

# Parliamentary Bureau – Future Business programme

## Possible motions for Members' business

1. Bureau members will be aware that under Rule 5.6.1(c) the Bureau has a duty to ensure that there is a period of time available for Members' Business at each meeting of the Parliament.
2. This paper is circulated with the Bureau papers each week and provides Bureau members with an updated list of motions lodged each week for Members Business debate. The paper will also provide Bureau members with a record of Members Business debates throughout the session, and the number and frequency of such debates that each party has had.
3. Bureau members may wish to note for information that the rota for Members' Business until Christmas recess is as follows—

| Week beginning      | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday    |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| 22 September 2025   | N/A     | CON       | LAB<br>SNP* |
| 29 September 2025   | SNP     | SNP       | GRN         |
| 6 October 2025      | LD      | CON       | SNP         |
| October Recess 2025 |         |           |             |
| 27 October 2025     | SNP     | SNP       | CON         |
| 3 November 2025     | LAB     | SNP       | SNP         |
| 10 November 2025    | CON     | SNP       | LAB         |
| 17 November 2025    | SNP     | CON       | SNP         |
| 24 November 2025    | SNP     | GRN       | CON         |
| 1 December 2025     | LAB     | SNP       | SNP         |
| 8 December 2025     | CON     | SNP       | LAB         |
| 15 December 2025    | SNP     | CON       | SNP         |

\*rescheduled from 23 September

4. Motions submitted for Members' Business are shown below—

**S6M-18931: Edward Mountain: Bowel Cancer Screening**—That the Parliament congratulates the Scottish Government in taking the lead in bowel cancer screening; understands that Scotland has the most sensitive level of screening in the whole of the UK; notes calls on the Scottish Government to continue to lead the way by working with bowel cancer charities to ensure that Scotland remains at the forefront of UK bowel cancer screening; congratulates all bowel cancer charities on their continued work, and notes that Stoma Aware Day/World Ostomy Day is on 4 October 2025, which, it believes, is vital in continuing to raise awareness.

**S6M-18913: Colin Beattie: Holodomor Memorial Day 2025**—That the Parliament recognises that 23 November 2025 marks the annual Holodomor Memorial Day; understands that this memorial day is in remembrance of the victims of the 1932-33 man-made famine that killed millions of Ukrainians; expresses its solidarity with the

people of Ukraine who were victims of this genocide by, it believes, what were the deliberate actions of the Soviet regime, and pays its respects to those killed during this time.

**S6M-18847: Elena Whitham: Bereavement Support and Awareness—** That the Parliament recognises that everyone in Scotland, including those in Carrick, Cumnock, and Doon Valley, will experience a bereavement, and notes the view that good bereavement support is needed to guide people through what can be a difficult time; understands that frameworks have been put in place by the Scottish and UK governments that set out guidance on how proper bereavement care should be offered across society; notes the 2022 report from the UK Commission on Bereavement, Bereavement is everyone's business, which provided policy recommendations for the Scottish and UK governments to adopt; understands that a stigma exists surrounding bereavement and its discussion; notes research from Sue Ryder, which suggests that bereavement costs the UK economy an estimated £23 billion each year in lost Gross Value Added, and the UK Treasury an estimated £8 billion in reduced tax revenues; acknowledges the view that this could be improved with better support and care, and notes the belief that a better understanding of grief and bereavement is required by all, particularly among young people.

