent control measure” means a restriction on the amount by which the rent payable under a residential tenancy of a property in Scotland may be increased as mentioned in subsection (2),
 - “residential tenancy” means—
 - (a) a private residential tenancy under the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016,
 - (b) a student residential tenancy,
 - (c) an assured tenancy under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1988,
 - (d) a Scottish secure tenancy under the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001,
 - (e) a protected and statutory tenancy under the Rent (Scotland) Act 1984.
- (7) Subject to section (*Procedure for regulations under section (Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap)*), regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative procedure.>

Maggie Chapman

159 After section 18, insert—

<Duty to keep emergency rent cap under review

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must keep under review the operation of any regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*).
- (2) Where the Scottish Ministers consider that the rent control measure as provided for in regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*)(1) is no longer necessary or proportionate, the Scottish Ministers must as soon as practicable lay a Scottish statutory

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instrument containing regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*)(1) before the Scottish Parliament to vary or revoke the regulations as they consider appropriate.>

Maggie Chapman

160 After section 18, insert—

<Procedure for regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*).

- (1) For the purposes of regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*)—
 - (a) section 30 of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 does not apply to the regulations,
 - (b) the Scottish statutory instrument containing the regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*)(1) must be laid before the Scottish Parliament as soon as practicable after they are made, and
 - (c) the regulations cease to have effect at the end of the period of 28 days beginning with the day on which they are made unless, during that period, the Scottish statutory instrument containing them is approved by a resolution of the Parliament.
- (2) In calculating the period of 28 days mentioned in subsection (1)(c), no account is to be taken of any time during which the Scottish Parliament is—
 - (a) in recess for more than 4 days, or
 - (b) dissolved.
- (3) Regulations ceasing to have effect by virtue of subsection (1)(c) neither—
 - (a) affects anything previously done under the regulations before they ceased to have effect, nor
 - (b) prevents new regulations being made.
- (4) When laying a draft of a Scottish statutory instrument containing regulations under section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*) before the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Ministers must also lay before the Parliament a statement setting out—
 - (a) the reasons why they consider that the regulations should be made,
 - (b) the evidence which has informed the Scottish Ministers' decision that such regulations are necessary and proportionate,
 - (c) the level of the rent control measure to be introduced,
 - (d) the steps the Scottish Ministers are planning to take to ensure that tenants and landlords affected by regulations under subsection (1) receive appropriate information, advice and support for the period during which the regulations remain in force.>

Section 19

Maggie Chapman

161 In section 19, page 18, line 7, leave out <21 days> and insert <1 year>

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Maggie Chapman

- 162** In section 19, page 21, line 20, leave out <21 days> and insert <1 year>

Section 24

Edward Mountain

- 163** In section 24, page 28, line 26, at end insert—
- <(4A) Notwithstanding the duty mentioned in subsection (1), the day on which a tenancy is to end specified by the Tribunal in an eviction order must be no later than the period of 3 months beginning with the day after the application is issued by the landlord.>

Section 25

Edward Mountain

- 164** In section 25, page 29, line 22, at end insert—
- <(4A) Notwithstanding the duty mentioned in subsection (1), the date for recovery of possession of a house appointed by the court must be no later than the period of 3 months beginning with the day after proceedings are raised by the landlord.>

Edward Mountain

- 165** In section 25, page 30, line 10, at end insert—
- <(4A) Notwithstanding the duty mentioned in subsection (1), the date for recovery of possession of a house appointed by the court must be no later than the period of 3 months beginning with the day after proceedings are raised by the landlord.>

Section 26

Edward Mountain

- 166** In section 26, page 31, line 5, at end insert—
- <(4A) Notwithstanding the duty mentioned in subsection (1), the date of possession of a house specified by the Tribunal must be no later than the period of 3 months beginning with the day after proceedings are raised by the landlord.>

Section 27

Edward Mountain

- 167** In section 27, page 32, line 3, at end insert—
- <(4A) Notwithstanding the duty mentioned in subsection (1), the date of possession of a dwelling-house specified by the Tribunal must be no later than the period of 3 months beginning with the day after proceedings are raised by the landlord.>

