

Tuesday 9 September 2025

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Today's Business

Meeting of the Parliament

2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Margot Henderson, Poet Storyteller

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions

followed by Ministerial Statement: Actions to Support Improved Relationships and Behaviour in Schools

followed by Urgent Question: Douglas Ross: To ask the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body what discussions it has had with Police Scotland about the policing of the For Women Scotland rally outside the Parliament on 4 September, regarding reports of disruptive behaviour by an individual and a lack of action taken against him by the police.

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Twenty Years of Scotland's Railway Providing a Strong Platform for the Future

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business — S6M-18576 Liz Smith: Celebrating Residential Outdoor Education for Young People

Committee Meetings

8:45am Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

9:00am Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

9:00am Finance and Public Administration Committee

9:00am Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

9:30am Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

9:30am Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Meeting of the Parliament

2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Margot Henderson, Poet Storyteller

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions

1. Sandesh Gulhane: To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking in response to reports that the synthetic drug, spice, has been found in vapes that are being sold to school children. ([S6T-02658](#))

2. Mark Griffin: To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to reports that Scottish local authorities spent over £100 million last year on bed and breakfast and hostel accommodation for homeless people. ([S6T-02649](#))

followed by Ministerial Statement: Actions to Support Improved Relationships and Behaviour in Schools

followed by Urgent Question: Douglas Ross: To ask the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body what discussions it has had with Police Scotland about the policing of the For Women Scotland rally outside the Parliament on 4 September, regarding reports of disruptive behaviour by an individual and a lack of action taken against him by the police.

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Twenty Years of Scotland's Railway Providing a Strong Platform for the Future

[S6M-18763](#) Fiona Hyslop: Twenty Years of Scotland's Railway Providing a Strong Platform for the Future—That the Parliament recognises that it is now 20 years since the devolution of executive powers over rail funding, specification and strategy for Scotland's railway; celebrates the 15th anniversary of the completion of the Airdrie-Bathgate route, instigated by the Labour and Liberal Democrat coalition and completed under the Scottish National Party, the 10th anniversary of the reopening of the Borders Railway and the first anniversary of the reopening of the Levenmouth route; recognises the many significant achievements over those 20 years, including electrification of over 570 kilometres of track, the opening of 30 new stations, and an increase of a fifth in ScotRail passenger numbers; welcomes the consistent delivery of operational performance and passenger satisfaction under public ownership and control, which are among the best levels in Britain; notes the need to continue to improve those performance levels; welcomes the investment of £13 billion over this period to sustain and grow the network through value-for-money projects, including the complete renewal of the Caledonian Sleeper fleet and operation; notes the cross-party support for the removal, for good, of ScotRail peak fares, first piloted while Scottish Green Party ministers were part of the Scottish Government; looks forward to the benefits from developments such as the completion of the electrification of the East Kilbride route, and the progression of procurement of new train fleets and further electrification, including the recently announced Fife and Borders routes; recognises that the UK Government's current proposals for rail reform draw heavily on the widely recognised success of the devolved approach to rail in Scotland; notes the Scottish Government's position that full devolution of rail is the optimal position

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				

but, in the absence of full devolution, Scotland's railway must benefit at least as much from those reforms as is promised for England and Wales, and agrees that any reforms that would diminish the Scottish Ministers' powers and the role of the Scottish Parliament already constrained by current UK legislation would be unacceptable to the Scottish Parliament, given the success the delivery model in Scotland has produced over the last two decades.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

S6M-18763.1 Sue Webber: Twenty Years of Scotland's Railway Providing a Strong Platform for the Future—As an amendment to motion S6M-18763 in the name of Fiona Hyslop (Twenty Years of Scotland's Railway Providing a Strong Platform for the Future), leave out from first "welcomes" to end and insert "urges the Scottish Government to ensure that value-for-money and passenger satisfaction remain at the forefront of railway delivery in Scotland; notes that the cross-party support for the removal of peak rail fares was made possible thanks to a Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party motion that called on the Scottish Government to remove them; recognises the importance of rail to the Scottish economy and business, such as in the transportation of whisky and fresh produce, and agrees that rail is important to the future decarbonisation of transport; notes that new railway developments should be linked to future centres of population growth, such as at Winchburgh, and calls on the Scottish Government to outline how it plans to deliver upgraded rail links in existing towns and villages, and connect those that do not have a rail link; recognises that future development of the railway in Scotland is hindered by aging 19th century infrastructure; calls on the Scottish Government to outline how it plans to future-proof the rail network, and urges the Scottish and UK governments to outline how they will work together to deliver private investment in the rail network."