**S6M-18752: Clare Adamson: Breast Cancer Now Awareness Day 2025 and Wear It Pink—** That the Parliament recognises Breast Cancer Now Awareness Day 2025, which takes place on 24 October, and commends what it sees as the vital work of Breast Cancer Now, which, it understands, is the UK's leading breast cancer research and support charity; acknowledges what it considers the importance of the annual Wear It Pink initiative, which raises millions of pounds for lifesaving breast cancer research and care, and notes the calls for individuals, workplaces, schools and communities across Scotland to take part and show their support by wearing pink and fundraising on the day; pays special tribute to the late Christina McKelvie MSP, a dear friend and colleague, whose unwavering support for breast cancer awareness, equality and compassion continues to inspire; understands that around 4,700 people in Scotland are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, and that early detection, timely treatment and ongoing support are crucial to improving outcomes; notes the view that there is a need for continued investment in research, improved access to care and increasing awareness of secondary breast cancer, for which, it understands, there is currently no cure, and further notes the view that, by working together, raising awareness and supporting vital initiatives like Wear It Pink, people can make a real difference in the lives of those affected by breast cancer, now and in the future.

**S6M-18736: Fulton MacGregor: Commending Give Blood 4 Good's Efforts to Secure Scotland's Blood Supply—** That the Parliament commends the charitable work of Give Blood 4 Good (GB4G), which was founded in 2019 in memory of Patrick Smith, an Edinburgh student who passed away and who was a passionate advocate for blood donation; understands that GB4G was established to address a significant gap in the number of young people becoming blood donors, and to encourage a new generation to step forward; recognises what it sees as the effectiveness of its educational initiatives, including the Young Ambassador Programme for high school students, which uses e-learning and hands-on activities to inform and engage students; believes that this programme not only educates

young people on the lifesaving importance of blood donation but also provides them with transferable skills that can be used on CVs and university applications; understands that each blood donation has the potential to save or improve up to three lives; welcomes the charity's work, and recognises the importance of blood donation in Coatbridge and Chryston and across Scotland.

**S6M-18731: David Torrance: Congratulations to Fife College on Being Awarded a £2.4 Million Modern Apprenticeship Contract—**That the Parliament congratulates Fife College on being awarded a £2.4 million modern apprenticeship (MA) contract from Skills Development Scotland, which, it understands, is the largest MA contract in its history; welcomes reports that, for the academic year 2025-26, this will bring up to 438 new apprenticeships and that the number of apprentices "earning while learning" with the college will be more than 1,200; recognises that the MA programme at the college offers courses across several sectors, including engineering, automotive, healthcare, childcare, construction, life sciences, digital technologies and various business skills; believes that these give learners the technical skills, knowledge and experience that they need to succeed; recognises that MAs are an important route to gain the skills and experiences that employers are looking for, while the students are also earning; considers that, for businesses, they provide an excellent route to develop enthusiastic new talent with the exact skills that they need; recognises the hard work and dedication of the staff of the college, and their employer partners, to make these opportunities possible, and further recognises the contribution that it believes such MAs make to supporting the economy, by developing a skilled workforce that meets the needs of employers across the region.

**S6M-18720: Rona Mackay: Awareness of Aphasia—** That the Parliament notes that aphasia, which is a language disorder that affects one in three stroke survivors, and can also arise with other neurological conditions or head injuries, can have a significant impact on many people; understands that it can affect speech production and understanding, reading, writing and using numbers and that the level of difficulty experienced varies from person to person, from mild to severe; recognises the significant impact aphasia can have on a person's life, including leading to feelings of isolation, loneliness and mental health issues; notes the impact that aphasia can have on a person's relationships with family and friends, everyday social interactions and access to work or services, as well as the stigma and negative treatment that can arise from living with the condition; welcomes the ongoing work of Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland (CHSS) to support people living with aphasia through resources and services; further welcomes the new CHSS course, Living Well with Aphasia, which focuses on giving stroke survivors the information, skills and resources to live well with the condition; notes the calls on the Scottish Government, NHS boards and other key organisations to be better informed about aphasia and to have a greater understanding of the reality of living with what can be a serious and potentially devastating health condition, and further notes the calls to improve access to supported self-management and rehabilitation services for people living with aphasia in Strathkelvin and Bearsden and across the country, to ensure that everyone gets the support that they deserve.

