

Thursday 3 November 2022

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean

Revised at 11:10am



Today's Business

Meeting of the Parliament

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business — S6M-04821 Miles Briggs: Cancer Card

2:30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Appointment of Junior Scottish Minister

followed by Portfolio Questions

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Progress on the Automation and Take-up of Scottish Social Security Benefits

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business — S6M-05922 Carol Mochan: Allied Health Professions Day 2022: Helping People Live Their Best Lives

Committee Meetings

9:00am Public Audit Committee

9:00am Social Justice and Social Security Committee

9:10am COVID-19 Recovery Committee

9:30am Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

Meeting of the Parliament

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

- 1. Pam Gosal:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the consultation on the future of qualifications and assessment. ([S6O-01500](#))
- 2. Mark Ruskell:** To ask the Scottish Government what support is available to displaced people from Ukraine who are moving from temporary accommodation into permanent housing. ([S6O-01501](#))
- 3. Alexander Stewart:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to help GPs manage their workloads. ([S6O-01502](#))
- 4. Kenneth Gibson:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the work of the Women's Health Group, including when it will next meet. ([S6O-01503](#))
- 5. Neil Bibby:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on how it is reducing waiting times for child and adolescent mental health services. ([S6O-01504](#))
- 6. Jeremy Balfour:** To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to reports that affordable housing development plans have been put on hold because of its rent freeze. ([S6O-01505](#))
- 7. Rachael Hamilton:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on its consultation on a new Agriculture Bill. ([S6O-01506](#))
- 8. Emma Harper:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on its discussions with the UK Government regarding any impact in Scotland of a potential veterinary agreement between the UK and the European Union to enable regulatory alignment of sanitary and phytosanitary products moving between the UK and the EU. ([S6O-01507](#))

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

- 1. Douglas Ross:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-01463](#))
- 2. Anas Sarwar:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-01464](#))
- 3. Stephen Kerr:** To ask the First Minister what plans the Scottish Government has to increase and improve the provision of mental health services in Scotland's universities. ([S6F-01479](#))
- 4. Stephanie Callaghan:** To ask the First Minister what work the Scottish Government is doing to improve Living Wage equality. ([S6F-01481](#))
- 5. Monica Lennon:** To ask the First Minister what urgent action the Scottish Government is taking to prevent poverty-related malnutrition and food insecurity, in light of reported growing concerns from healthcare workers, school staff and charities about the impact of hunger on people across Scotland. ([S6F-01480](#))
- 6. Mark Ruskell:** To ask the First Minister how the Scottish Government will be building on the legacy from the Glasgow Climate Pact by attending COP27 in Egypt. ([S6F-01477](#))

**followed by Members' Business
Debate on the subject of—**

[S6M-04821 Miles Briggs: Cancer Card](#)—That the Parliament acknowledges what it sees as the tremendous work by Jen Hardy in establishing Cancer Card in Scotland, which is an initiative that provides people with access to vital cancer support services and information regarding their diagnosis in one place; understands that, after her own incurable breast cancer diagnosis in 2017, Jen was struck by the realisation that there was no single place for her to obtain useful information related to her illness, which motivated her to establish Cancer Card; further understands that this community can help people diagnosed with cancer, including people in the Lothian region, to find the support that they require, minimising stress during an already highly stressful time; recognises that Cancer Card attained charity status in 2021; considers that it can play an integral role in securing relief and comfort to cancer patients, and welcomes the appointment of Ian Pirrie as Cancer Card's first CEO.

2:30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

[S6M-06596 George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Revision to Business Programme](#)—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 3 November 2022—

after

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

insert

followed by Appointment of Junior Scottish Minister

delete

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Net Zero, Energy and Transport

insert

followed by Portfolio Questions: Net Zero, Energy and Transport

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Appointment of Junior Scottish Minister

[S6M-06595 Nicola Sturgeon: Appointment of Junior Scottish Minister](#)—That the Parliament agrees that Elena Whitham be appointed as a junior Scottish Minister.

followed by Portfolio Questions

Net Zero, Energy and Transport

1. Jackie Baillie: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will instruct Scottish Water to freeze water rates for 2023-24 to help with the cost of living crisis. ([S6O-01492](#))

- 2. Alex Cole-Hamilton:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on what action it is taking to address the discharge of sewage into rivers, lochs and waterways. ([S6O-01493](#))
- 3. Evelyn Tweed:** To ask the Scottish Government what investment is being made in safe active travel routes in the Stirling area, including any missing links in the National Cycle Network at Manor Powis and between Doune and Callander. ([S6O-01494](#))
- 4. Richard Leonard:** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is regarding the impact in Scotland of calls by rail workers for fair pay settlements. ([S6O-01495](#)) **R**
- 5. Fiona Hyslop:** To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the outcomes of its attendance at the European Hydrogen Week in Brussels. ([S6O-01496](#))
- 6. Christine Grahame:** To ask the Scottish Government what it can do to address any bus driver shortages across Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale. ([S6O-01497](#))
- 7. Martin Whitfield:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to improve air quality on Scotland's most polluted streets. ([S6O-01498](#))
- 8. Jenni Minto:** To ask the Scottish Government how peatland restoration will be measured as a component of the proposed Land Management Plans in the forthcoming Land Reform Bill. ([S6O-01499](#))

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Progress on the Automation and Take-up of Scottish Social Security Benefits