S6M-18763.3 Claire Baker: Twenty Years of Scotland's Railway Providing a Strong Platform for the Future—As an amendment to motion S6M-18763 in the name of Fiona Hyslop (Twenty Years of Scotland's Railway Providing a Strong Platform for the Future), leave out from "that the UK Government's" to end and insert "the benefits of public ownership and welcomes proposals from the UK Government for the rest of the UK, including cross-border travel into Scotland; notes the repeated assurances from the UK Government that its plans on rail reform would not affect Scottish Government powers; welcomes the permanent removal of peak fares but notes that it only came about after significant pressure on the Scottish Government; acknowledges that ScotRail passenger numbers are still nearly 20% lower than pre-COVID-19-pandemic levels; recognises that, with punctuality and reliability being the highest complaint topics to ScotRail, more must be done to improve the service, including addressing overcrowding and short-forming, in order to achieve modal shift and attract passengers back to the railways, and acknowledges the importance of protections against violence and abuse for ScotRail workers."

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

S6M-18786 Jamie Hepburn on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Revision to Business Programme—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) to the following revisions to the programme of business for Wednesday 10 September 2025—
after

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 Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Debate: Impact of Accommodating Asylum Seekers on Scottish Local Government

insert

followed by Motion on Legislative Consent: Bus Services (No. 2) Bill - UK Legislation

delete

5.10 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.40 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of consideration of the legislative consent memorandum on the Bus Services (No. 2) Bill, Rules 9B.3.5 and 9B.3.6 of Standing Orders are suspended.

[S6M-18787](#) Jamie Hepburn on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Referral of SSI—That the Parliament agrees that the Social Security (Residence and Presence Requirements) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be considered by the Parliament.

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business
Debate on the subject of—

[S6M-18576](#) Liz Smith: Celebrating Residential Outdoor Education for Young People—That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the outstanding contribution of Scotland's residential outdoor education centres, including PGL Dalguise in the Mid Scotland and Fife region, in developing key life skills for young people, including confidence, independence, teamwork and resilience; considers that the will of the Parliament has been expressed on the Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill, with a majority of MSPs, including those representing all political parties, agreeing to the general principles at stage 1 on 27 March 2025; notes that the Scottish Government must lodge a financial resolution by 26 September 2025 or the Bill falls; further notes that the Member in Charge of the Bill has produced a series of policy proposals and associated costings for consideration by the Scottish Government that, it believes, would mean the Bill would cost significantly less; understands that the Scottish Government is yet to provide a view on any of these policy proposals and that it is yet to identify at what level of cost it considers the Bill would become "affordable" to enable a financial resolution to be lodged; further understands that the Scottish Government has not produced financial modelling with associated draft amendments on any proposals on affordability despite what it considers a commitment from the Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise when appearing before the Education, Children and Young People Committee to share draft amendments with the Member in Charge by the start of July 2025; notes the calls by members from all political parties, the outdoor education sector, and children and young people from across Scotland for the Bill to proceed to stage 2 for further scrutiny, and further notes the associated calls for a financial resolution to be lodged.

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Committees Comataidhean				

Committee Meetings

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

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee 26th Meeting, 2025

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

- Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (Scottish Carbon Budgets) Amendment Regulations 2025 from—
Professor Gabi Hegerl, Professor of Climate System Science, University of Edinburgh;
Professor Fabrice Renaud, Professor of Environmental Risk & Community Resilience and Director of the National Centre for Resilience, University of Glasgow;
Dr Andrew Russell, Director, Environmental Change and Communities Research Centre;
Dr Ellie Murtagh, Post Doctoral researcher, Maynooth University;
and then from—
Gillian Martin, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy, Philip Raines, Deputy Director, Domestic Climate Change, and Julia Burgham Pearson, Lawyer, Scottish Government.
- Subordinate legislation:** Gillian Martin (Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy) to move—S6M-18060—That the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee recommends that the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (Scottish Carbon Budgets) Amendment Regulations 2025 be approved.