Section 29

Edward Mountain

- 168 In section 29, page 36, line 31, leave out <Power> and insert <Duty>

Edward Mountain

- 169 In section 29, page 36, line 35, at end insert—
- <(1A) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide that it is reasonable for a landlord to refuse consent to a tenant keeping a pet at a let property if the landlord has a medical reason to refuse such consent.>

Edward Mountain

- 170 In section 29, page 37, line 3, leave out <Power> and insert <Duty>

Edward Mountain

- 171 In section 29, page 37, line 5, leave out <may> and insert <must>

Edward Mountain

- 172 In section 29, page 37, line 7, at end insert—
- <(1A) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide that it is reasonable for a landlord to specify as a condition that any carpeted floor surfaces and soft furnishings must be professionally cleaned at the end of the tenancy by a company operating independently of the tenant.>

Edward Mountain

- 173 In section 29, page 37, line 36, at end insert—
- <(3A) Unless the landlord agrees otherwise, where a tenant makes a category 1 change or category 2 change to a let property in accordance with this Chapter, they must ensure that the let property is returned to its original state before the change at the end of the tenancy.>

Edward Mountain

- 174 In section 29, page 40, line 16, leave out <Power> and insert <Duty>

Edward Mountain

- 175 In section 29, page 40, line 17, leave out <may> and insert <must>

Edward Mountain

- 176 In section 29, page 40, line 23, at end insert—
- <(2A) Regulations under subsection (1) must not categorise any structural changes to the property as a category 1 change.>

Edward Mountain

- 177 In section 29, page 40, line 29, leave out <Power> and insert <Duty>

Edward Mountain

- 178 In section 29, page 40, line 31, leave out <may> and insert <must>

Edward Mountain

- 179 In section 29, page 40, line 33, at end insert—
- <(1A) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide that it is reasonable for a landlord to refuse consent to any structural changes to the property.>

Section 30

Edward Mountain

- 180 In section 30, page 42, line 9, leave out <Power> and insert <Duty>

Edward Mountain

- 181 In section 30, page 42, line 11, leave out <may> and insert <must>

Edward Mountain

- 182 In section 30, page 42, line 13, at end insert—
- <(1A) Regulations under subsection (1) must provide that it is reasonable for a landlord to specify as a condition that any carpeted floor surfaces and soft furnishings must be professionally cleaned at the end of the tenancy by a company operating independently of the tenant.>

Before section 31

Jeremy Balfour

- 183 Before section 31, insert—
- <Requirement for a guarantor: student residential tenancy*

Requirement for a guarantor: student residential tenancy

- (1) The Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 120 (tenancy deposits: preliminary) insert—

“120A Tenancy deposits: restrictions on requirements for a guarantor

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, by regulations, provide that a tenant under a student residential tenancy must not be required to provide a guarantor in relation to the observance or performance of the tenant’s obligations under the tenancy.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, requiring a person to provide a guarantor includes accepting an offer by that person to provide a guarantor or an equivalent sum of money.
- (3) In this section—

“guarantee” is a contractual obligation promise to be responsible for the performance of an obligation owed by the tenant to a landlord under the

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tenancy if the tenant fails to perform the obligation,

“guarantor” is a person who enters into a guarantee in relation to a tenancy,

“student residential tenancy” means a tenancy the purpose of which is to confer on the tenant the right to occupy the let property while the tenant is a student, and to which paragraph 5(2) or (3) of schedule 1 (tenancies which cannot be private residential tenancies: student lets) of the Private Tenancies (Scotland) Act 2016 applies.”.>

Section 31

Edward Mountain

184 In section 31, page 45, line 10, at end insert—

<(ba) improving or securing the provision of social housing,>

Section 52

Maggie Chapman

185 In section 52, page 61, line 18, after <18(1)> and insert <, or section (*Power to make temporary emergency national rent cap*)(1)>

Housing (Scotland) Bill — Stage 2

Social Justice and Social Security Committee Daily List

Section 41

Jeremy Balfour

1015 In section 41, page 52, line 27, at end insert—

<() In section 31 (duties to persons found to be homeless), after subsection (2) insert—