**S6M-18639: Rona Mackay: International FASD Day and the Need for Awareness—**That the Parliament notes that 9 September 2025 is International

FASD Day; understands that FASD, or Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, is a preventable neurodevelopmental condition with lifelong cognitive, emotional and behavioural challenges, which occurs when prenatal alcohol exposure affects the developing brain and body; acknowledges reports that 4% of the population are affected, and each person with FASD is affected differently, often requiring lifelong support in education and post school settings to optimise their life experience; understands that, while the guideline in Scotland for pregnant women, or women trying to conceive is, “no alcohol, no risk”, 46% of pregnancies in the UK are unplanned so without better awareness, people may continue their pre-conception lifestyle until they have a positive pregnancy test; recognises the importance of prevention, early diagnosis and intervention; notes that unrecognised FASD can lead to people ending up in vulnerable situations, particularly given reports that many professionals do not fully understand the symptoms and effects of FASD; understands that populations of concern include people in contact with the criminal justice system, care experienced people, people who are homeless, and people with substance misuse issues; notes the view that training for health and social care professionals in identifying possible FASD is vital; considers that the use of Alcohol Brief Interventions for pregnant women is a useful tool in reducing the risk of FASD; notes the view that alcohol producers should be mandated to provide clear written pregnancy warnings on their products, and understands that there is an estimated economic benefit of £1.4 million for each case of FASD that is avoided.

**S6M-18624: Paul Sweeney: Dying in Poverty at the End of Life in Scotland 2025—**That the Parliament welcomes the publication of the Marie Curie report, *Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2025*; understands that the report is based on research carried out by Marie Curie and Loughborough University; notes that it found that end of life poverty in Scotland remains unchanged since 2024; understands from the research that one in four working age people and one in six older people still die in end of life poverty; considers that terminal illness exacerbates existing inequality and deepens the inverse care law where people in the most need of support are least likely to receive it; notes the report's findings that symptoms of terminal illness and diagnosis can result in higher energy and housing costs; believes that a terminal diagnosis can force both a dying person and their carers to reduce their working hours or give up paid work entirely; notes the view that more must be done to target support to people at the end of life and their carers, and further notes the calls for the Scottish Government to take action to prevent people, including those in the Glasgow region, from dying in end of life poverty.

**S6M-18595: Pam Duncan-Glancy: World Arthritis Day 2025—** That the Parliament notes that World Arthritis Day will be marked on 12 October 2025; understands that the day aims to raises global awareness of the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal (MSK) diseases; believes that arthritis and MSK conditions affect one in three people in Scotland; considers that MSK conditions are a significant burden on NHS Scotland, with, it understands, orthopaedics currently accounting for one third of waiting times; further considers that there is a clear link between MSK conditions and economic deprivation and believes that these conditions are second only behind mental health in relation to claims for sickness benefit; notes the view that it vital that MSK conditions are prioritised to reflect the serious impact that they are having on Scotland's public health, economy and society, and applauds what it sees as the excellent work of

Versus Arthritis in Scotland to raise awareness of arthritis and change lives through world-class research, campaigning and service delivery.

**S6M-18527: Gordon MacDonald: Vision for New Centre for Sustainable Brewing and Distilling at Heriot-Watt University—** That the Parliament welcomes the commitment from Heriot-Watt University, in Edinburgh, on the economic importance of brewing and distilling in Scotland by seeking to raise £35 million to build a new Centre for Sustainable Brewing and Distilling (CSBD); understands the centre will be a new state-of-the-art version of the current International Centre for Brewing and Distilling (ICBD), which it understands is a world leading educational establishment delivering undergraduate and graduate courses; notes that the CSBD will embrace the latest green technologies and sustainable practices, ensuring that the university continues to lead the world in securing a future for both industries; recognises what it sees as the legacy and impact of Heriot-Watt University on the industries of brewing and distilling for more than 120 years, establishing both industries as key economic drivers, and commends what it considers to be the first-class teaching, innovation and sustainable methods of working at the ICBD, which has contributed to the success of brewing and distilling not only in Scotland but across the continents of Europe, the Americas and Asia.