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee 18th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in T1.60-CR4 The Clerk Maxwell Room

- Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 5 and 6 in private.
- Pre-Budget Scrutiny:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Professor Angela O'Hagan, Chair, Scottish Human Rights Commission;
Emma Congreve, Equality and Human Rights Budget Advisory Group and Deputy Director and Principal Knowledge Exchange Fellow, Fraser of Allander Institute;
Sara Cowan, Director, Scottish Women's Budget Group;
Allan Faulds, Senior Policy Officer, Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE);
and then from—
Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, Kaukab Stewart, Minister for Equalities, Rob Priestley, Head of Mainstreaming Unit, and Alasdair Black, Deputy Director, Budget and Fiscal Coordination, Scottish Government.
- Civil Legal Aid Inquiry (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.
- British Sign Language Inquiry (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.
- Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.
- Pre-Budget Scrutiny:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.

Finance and Public Administration Committee

24th Meeting, 2025

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

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
2. **Pre-Budget Scrutiny 2026-27: Responding to long-term fiscal pressures:** The Committee will take evidence from—
 Richard Robinson, Senior Manager, Audit Scotland;
 João Sousa, Deputy Director and Senior Knowledge Exchange Fellow, Fraser of Allander Institute;
 and then from—
 Michael Kellet, Director of Strategy, Governance and Performance, Public Health Scotland;
 David Livey, Policy and Public Affairs Manager, Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations;
 Dave Moxham, Deputy General Secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress;
 Mike Brown, Treasurer, Social Work Scotland;
 Ian McCall, Policy and Campaigns Officer, Walking Scotland.
3. **Appointments to the Scottish Fiscal Commission:** The Committee will take evidence from the following nominees—
 Dr Eleanor Ryan;
 Justine Riccomini.
4. **Appointments to the Scottish Fiscal Commission:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 3.

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee 22nd Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in TG.60-CR3 The Fleming Room

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 3, 4 and 5 in private.
2. **Pre-budget scrutiny 2026-2027:** The Committee will take evidence from—
 Professor Neil Craig, Professor of Public Health Economics, Glasgow Caledonian University;
 Dr Danny Ruta, Consultant in Public Health, NHS Grampian.
3. **Pre-budget scrutiny 2026-2027:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.
4. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.
5. **Right to Addiction Recovery (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider a draft Stage 1 report.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee 24th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T1.40-CR5 The Smith Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 5, 6 and 7 in private.
2. **Instruments subject to affirmative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Winter Heating Assistance \(Pension Age\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025](#)
 (SSI 2025/Draft)

[Social Security \(Residence and Presence Requirements\) \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/Draft)

3. **Instruments subject to negative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Personal Injuries \(NHS Charges\) \(Amounts\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/239)
[Offshore Fishing \(Prohibition of Fishing Methods\) \(Scotland\) Order 2025](#) (SSI 2025/240)
4. **Instruments not subject to any parliamentary procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Animal Products \(Control of Personal Importation\) \(Scotland\) Order 2025](#) (SSI 2025/230)
5. **Ecocide (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the delegated powers provisions in this Bill at Stage 1.
6. **Children (Care, Care Experience and Services Planning) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the delegated powers provisions in this Bill at Stage 1.
7. **Planning and Infrastructure Bill (UK Parliament legislation):** The Committee will consider the supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum and powers to make subordinate legislation within devolved competence in the Bill.

**Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee
22nd Meeting, 2025**

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T4.60-CR6 The Livingstone Room

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 5, 6 and 7 in private.
2. **Proposed National Good Food Nation Plan:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Mairi Gougeon, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, James Hamilton, Solicitor, Emma Henderson, Organics and Community Food Growing Policy Officer, Laura Hunter, Procurement Policy, and Tracy McCollin, Head of Good Food Nation Team, Scottish Government.
3. **Pre-Budget Scrutiny:** The Committee will take evidence as part of its Pre-Budget Scrutiny from—
Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive, Clackmannanshire Council;
Malcolm Burr, Chief Executive, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar;
Thomas Glen, Chief Executive, Perth & Kinross Council;
Ken Gourlay, Chief Executive, Fife Council;
Dr Dawn Roberts, Chief Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Council.
4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—
[Council Tax Reduction \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) \(No. 4\) Regulations 2025](#)
5. **Proposed National Good Food Nation Plan:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
6. **Pre-Budget Scrutiny:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
7. **Reform of Energy Performance Certificates:** The Committee will consider its approach to scrutiny of reform of Energy Performance Certificates.

Contacts for Further Information

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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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