[S6M-06572](#) Ben Macpherson: Progress on the Automation and Take-up of Scottish Social Security Benefits—That the Parliament welcomes the positive impact that existing automation of Scottish social security payments is having, including ensuring that most eligible people receive the Child Winter Heating Assistance and Carer's Allowance Supplement without needing to apply; further welcomes the proposal to automate the Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment and Best Start Grant School Age Payment for eligible families in receipt of Scottish Child Payment by the end of November 2022; notes the Scottish Government's intention to continue exploring opportunities for further automation; believes that these changes will mean that more people get the benefits that they are entitled to, which is especially important at a time of increasing economic uncertainty; recognises the progress made in promoting Scottish benefit take-up since the publication of the second benefit take-up strategy in 2021, including the launch of an independent advocacy service and funding welfare rights advisors in up to 180 GP practices in Scotland's most deprived areas, as well as remote and rural areas; acknowledges that there is still work to do regarding both automation and take-up, and agrees, therefore, that all governments should ensure that people are aware of, and enabled to access, the financial support that they are eligible for and entitled to.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

[S6M-06572.1](#) Jeremy Balfour: Progress on the Automation and Take-up of Scottish Social Security Benefits—As an amendment to motion [S6M-06572](#) in the name of Ben Macpherson (Progress on the Automation and Take-up of Scottish Social Security Benefits), insert at end “; is encouraged by the joint work of the UK and Scottish governments to help all people in Scotland; welcomes the work done by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to ensure that people are getting their benefits; welcomes the extra funds provided by the UK Government in Barnett

consequentials to support struggling families, and expresses disappointment in the delay of the Scottish Welfare Fund review, and in the lack of collection of data by Social Security Scotland.”

[S6M-06572.2 Pam Duncan-Glancy: Progress on the Automation and Take-up of Scottish Social Security Benefits](#)—As an amendment to motion S6M-06572 in the name of Ben Macpherson (Progress on the Automation and Take-up of Scottish Social Security Benefits), leave out from “welcomes the positive” to end and insert “notes the impact that existing automation of Scottish social security payments is having, including ensuring that most eligible people receive the Child Winter Heating Assistance and Carer’s Allowance Supplement without needing to apply; believes that the opportunity to automate other aspects of the social security system should have been taken before now; regrets that the Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment and the Best Start Grant School Age Payment for eligible families in receipt of Scottish Child Payment are not yet automated; notes that uptake for Scottish social security payments is not yet maximised and that the Scottish Government has chosen to allow the Department for Work and Pension (DWP) to continue to administrate several devolved benefits; believes that opportunities for further automation must be expedited so that more people get the benefits that they are entitled to, which is especially important at a time of increasing economic uncertainty; understands that direct referral mechanisms between public agencies and other organisations in Scotland have not been developed, and urges the Scottish Government to prioritise this to ensure that the “no wrong door approach” can be delivered fully, and that those who are entitled to social security payments are enabled to access the financial support that they are eligible for.”

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business
Debate on the subject of—

[S6M-05922 Carol Mochan: Allied Health Professions Day 2022: Helping People Live Their Best Lives](#)—That the Parliament notes that Allied Health Professions Day 2022 will be marked on 14 October; recognises what it sees as the important contribution that Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) make to the provision of health and social care in Scotland; understands that AHPs make up the third largest workforce in the NHS; commends these health professionals for their dedication at all times but particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic; understands that AHPs play an integral role in prehabilitation, early intervention, prevention and rehabilitation strategies to meet the needs of the South Scotland and wider Scottish population, and notes the view that further resource for AHPs is needed to fulfil their potential and meet the need for collaboration and diversity of skills in health and social care.

Committee Meetings

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

Public Audit Committee 25th Meeting, 2022

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

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item agenda item 2 in private.
2. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Social Justice and Social Security Committee 28th Meeting, 2022

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

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Homeless Persons (Suspension of Referrals between Local Authorities) (Scotland) Order 2022 from—
Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government, Karen Grieve, Legislation and Programme Strategy Team Leader, Louise Thompson, Homelessness Policy Manager, and Micheila West, Solicitor, Housing Branch, Scottish Government.
3. **Subordinate legislation:** Shona Robison MSP (Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government) to move—S6M-05955—That the Social Justice and Social Security Committee recommends that the Homeless Persons (Suspension of Referrals between Local Authorities) (Scotland) Order 2022 be approved.
4. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.
5. **Pre-Budget Scrutiny 2023-2024 (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.

COVID-19 Recovery Committee 23rd Meeting, 2022

The Committee will meet at 9:10 am in T4.60-CR6 The Livingstone Room

1. **Road to recovery: impact of the pandemic on the Scottish labour market:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Dr Hannah Randolph, Economic and Policy Analyst, Fraser of Allander Institute;
Professor Steve Fothergill, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research, Sheffield Hallam University, National Director, Industrial Communities Alliance;
Tony Wilson, Director, Institute for Employment Studies;
David Freeman, Head of Labour Market and Households, Office for National Statistics;
Louise Murphy, Economist, Resolution Foundation.
2. **Consideration of evidence (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee 24th Meeting, 2022

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

1. **Links with and support for Ukrainian culture:** The Committee will take evidence in a roundtable format from—
 - Tetyana Filevska, Creative Director, Ukrainian Institute;
 - David Codling, Ukraine UK Season Director, British Council;
 - Daria Bondarenko, International Project Manager, Ukrainian Freedom Ballet;
 - George Findlater, Head of Community and Economic Development, Historic Environment Scotland;
 - Anna Bubnova, Head of Arts, British Council;
 - Professor Jeffrey Sharkey, Principal, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Contacts for Further Information

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

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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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