“(2ZA) In securing permanent accommodation for a person under subsection (2), the local authority must have regard to the particular needs of the person arising from their protected characteristics within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010.”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1016 In section 41, page 55, leave out line 4

Jeremy Balfour

1017 In section 41, page 55, line 9, at end insert—

<(5) A relevant body may share information in connection with the person with any other relevant body—

(a) for the purpose of preventing or relieving homelessness of the person, and

(b) with the consent of the person.>

Jeremy Balfour

1018 In section 41, page 55, line 9, at end insert—

- <(5) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations specify—
 - (a) the steps each relevant body may take under subsection (2),
 - (b) the procedure by which the person, in connection with the support that has been offered or provided to the person under subsection (2), may—
 - (i) raise a concern with the relevant authority,
 - (ii) request a review from the relevant authority,
 - (iii) appeal to the First-tier Tribunal.
- (6) Before making regulations under subsection (5), the Scottish Minister must consult—
 - (a) each relevant body,
 - (b) such other persons as they consider appropriate.
- (7) Regulations under subsection (5) are subject to the affirmative procedure.>

Jeremy Balfour

1019 In section 41, page 55, line 9, at end insert—

<36CA Duty to co-ordinate support

- (1) This section applies where an applicant under section 31 or section 32 is also receiving support or assistance from—
 - (a) two or more relevant bodies, including the local authority in the discharge of any of their functions (other than the authority's functions in relation to homelessness),
 - (b) any agency or organisation (charitable or otherwise) which provides support, assistance, advice or counselling to individuals with particular needs.
- (2) The authority must work with the body, agency or organisation (as the case may be) to co-ordinate in the provision of such support or assistance to enable the authority to discharge its functions under this Part.>

Jeremy Balfour

1020 In section 41, page 55, line 14, at end insert—

<36E Duty to co-operate with local authority

Where a local authority requests another relevant body to assist them in the discharge of their functions under section 31 or section 32, the relevant body to whom the request is made must co-operate in rendering such assistance in the discharge of the functions to which the request relates as is reasonable in the circumstances.”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1021 In section 41, page 55, line 28, at end insert—

<(ca) a member of the Scottish Parliament,>

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Section 43

Maggie Chapman

1022 In section 43, page 57, leave out lines 16 to 18 and insert—

- <(a) controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading, or violent behaviour, including sexual violence,
- (ab) any other conduct likely to result in mental or physical harm, fear, alarm, or distress, and>

Section 44

Jeremy Balfour

1023 In section 44, page 57, line 37, at end insert—

- <(6B) Details of support provided under subsection (6A)(b) must include details of organisations providing legal advice, including law centres and third sector bodies, on—
 - (a) family law and domestic abuse,
 - (b) where appropriate, immigration law.
- (6C) In this section, “third sector bodies” means bodies (whether or not formally constituted) established for purposes which consist of, or consist mainly of, providing benefits for society (but do not include bodies established under an enactment).>

After section 45

Jeremy Balfour

1024 After section 45, insert—

<Orders for possession: rent arrears due to domestic abuse

- (1) The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 16A (orders for possession: duty to consider a delay, inserted by section 25) insert—

“16B Orders for possession: rent arrears due to domestic abuse

- (1) This section applies where—
 - (a) it appears to the court that the landlord has a ground for recovery of possession as set out in paragraph 1 of schedule 2 (rent lawfully due from the tenant has not been paid), and
 - (b) the court is satisfied that the tenant has experienced or is experiencing domestic abuse which explains or partly explains why the rent lawfully due from the tenant has not been paid.
- (2) The court must—
 - (a) appoint a date that delays the effect of giving the landlord the right to recover possession of the house by a period of 1 year beginning with the date of the order, and

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- (b) require the landlord and tenant to agree a reasonable plan for future payments to the landlord, such plan to include proposals in respect of—
 - (i) future payments of rent,
 - (ii) outstanding rent and any other outstanding financial obligation of the tenancy.”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1025 After section 45, insert—