**S6M-18469: Emma Roddick: Growing2Gether Programme Success—** That the Parliament congratulates the charity, Growing2Gether, on what it sees as its successful programme aimed at helping young people who face various challenges by pairing young adults with toddlers to mentor; understands that participants and facilitators have reported a significant shift in young people's confidence and gaining of skills, helping to improve wellbeing; acknowledges the reported overall positive and successful work of this charity in partnering with 15 schools in Scotland, including 12 in the Highlands and Islands region; applauds the over 2,000 young people who have been paired with 2,200 toddlers over a seven-year period across the Highlands on their efforts; considers it important to provide opportunities for children and young people who face challenges with poverty, mental health or trauma to develop skills and confidence in themselves, and notes the view that the Scottish Government should consider how it can best support this kind of work moving forward.

**S6M-18364: Clare Haughey: Opposition to Proposed Closure of Cambuslang Jobcentre—** That the Parliament condemns the proposed closure of Jobcentres across the UK, including the Cambuslang Jobcentre in the Rutherglen Constituency, by the UK Government.

**S6M-18131: Alexander Stewart: Banking Hubs—** That the Parliament acknowledges that Banking Hubs can give communities across Scotland, including in the Mid Scotland and Fife region, access to banking services and face-to-face support from major high street providers; understands that Banking Hubs are shared spaces similar to a bank branch that allow access for customers to multiple banks, and offer face-to-face banking services, including cash and cheque transactions, balance checks and bill payments, which, it believes, are especially helpful to local residents who are either unable to, or do not wish to, use electronic banking; notes with concern reports that high street bank closures are becoming more prevalent; further notes the view that there is a growing need for Banking Hubs as a result;

understands that these hubs are typically located where traditional bank branches have closed, and that, operated by the Post Office, they feature community bankers from different banks on specific days for more complex needs; further understands that many constituents, especially older people or those living alone, look forward to the social interaction of going to a branch to conduct their financial affairs, and that they can often find comfort in the feeling that someone is taking an interest in the security of their money; welcomes what it sees as the Post Office's proactive approach, and notes the hope that there will be more Banking Hubs opening in and around the towns of Scotland, including in Bridge of Allan and other rural areas.

**S6M-18087: Stephen Kerr: The Importance of Credit Unions—** That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the vital role that credit unions play in promoting financial stability and resilience of local communities, including in the Central Scotland region; acknowledges their contribution to providing affordable, locally-based financial services, including savings accounts and low-cost loans, which, it believes, protect individuals and families from predatory lending and unsustainable debt; considers that credit unions, as member-owned organisations, reinvest profits back into local communities, which bolsters local economic growth; celebrates the growth of credit union membership in Scotland with, it understands, over 420,000 members and over 100 credit unions; commends the work done by members present and past for their work to promote credit unions; notes the calls for MSPs and all public bodies to engage with the sector, and further notes the calls for continued support to ensure that credit unions thrive as a key pillar of Scotland's financial landscape and continue to deliver tangible benefits to individuals and communities.

**S6M-17982: Foysoil Choudhury: Honouring the Life and Legacy of Professor Sir Geoff Palmer OBE, CD, KT—** That the Parliament notes with sadness the recent death of Professor Sir Geoff Palmer; recognises and celebrates the outstanding contributions of Professor Sir Geoff Palmer to Scotland as a pioneering scientist, academic, human rights advocate, and champion of racial equality; acknowledges his ground-breaking scientific work in the field of brewing and cereal science, which, it understands, revolutionised the malting process and earned him international acclaim; notes his role as the first Black professor in Scotland, and his lifelong commitment to education, inclusion and justice; commends his tireless advocacy for addressing Scotland's historical links to slavery and colonialism, including his leadership as chair of the Edinburgh Slavery and Colonialism Legacy Review Group; recognises what it sees as his influence in shaping a more honest and inclusive national narrative; further recognises that he has been the recipient of numerous honours for his work, including being knighted in 2014 for services to human rights, science and charity, as well as receiving the Jamaican Order of Distinction and Royal Order of the Thistle in 2024; notes the calls for permanent recognition of his legacy through educational programmes, commemoration, and the inclusion of his achievements in Scotland's national story, so that future generations remember and celebrate his extraordinary life and contributions; celebrates the incredible life and achievements of Professor Sir Geoff Palmer, and hopes that his vision of a world free of prejudice and racism can be achieved.

