A Scottish Statutory Instrument (SSI) is a type of legislation which can be used to make changes to the law without a new Act of Scottish Parliament having to be passed.

When the Parliament passes a bill it gives the Scottish Ministers the power to make SSIs which relate to that bill.

There are 2 main types of SSIs subject to parliamentary procedure - Affirmative and Negative. They are dealt with in different ways.

- **Affirmative**
  - The SSI becomes law on a date decided by the Scottish Government.
  - The SSI is sent to Parliament for it to consider (laid before Parliament).
  - The lead committee discusses the SSI, hearing from the relevant Minister, and votes on whether to recommend that it becomes law.
  - The committee reports its decision to the Parliament within 40 days of it being laid.

- **Negative**
  - A motion to annul the SSI can be lodged up to 40 days after the SSI is laid.
  - If a motion is lodged, the Committee votes on whether to recommend that the SSI is annulled.
  - The whole Parliament votes on whether the SSI:
    - Should the SSI become a law?
    - Should the SSI be annulled?

The Committee reports its decision to the Parliament.

- **The Committee**
  - The SSI is looked at by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (DPLRC), who consider the technical aspects of the SSI.
  - The DPLRC then reports its views to the lead committee within 22 days of it being laid.

**Affirmative**

- If no motion is lodged, the Committee considers the SSI, taking the DPLRC report into account.

**Negative**

- If a motion is lodged, the Committee votes on whether to recommend that the SSI is annulled.

- The Committee reports its decision to the Parliament.

- The whole Parliament votes on whether the SSI:
  - Should the SSI become a law?
  - Should the SSI be annulled?