<Protected tenancies and statutory tenancies: landlord policies about supporting tenancies affected by domestic abuse

- (1) The Rent (Scotland) Act 1984 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 10 (premises with business use) insert—

“10A Policies about supporting tenants affected by domestic abuse

- (1) Every landlord under a protected tenancy and statutory tenancy must prepare and publish a policy (a “domestic abuse policy”) on how it will exercise its functions in relation to the needs of tenants who the landlord has reason to believe have experienced, are experiencing or are at risk of domestic abuse, with a view to preventing homelessness.
- (2) A domestic abuse policy must, in particular, include a description of the action that the landlord must take in relation to the needs of a tenant in the circumstances mentioned in section 11A.
- (3) A landlord—
 - (a) may revise its domestic abuse policy, and
 - (b) if it does so, must re-publish the policy.
- (4) A landlord must, in exercising its functions, have regard to its domestic abuse policy.
- (7) A landlord must have regard to any guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers about the exercise of its functions under this section including as regards the form and content of a domestic abuse policy.
- (8) In subsection (1), “domestic abuse” means abusive behaviour within the meaning of section 2 of the Domestic Abuse (protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 (as read with sections 1 and 3 of that Act).”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1026 After section 45, insert—

<Protected tenancies and statutory tenancies: pre-action requirements where domestic abuse is a factor in rent arrears

- (1) The Rent (Scotland) Act 1984 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 11 (grounds for possession of certain dwelling houses) insert—

“11A Pre-action requirements where domestic abuse is a factor in rent arrears

- (1) This section applies where the landlord proposes to seek an eviction order on the

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ground that rent lawfully due from the tenant has not been paid (Case 1).

- (2) Where the landlord considers that the tenant has experienced or is experiencing domestic abuse which explains or partly explains why the rent lawfully due from the tenant has not been paid, the landlord must—
 - (a) take such action to support the needs of the tenant arising in connection with the rent arrears as the landlords considers reasonable having regard to its domestic abuse policy under section 10A,
 - (b) provide the tenant with details of the such other support that may be available to the tenant in relation to domestic abuse as the landlord considers appropriate in the circumstances.
- (3) In this section, “domestic abuse” has the meaning given by section 10A.”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1027 After section 45, insert—

<Private tenancies: landlord policies about supporting tenancies affected by domestic abuse

- (1) The Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 17 (meaning of notice period in sections 14 and 16) insert—

“PART 3A

TENANTS AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC ABUSE

17A Policies about supporting tenants affected by domestic abuse

- (1) Every landlord under a private residential tenancy must prepare and publish a policy (a “domestic abuse policy”) on how it will exercise its functions in relation to the needs of tenants who the landlord has reason to believe have experienced, are experiencing or are at risk of domestic abuse, with a view to preventing homelessness.
- (2) A domestic abuse policy must, in particular, include a description of the action that the landlord must take in relation to the needs of a tenant in the circumstances mentioned in section 56A.
- (3) A landlord—
 - (a) may revise its domestic abuse policy, and
 - (b) if it does so, must re-publish the policy.
- (4) A landlord must, in exercising its functions, have regard to its domestic abuse policy.
- (5) A landlord must have regard to any guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers about the exercise of its functions under this section including as regards the form and content of a domestic abuse policy.
- (6) In subsection (1), “domestic abuse” means abusive behaviour within the meaning of section 2 of the Domestic Abuse (protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 (as read with sections 1 and 3 of that Act).”.>

Jeremy Balfour

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1028 After section 45, insert—

<Private landlords: pre-action requirements where domestic abuse is a factor in rent arrears

- (1) The Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 56 (restriction on applying without notifying local authority) insert—

