OFFICIAL REPORT
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

Tuesday 17 March 2026

Session 6

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Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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DELEGATED POWERS AND LAW REFORM COMMITTEE
11th Meeting 2026, 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 17 March 2026

[The Convener opened the meeting at 10:00]

Decision on Taking Business in Private

The Convener (Stuart McMillan): Welcome to the 11th meeting in 2026 of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee. I remind everyone to switch off, or put to silent, their mobile phones and other electronic devices.

Agenda item 1 is a decision on taking business in private. Does the committee agree to take in private items 4 to 7*?*

Members *indicated agreement.*

Instruments subject to Negative Procedure

10:01

The Convener: Under agenda item 2, we are considering one instrument, on which an issue has been raised.

Non-Domestic Rates (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/135)

The Convener: This instrument provides a temporary non-domestic rates relief for certain hospitality-related properties and live music venues, and introduces a specific transitional relief for self-catering holiday accommodation. The instrument was laid on 10 March and comes into force on 31 March 2026.

Under section 28(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, instruments subject to the negative procedure must be laid at least 28 days before they come into force. Breaching this rule does not affect the validity of the instrument, but does trigger an automatic report by this committee.

Does the committee wish to draw this instrument to the attention of the Parliament under reporting ground (j), for a failure to lay the instrument in accordance with section 28(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010?

Members *indicated agreement.*

Instruments not subject to Parliamentary Procedure

10:02

The Convener: Under agenda item 3, we are considering seven instruments. An issue has been raised on the following instrument.

Renters' Rights Act 2025 (Commencement) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/113 (C 9))

The Convener: This instrument would have commenced various provisions of the Renters' Rights Act 2025 and made transitional provision.

In correspondence with the Scottish Government, published alongside the papers for this meeting, the committee asked about the enabling powers being cited by the instrument. The Scottish Government agreed that the wrong enabling power had been cited for the transitional provision.

The committee also asked whether the title of the instrument should include reference to transitional provision, in line with standard drafting practice for commencement Scottish statutory instruments. The Scottish Government agreed that it should.

The Scottish Government decided to revoke the instrument and make replacement provision, this time citing the correct power to make transitional provision and referring to the transitional provision in the title.

Does the committee wish to draw this instrument to the attention of the Parliament on the general reporting ground, in that the preamble cites the wrong enabling power for the transitional provision, because section 148(2) should have been cited rather than section 140(1), and the title of the instrument should include reference to transitional provision, in line with standard drafting practice?

Members *indicated agreement*.

The Convener: Does the committee wish to note that these issues have been corrected by the Renters' Rights Act 2025 (Commencement No 2, Transitional Provision and Revocation) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/125 (C13)), which is also before the committee today?

Members *indicated agreement*.

The Convener: Also under this agenda item, no points have been raised on the following instruments.

Housing (Scotland) Act 2025 (Commencement No 3) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/115 (C 10))

Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2025 (Commencement No 1) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/119 (C 11))

Renters' Rights Act 2025 (Commencement No 2, Transitional Provision and Revocation) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/125 (C13))

Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Act 2024 (Commencement No 3) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/127 (C 14))

Scottish Languages Act 2025 (Commencement No 2) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/128 (C 15))

Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 (Commencement No 6) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/129 (C 16))

The Convener: Is the committee content that no reporting grounds are engaged?

Members *indicated agreement*.

The Convener: In relation to the Housing (Scotland) Act 2025 (Commencement No 3) Regulations 2026 (SSI 2026/115 (C 10)), does the committee wish to note that the Scottish Government proposes to correct an error identified in the explanatory note at the earliest opportunity?

Members *indicated agreement*.

The Convener: That concludes the public part of the meeting.

10:04

Meeting continued in private until 10:09.

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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