Official Report
Aithisg Oifigeil

Health, Care and Sport Committee

Comataidh na Slàinte, Cùram agus Spòrs

Wednesday 24 June 2026

Session 7

The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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Wednesday 24 June 2026

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HEALTH, CARE AND SPORT COMMITTEE
1st Meeting 2026, Session 7

CONVENER

*Helen McDade (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Reform)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Jack Middleton (Aberdeen Central) (SNP)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Heather Anderson (Dundee City West) (SNP)
*Adam Harley (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (LD)
*Kayleigh Kinross-O'Neill (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Green)
*Joe Long (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Lab)
*Paul McLennan (East Lothian Coast and Lammermuirs) (SNP)
*Jack Middleton (Aberdeen Central) (SNP)

*attended

LOCATION

The Adam Smith Room (CR5)

Scottish Parliament

Health, Care and Sport Committee

Wednesday 24 June 2026

[The Convener opened the meeting at 10:00]

Interests

The Convener (Helen McDade): Good morning and welcome to the first meeting in 2026 of the new Health, Care and Sport Committee. We have received no apologies, which is great. I take the opportunity to thank my parliamentary colleagues for electing me as committee convener. I look forward to working collaboratively with everyone on the committee in the coming months and years.

Under the first item on our agenda I invite all members of the committee to declare any interests relevant to the committee's remit.

I start with my own declaration. I have two voluntary interests: I was an active member of #MEAction Scotland between about 2020 and 2024, and—since sport is in our remit—I am in the Pitlochry bowling club. I am a very bad bowler.

Those are my declarations; I invite members, in alphabetical order, to make their declarations.

Heather Anderson (Dundee City West) (SNP): Thank you, convener. I am a serving councillor on Dundee City Council. In relation to declarations of voluntary interests, I was a director of a number of groups in Dundee, but I have now resigned from all those positions.

Adam Harley (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (LD): I declare two voluntary interests: I am a former employee of Ataxia UK and of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Kayleigh Kinross-O'Neill (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Green): I will be a sitting member of the City of Edinburgh Council until next May. I declare the voluntary interests that I am an ambassador for two third-sector organisations: Ewan's Guide and Capability Scotland.

Joe Long (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Lab): Until 8 May 2026, I was employed as a director at the charity Scottish Autism, which is also a social care provider.

Paul McLennan (East Lothian Coast and Lammermuirs) (SNP): I have no declarations of interests to make.

Jack Middleton (Aberdeen Central) (SNP): I have no formal interests to declare. My voluntary interests are that I am a former volunteer at NHS Grampian and a season ticket holder at Aberdeen Football Club.

The Convener: Thank you, everyone.

Deputy Convener

10:02

The Convener: The next item of business is the election of a deputy convener. I refer members to paper 2 of the meeting papers—I hope that everybody has seen that. The Parliament has agreed that only members of the Scottish National Party may be nominated for the position. I invite members to nominate a candidate from the Scottish National Party.

Paul McLennan: I nominate Jack Middleton.

Jack Middleton was chosen as deputy convener.

The Convener: I congratulate Jack Middleton on his election as deputy convener.

Decision on Taking Business in Private

10:03

The Convener: Do members agree to take item 4, on a detailed approach to developing our work programme, in private?

Members *indicated agreement*.

The Convener: The next meeting of the committee will be scheduled for after the summer recess. Details of that will be sent to members and published in the business bulletin.

10:03

Meeting continued in private until 10:45.

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