“Pre-action requirements where domestic abuse is factor in rent arrears

56A Pre-action requirements where domestic abuse is a factor in rent arrears

- (1) This section applies where the landlord proposes to seek an eviction order on the ground that the tenant has been in rent arrears for three or more consecutive months.
- (2) Where the landlord considers that the tenant has experienced or is experiencing domestic abuse which explains or partly explains why the rent lawfully due from the tenant has not been paid, the landlord must—
 - (a) take such action to support the needs of the tenant arising in connection with the rent arrears as the landlords considers reasonable having regard to its domestic abuse policy under section 17A,
 - (b) provide the tenant with details of the such other support that may be available to the tenant in relation to domestic abuse as the landlord considers appropriate in the circumstances.
- (3) In this section, “domestic abuse” has the meaning given by section 17A.”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1029 After section 45, insert—

<Assured tenancies: landlord policies about supporting tenancies affected by domestic abuse

- (1) The Housing (Scotland) Act 1988 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 30B (duty of landlord to provide certain information: further provision) insert—

“30C Policies about supporting tenants affected by domestic abuse

- (1) Every landlord under an assured tenancy must prepare and publish a policy (a “domestic abuse policy”) on how it will exercise its functions in relation to the needs of tenants who the landlord has reason to believe have experienced, are experiencing or are at risk of domestic abuse, with a view to preventing homelessness.
- (2) A domestic abuse policy must, in particular, include a description of the action that the landlord must take in relation to the needs of a tenant in the circumstances mentioned in section 19B.
- (3) A landlord—
 - (a) may revise its domestic abuse policy, and
 - (b) if it does so, must re-publish the policy.
- (4) A landlord must, in exercising its functions, have regard to its domestic abuse policy.

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- (5) A landlord must have regard to any guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers about the exercise of its functions under this section including as regards the form and content of a domestic abuse policy.
- (6) In subsection (1), “domestic abuse” means abusive behaviour within the meaning of section 2 of the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 (as read with sections 1 and 3 of that Act).”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1030 After section 45, insert—

<Assured tenancies: landlord policies about supporting tenancies affected by domestic abuse

- (1) The Housing (Scotland) Act 1988 is modified as follows.
- (2) After section 19A (requirement to notify local authority of proceedings for possession) insert—

“19B Pre-action requirements where domestic abuse is a factor in rent arrears

- (1) This section applies where a landlord proposes to raise proceedings for possession of a house let on an assured tenancy on the ground that rent is in arrears (ground 12).
- (2) Where the landlord considers that the tenant has experienced or is experiencing domestic abuse which explains or partly explains why the rent lawfully due from the tenant has not been paid, the landlord must—
 - (a) take such action to support the needs of the tenant arising in connection with the rent arrears as the landlords considers reasonable having regard to its domestic abuse policy under section 30C,
 - (b) provide the tenant with details of the such other support that may be available to the tenant in relation to domestic abuse as the landlord considers appropriate in the circumstances.
- (3) In this section, “domestic abuse” has the meaning given by section 30C.”.>

Jeremy Balfour

1031 After section 45, insert—

<Commencement of this Part

Commencement of this Part

The day appointed by regulations under section 56(2) on which provision in this Part is to come into force must be a day after the day on which the Scottish Ministers have laid before the Scottish Parliament a report on the outcome of the pilots undertaken on homelessness prevention.>

New Subordinate Legislation

Subject to negative procedure

The following instrument was laid before Parliament on 6 March 2025 and is subject to the negative procedure—

[Police Pension Scheme \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/58\)](#)

Laid under section 24 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

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Progress of Legislation

A list of all Bills in progress can be accessed via the website at:

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills>

For each Bill, the date of the next (or most recent) event in the Bill's passage is given. Other relevant information, e.g. about lodging amendments, is given in italics.

As soon as a Public Bill (i.e. a Government, Committee or Member's Bill) has completed Stage 1, amendments for consideration at Stage 2 may be lodged; and as soon as Stage 2 is completed, amendments for Stage 3 consideration may be lodged. The last lodging day for amendments at Stage 2 is four sitting days before the meeting at which those amendments will be considered (e.g. Wednesday for a meeting on Tuesday); at Stage 3 it is five days before. Amendments may be lodged until 4.30 pm on any sitting day, except on the last lodging day for each Stage, when the deadline is 12 noon.

A Hybrid Bill is subject to the same rules except in the case of Stage 2 where amendments for consideration may be lodged no earlier than the completion of any consideration of evidence at Stage 2.