**S6M-17917: Carol Mochan: 20th Anniversary of the Breastfeeding etc. (Scotland) Act 2005—** That the Parliament notes the view that breastfeeding

provides the best nutrition for babies and young children, supporting their health in the short and longer term, as well as benefiting mothers' health, including through reduced risk of breast and ovarian cancer; recognises that 2025 is the 20th anniversary year of the Breastfeeding etc. (Scotland) Act 2005, which resulted from the Member's Bill lodged by Elaine Smith, former Scottish Labour MSP for the Coatbridge and Chryston constituency and the Central Scotland region, to support and promote breastfeeding; considers that this Act has had a positive impact in helping to increase the breastfeeding rates in Scotland, with the latest infant feeding statistics from Public Health Scotland showing a significant increase in breastfeeding rates over the past 10 years, both at first visit and at the six- to eight-week review; notes reports that the increase in breastfeeding rates over the past 10 years has been greatest among those groups with historically lower rates, such as younger women and those living in more deprived areas, meaning that inequalities in breastfeeding have reduced over time; expresses concern, however, that babies of white Scottish ethnicity were reportedly much less likely to be breastfed than any other ethnicity; believes that there is good evidence that interventions, including good quality of breastfeeding support for mothers, influencing public attitudes to breastfeeding, restricting any inappropriate promotion of formula milk and ensuring supportive employment practices, can work to improve breastfeeding rates, and notes the view that all staff working in the NHS and wider public service should promote and support breastfeeding mums, babies and families, including those in the South Scotland region.

**S6M-17914: Christine Grahame: Scottish Borders Widowed Community—** That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the vital work of the Scottish Borders Widowed Community (SBWC), a peer-to-peer voluntary support organisation operating across the Scottish Borders; acknowledges that SBWC provides sustained support for men and women who have experienced the bereavement of a partner, offering regular in-person meetings at Hope Central in Galashiels, online discussions, and social activities designed to tackle social isolation and loneliness; understands that the group is entirely volunteer-led, with all organisers themselves widowed, and that membership has grown to almost 480 people; commends SBWC for being the only group of its kind in the Scottish Borders exclusively for widowed people, and for offering long-term, compassionate support beyond the immediate period of bereavement; notes the group's call to encourage more open conversations around death, including emotional, mental, physical, and practical preparedness, and believes that access to such support is essential to the health and wellbeing of those affected by the trauma of losing a partner in the Scottish Borders and elsewhere in Scotland.

**S6M-17700: Alexander Stewart: Revitalising High Streets—** That the Parliament acknowledges what it sees as the vital importance of Scotland's towns' and cities' high streets, including in the Mid Scotland and Fife region; understands that Scotland's retail industry employs almost 230,000 people of all ages and abilities in more than 22,000 shops, which collectively produce a turnover of £27 billion per annum; further understands that Scotland's retailers have donated and raised over £100 million for Scottish good causes since 2016, whilst Scottish retail contributes around £525 million in tax revenue; believes that retailers wish to work with the Scottish Government to deliver net zero, thus building a more circular economy whilst creating a far healthier Scotland; notes the view that there is a pressing need

for a visible and effective high street police presence, especially in relation to reports of rising rates of theft and shop worker abuse; further notes the calls from high street business owners for more investment into transport infrastructure, to give apprenticeship levy payers access to skills training on the basis of those contributions, as well as to review all public sector bodies to assess whether there are opportunities for the identification of efficiencies, and notes the calls from retailers to universally revitalise high streets, which, it believes, have the potential, if nurtured, to be accessible for all, in addition to being safe, diverse, vibrant and attractive places for both residents and visitors alike.

