



**OFFICIAL REPORT**  
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

# Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

**Tuesday 4 November 2025**

**Session 6**



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Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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**DELEGATED POWERS AND LAW REFORM COMMITTEE**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2025, Session 6**

**CONVENER**

\*Stuart McMillan (Greenock and Inverclyde) (SNP)

**DEPUTY CONVENER**

\*Bill Kidd (Glasgow Anniesland) (SNP)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Jeremy Balfour (Lothian) (Ind)

\*Katy Clark (West Scotland) (Lab)

\*Roz McCall (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con)

\*attended

**CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE**

Greg Black

**LOCATION**

The Adam Smith Room (CR5)



## Scottish Parliament

### Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

*Tuesday 4 November 2025*

*[The Convener opened the meeting at 09:30]*

### Instruments subject to Affirmative Procedure

**The Convener (Stuart McMillan):** Good morning and welcome to the 30th meeting in 2025 of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee. I remind everyone to switch off, or put to silent, mobile phones and other electronic devices. We have received apologies from Jeremy Balfour MSP.

Under agenda item 1, we are considering three instruments, on which no points have been raised.

#### **Public Procurement (Iraq Free Trade Agreement) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [Draft]**

#### **Energy Performance of Buildings (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [Draft]**

#### **Cross-border Public Procurement (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [Draft]**

**The Convener:** Is the committee content with the instruments?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

### Instrument subject to Negative Procedure

09:30

**The Convener:** Under agenda item 2, we are considering one instrument, on which no points have been raised.

#### **Vehicle Emissions Trading Schemes (Amendment) (No 2) Order 2025 (SI 2025/1101)**

**The Convener:** Is the committee content with the instrument?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

## Instruments not subject to Parliamentary Procedure

09:30

**The Convener:** Under agenda item 3, we are considering two instruments, on which no points have been raised.

### **Scottish Parliament Elections (Regional Returning Officers and Constituency Returning Officers) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/287)**

### **Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 (Statutory Guidance on Imprints on Electronic Materials) (Appointed Date) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/289)**

**The Convener:** Is the committee content with the instruments?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

## Document subject to Parliamentary Control

09:31

**The Convener:** Under agenda item 4, we are considering one document, on which issues have been raised.

### **Environmental Standards Scotland Strategy 2026-2031 (ESS/2025/01)**

**The Convener:** This document is a revised strategy for Environmental Standards Scotland and is subject to a bespoke procedure for parliamentary consideration under the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021.

Paragraph 1 of schedule 2 of the 2021 act contains a detailed list of information that the strategy must set out, concerning how ESS intends to go about its work. It appears to the committee that some of the required information is not included in the strategy.

Some of the information appears to be contained instead in separate guidance that ESS has produced. The 2021 act requires all of that information to be in the strategy that is laid before the Parliament. Putting the information in a separate document, which is published on ESS's website, does not fulfil that requirement.

Accordingly, does the committee wish to report the strategy on the general reporting ground, in that some of the information required by paragraph 1 of schedule 2 does not appear to be contained in the revised strategy?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

**The Convener:** Does the committee also wish to highlight to the lead committee in its report a more minor point—that the revised strategy suggests that ESS scrutinises all organisations that perform functions of a public nature, without making clear that there are exceptions to that?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

**The Convener:** The next meeting of the committee will take place on Tuesday 11 November.

*Meeting closed at 09:32.*

This is the final edition of the *Official Report* of this meeting. It is part of the Scottish Parliament *Official Report* archive and has been sent for legal deposit.

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Published in Edinburgh by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body, the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

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