Amendments to Private Bills are subject to different deadlines. These are set out in Rule 9A.12 of Standing Orders.

Members are advised to lodge amendments in good time before the beginning of a Stage and as early as possible during the day.

(G) = Government Bill; (M) = Member's Bill; (C) = Committee Bill; (P) = Private Bill; (H) = Hybrid Bill.

Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill (M)

Stage 1 (evidence, lead committee (Health, Social Care and Sport)), 4 February 2025

Stage 1 (evidence (Finance and Public Administration Committee)), 17 December 2024

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (55th Report, 2024)

Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill (G)

Passed, 25 February 2025

Care Reform (Scotland) Bill (G) *(introduced as the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill)*

Stage 2 completed, 4 March 2025

Stage 3 amendments may now be lodged with the clerks in the Legislation Team

[\(legislationteam@parliament.scot\)](mailto:legislationteam@parliament.scot)

Criminal Justice Modernisation and Abusive Domestic Behaviour Reviews (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 1 (lead committee (Criminal Justice)), 5 March 2025

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (3rd Report, 2025)

Disability Commissioner (Scotland) Bill (M)

Stage 1 Report (Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee) published, 10 December 2024

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Progress of Legislation Adhartas Reachdais				

Dog Theft (Scotland) Bill (M)

Stage 1 (lead committee (Rural Affairs and Islands)), 26 February 2025

Education (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 2 (Day 1) (Education, Children and Young People Committee), 23 April 2025

All amendments should be lodged by 12 noon on Wednesday 2 April with the clerks in the Legislation Team (legislationteam@parliament.scot)

European Charter of Local Self-Government (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill (M)

Passed, 23 March 2021

Following a reference under section 33 of the Scotland Act 1998 by the Attorney General and the Advocate General for Scotland, the Supreme Court has ruled that some provisions of the Bill are outwith the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament. The Bill cannot be submitted for Royal Assent in its unamended form.

Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill (G)

Passed, 22 December 2022

Following an Order under section 35 of the Scotland Act 1998 made by the Secretary of State for Scotland, this Bill cannot be submitted for Royal Assent in its current form.

Housing (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 2 (Day 1) (Social Justice and Social Security Committee), 20 March 2025

Any amendments specifically on matters relating to the part 5 homelessness prevention provisions or the part 6 fuel poverty provisions, except any such amendments to the schedule or the long title, should be lodged by 12 noon on Friday 14 March with the clerks in the Legislation Team (legislationteam@parliament.scot)

Stage 2 (Day 1) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee), 29 April 2025

All amendments other than those that are to be considered by the Social Justice and Social Security Committee should be lodged by 12 noon on Wednesday 23 April with the clerks in the Legislation Team (legislationteam@parliament.scot)

Land Reform (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 1 (lead committee (Net Zero, Energy and Transport)), 11 March 2025

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (5th Report, 2025)

Leases (Automatic Continuation etc.) (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 1 (lead committee (Delegated Powers and Law Reform)), 18 February 2025

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (12th Report, 2025)

Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 1 (evidence, lead committee (Rural Affairs and Islands)), 5 March 2025

Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 2 completed, 28 January 2025

Stage 3 amendments may now be lodged with the clerks in the Legislation Team (legislationteam@parliament.scot)

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Progress of Legislation Adhartas Reachdais				

Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill (M)

Stage 1 (lead committee (Health, Social Care and Sport)), 4 February 2025

Stage 1 (evidence (Finance and Public Administration Committee)), 11 March 2025

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (62nd Report, 2024)

Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill (M)

Stage 1 Report (Education, Children and Young People Committee) published, 4 February 2025

Scottish Languages Bill (G)

Stage 2 completed, 11 December 2024

Stage 3 amendments may now be lodged with the clerks in the Legislation Team

[*\(legislationteam@parliament.scot\)*](mailto:legislationteam@parliament.scot)

Report after Stage 2 – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (14th Report, 2025)

Scottish Parliament (Recall and Removal of Members) Bill (M)