**S6M-17663: Foyso Choudhury: Proposed Cuts to Third Sector Organisations by Edinburgh Integration Joint Board—** That the Parliament notes with concern the reported proposed cuts by the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) to services totalling more than £29 million, including, it understands, the majority of contracts to third sector organisations under the Thrive Edinburgh programme, worth £2.2 million; considers that any such proposed cuts would result in the closure of vital community-based mental health services delivered by third sector partners such as CAPS Independent Advocacy, Cyrenians, Edinburgh Leisure, Health in Mind, Media Education, Penumbra Mental Health, SAMH, VOCAL, Wheatley Care and Change Mental Health, which, it understands, currently support 640 individuals through the Stafford Centre; acknowledges that Thrive provides early intervention and preventative support for people with complex mental health needs, including carers, survivors of abuse, veterans, LGBTQ+ individuals, neurodivergent people, and those living with severe mental illness; considers that such cuts may leave many people with mental illness without support and forced into frontline health services, increasing pressure on existing services and budgets; notes the Scottish Government's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which states that "there is a strong economic case for investing in early intervention and prevention, as the costs of poor mental health and wellbeing are clear"; understands that Thrive has demonstrated significant economic and clinical value, generating £7.13 in social value for every £1 invested, and that the Stafford Centre has been estimated to save the NHS up to £4.4 million in hospital admissions; notes the wider financial situation of Integration Joint Boards across Scotland, which were reportedly projected to have a £457 million funding gap in an Audit Scotland report, and further notes the calls on EIJB to delay any proposed contract terminations by at least one year to allow for meaningful stakeholder engagement, co-production of a redesigned service model, and proper assessment of the long-term clinical and financial consequences of withdrawing community-based mental health support in Edinburgh.

**S6M-17660: Colin Beattie: Addressing Anti-Social Behaviour in Coastal Towns—** That the Parliament recognises what it sees as the damaging impact that anti-social behaviour has on communities, including in the Midlothian North and Musselburgh constituency; believes that this behaviour impacts on residents' safety and affects local businesses; notes the view that it is necessary to support young people and their families to ensure that anti-social behaviour is stopped at the source; believes that anti-social behaviour in Musselburgh and other coastal towns spikes in the summer months; recognises the hard work of Police Scotland in dealing with anti-social behaviour, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government to review and continue to support programmes aimed at preventing youth anti-social behaviour.



**S6M-17630: Rona Mackay: Aphasia Awareness Month—** That the Parliament notes Aphasia Awareness Month, which takes place in June each year and aims to raise awareness about aphasia; further notes that aphasia is a language disorder, which affects one in three stroke survivors but can occur with other neurological conditions or head injuries; understands that it can affect speech production, understanding speech, reading and writing, and using numbers; further understands that the level of difficulty varies from person to person, and from mild to severe; recognises what it sees as the significant impact that aphasia can have on a person's life, leading to feelings of isolation, loneliness and mental health issues; notes what it sees as the impact that aphasia has on a person's relationships with family and friends, everyday social interactions and access to work or services, as well as the stigma and negative treatment that it believes can come with living with the condition; welcomes the ongoing work of Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland to support people living with aphasia through resources and services; further welcomes Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland's living well with aphasia course, which focuses on giving stroke survivors the information, skills and resources to live well with the condition, and notes the calls on the Scottish Government, NHS boards and other key organisations to be better informed about aphasia, increase access to speech and language therapy, and better understand the reality of living with this serious and potentially devastating health condition.