Stage 1 (lead committee (Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments)), 20 February 2025

Tertiary Education and Training (Funding and Governance) (Scotland) Bill (G)

Introduced, 5 February 2025

Lead committee – Education, Children and Young People

Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill (G)

Stage 2 (Day 1) (Criminal Justice Committee), 12 March 2025

Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill (M)

Passed, 23 January 2025

Legislative Consent Memorandums

A list of all Legislative Consent Memorandums lodged with the Scottish Parliament can be accessed via the website at:

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/legislative-consent-memorandums>

Data (Use and Access) Bill LCM-S6-52

Lodged on 22 November 2024

Report – Lead committee (Economy and Fair Work) (2nd Report, 2025)

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (6th Report, 2025)

Employment Rights Bill LCM-S6-53

Lodged on 11 December 2024

Meeting (lead committee (Economy and Fair Work)), 19 February 2025

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (16th Report, 2025)

Great British Energy Bill Supplementary LCM-S6-48c

Lodged on 24 February 2025

Meeting of the Parliament, 25 February 2025

High Speed Rail (Crewe - Manchester) Bill LCM-S6-15

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Progress of Legislation Adhartas Reachdais				

Lodged on 7 February 2022

Report – Lead committee (Net Zero, Energy and Transport) (9th Report, 2022)

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (27th Report, 2022)

Product Regulation and Metrology Bill Supplementary LCM-S6-50a

Lodged on 3 March 2025

Renters' Rights Bill LCM-S6-49

Lodged on 24 September 2024

Meeting of the Parliament, 19 February 2025

Report – Lead committee (Local Government, Housing and Planning) (9th Report, 2024)

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (69th Report, 2024)

Tobacco and Vapes Bill LCM-S6-51

Lodged on 21 November 2024

Meeting (evidence, lead committee (Health, Social Care and Sport)), 17 December 2024

Report – Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (15th Report, 2025)

Subordinate Legislation (date of laying) (lead committee)

Made affirmative instrument

Subject to approval by 17 March 2025

[Scottish Landfill Tax \(Standard Rate and Lower Rate\) Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/41\)](#) (19 February 2025) (Finance and Public Administration Committee)

Affirmative instruments

Subject to approval by 13 March 2025

[Social Security Up-rating \(Scotland\) Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (24 January 2025) (Social Justice and Social Security Committee)

Subject to approval by 16 March 2025

[Community Care \(Personal Care and Nursing Care\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (27 January 2025) (Health, Social Care and Sport Committee)

[National Bus Travel Concession Schemes \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (27 January 2025) (Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee)

Subject to approval by 18 March 2025

[Public Appointments and Public Bodies etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2003 \(Treatment of Qualifications Scotland as Specified Authority\) Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (29 January 2025) (Education, Children and Young People Committee)

Subject to approval by 19 March 2025

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Progress of Legislation Adhartas Reachdais				

[Budget \(Scotland\) Act 2024 Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (30 January 2025) (Finance and Public Administration Committee)

Subject to approval by 24 March 2025

[Local Government Finance \(Scotland\) Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (4 February 2025) (The Parliament)

Subject to approval by 27 March 2025

[Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002 Amendment Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (7 February 2025) (Rural Affairs and Islands Committee)

Subject to approval by 28 March 2025

[Tied Pubs \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (re-laid 10 February 2025) (Economy and Fair Work Committee)

[Social Security \(Up-rating\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (re-laid 10 February 2025) (Social Justice and Social Security Committee)

Subject to approval by 29 March 2025

[Public Services Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Part 2 Further Extension\) Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (18 February 2025) (Finance and Public Administration Committee)

Subject to approval by 23 April 2025

[Environmental Authorisations \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/Draft\)](#) (27 February 2025) (Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee)

Negative instruments

Subject to annulment 12 March 2025

Lead committee report due by 10 March 2025

[Local Governance \(Scotland\) Act 2004 \(Remuneration\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/8\)](#) (23 January 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

[Sheriff Appeal Court Fees Amendment Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/9\)](#) (23 January 2025) (Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee)

Subject to annulment 19 March 2025

Lead committee report due by 17 March 2025

[Scottish Road Works Register \(Prescribed Fees\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/18\)](#) (30 January 2025) (Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee)

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Progress of Legislation Adhartas Reachdais				

[Non-Domestic Rating \(Valuation of Utilities\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/19\)](#) (30 January 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

Subject to annulment 23 March 2025

Lead committee report due by 17 March 2025

[Council Tax Reduction \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/24\)](#) (3 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

[Fees for Scheme Membership and Disclosure Applications \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/25\)](#) (3 February 2025) (Education, Children and Young People Committee)

[Level 1 and Level 2 Disclosure Review Application \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/26\)](#) (3 February 2025) (Education, Children and Young People Committee)

Subject to annulment 27 March 2025

Lead committee report due by 24 March 2025

[Environmental Protection \(Injurious Articles\) \(Fixed Penalty Notices and Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/28\)](#) (7 February 2025) (Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee)

[Cost of Living \(Tenant Protection\) \(Saving Provision\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/29\)](#) (7 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

[National Assistance \(Sums for Personal Requirements\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/30\)](#) (7 February 2025) (Health, Social Care and Sport Committee)

[National Assistance \(Assessment of Resources\) Amendment \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/31\)](#) (7 February 2025) (Health, Social Care and Sport Committee)

Subject to annulment 28 March 2025

Lead committee report due by 24 March 2025

[Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Order 2025 \(SI 2025/124\)](#) (12 February 2025) (Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee)

Subject to annulment 30 March 2025

Lead committee report due by 24 March 2025

[Local Governance \(Scotland\) Act 2004 \(Remuneration\) Amendment \(Amendment\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/36\)](#) (19 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

Subject to annulment 31 March 2025

Lead committee report due by 24 March 2025

[Non-Domestic Rate \(Scotland\) Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/37\)](#) (20 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

Today's Business <i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i>	Future Business <i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i>	Motions & Questions <i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i>	Legislation <i>Reachdas</i>	Other <i>Eile</i>
Progress of Legislation Adhartas Reachdais				

[Non-Domestic Rates \(Levying and Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/38\)](#) (20 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

[Non-Domestic Rates \(Transitional Relief\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/39\)](#) (20 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

[Non-Domestic Rates \(Hospitality Relief\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/40\)](#) (20 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

[Environmental Protection \(Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and other Dangerous Substances\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/42\)](#) (20 February 2025) (Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee)

[National Health Service \(Common Staffing Method\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/43\)](#) (20 February 2025) (Health, Social Care and Sport Committee)

[Education \(Scotland\) Act 1980 \(Modification\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/44\)](#) (20 February 2025) (Education, Children and Young People Committee)

Subject to annulment 1 April 2025
Lead committee report due by 31 March 2025

[Local Government Pension Scheme \(Scotland\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/48\)](#) (21 February 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

Subject to annulment 27 April 2025
Lead committee report due by 21 April 2025

[Council Tax Reduction and Council Tax \(Discounts\) \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/55\)](#) (3 March 2025) (Social Justice and Social Security Committee)

[Council Tax \(Exempt Dwellings\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/56\)](#) (3 March 2025) (Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee)

[Health and Care Professions Council \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Rules Order of Council 2025 \(SI 2025/240\)](#)<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2025/9780111062319/contents> (3 March 2025) (Health, Social Care and Sport Committee)

Subject to annulment 30 April 2025
Lead committee report due by 28 April 2025

[Police Pension Scheme \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/58\)](#) (6 March 2025) (Criminal Justice Committee)

New Documents

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 6 March 2025—

Economy and Fair Work Committee, 4th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Subordinate legislation considered by the Economy and Fair Work Committee on 5 March (SP Paper 748)

For further information on accessing committee reports, please contact the relevant clerk or webpage (see end of Bulletin for contact details or access general committee webpage)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 5 March 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

HMICS Custody Inspection Report – Greater Glasgow (HMICS/2025/01) laid under section 79(3) of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 6 March 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Report to the Scottish Parliament in Respect of Changes to the Police Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 2015 (SG/2025/41) laid under Section 22 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

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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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