**S6M-17552: Michelle Thomson: 5G Connectivity for Scotland—** That the Parliament notes the reported expansion of 5G connectivity across Scotland and the recent merger, approved by the Competition and Markets Authority in February 2025, between Vodafone UK and Three UK, which, it believes, facilitates one of the most competitive mobile providers in the UK; believes that wide-ranging, reliable mobile coverage, in all areas of Scotland, including in the Falkirk East constituency, and in both urban and rural areas, is important; notes the view that bringing 5G connectivity to 99% of the population, and 89% of Scotland's landmass, by 2034 would benefit people across Scotland, including businesses, public services and the economy; further notes the reported increasing demand on technological services, and reliance on connectivity, in the ever-evolving digital age; notes the view that an increase in the quality, reliability and capacity of 5G would have a positive impact, not just on daily life, but on key sectors across Scotland, such as healthcare, agriculture, tourism and energy; further notes the calls for the UK Government, Scottish Government and local authorities to work across reserved and devolved powers to facilitate 5G infrastructure and reliable connectivity, and celebrates what it sees as the improvements being made towards improving 5G connectivity for the people of Scotland.

**S6M-17540: Pauline McNeill: Increasing Risk of Famine in Palestine—** That the Parliament is deeply concerned by World Health Organization (WHO) warnings of the permanent impact of hunger on a generation of Gazans; understands from WHO reports that the risk of famine in Gaza is increasing daily, due to the deliberate withholding of humanitarian aid, including food, in the ongoing blockade by Israel; further understands that the blockade has kept the crossing closed for 70 days, and that this is impacting on the entire 2.1 million population, who are facing prolonged food shortages; understands from WHO reports that almost half a million people are in a catastrophic situation of hunger, acute malnutrition, starvation, illness and death; notes the latest food security analysis by the Integrated Food Security Phase

Classification (IPC) partnership, of which WHO is a member, and the reported belief that this is one of the world's worst hunger crises, unfolding in real time; further notes the comments from WHO director-general, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, that "we do not need to wait for a declaration of famine in Gaza to know that people are already starving, sick and dying, while food and medicines are minutes away across the border"; notes the comments by the commissioner-general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Philippe Lazzarini, reported by the BBC on 13 May 2025, in which he reportedly agreed with the view that Israel was denying food and aid to civilians as a weapon of war; is concerned at reports of a shortage of clean drinking water and a shortage of fuel, which, it believes, is impacting on the only desalination plant; notes the view, from WHO reports, that the long-term impact and damage from malnutrition can last a lifetime in the form of stunted growth, impaired cognitive development and poor health, that, without enough nutritious food, clean water and access to healthcare, an entire generation will be permanently affected, and that, if the situation persists, nearly 71,000 children under the age of five are expected to be acutely malnourished over the next 11 months; further notes the calls for Israel to lift the blockade immediately and allow the free flow of food, medicines and other essential items, including fuel, to prevent famine and save the lives of a generation, and notes the calls, including from communities in the Glasgow region, for the international community to do more than just condemn this blockade, and to put pressure on Israel to act, and not to be complicit in what it considers to be permanent, long-term damage to the Palestinian population in Gaza.

**S6M-17523: Jeremy Balfour: National Epilepsy Week and Epilepsy Scotland's "A Seizure That Stole a Future" Campaign—** That the Parliament recognises National Epilepsy Week, which takes place from 26 May 2025, and its aim of raising awareness of epilepsy and its impacts on the lives of the 80,000 people in Scotland who live with the condition; notes with particular attention the launch of Epilepsy Scotland's campaign, "The Seizure that Stole a Future", which seeks to highlight the often unknown and devastating risk of Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP); acknowledges the emotional toll that SUDEP takes on families and communities; notes the view that there is a need for greater awareness, research and open discussion to reduce its occurrence; commends Epilepsy Scotland for its continued work providing support, advice and specialist services to individuals and families affected by epilepsy across the country, including in the Lothian region, and congratulates the charity on its leadership in tackling stigma, improving care and advocating for a safer and more informed Scotland.

**S6M-17458: Annie Wells: ME Awareness Week 2025—** That the Parliament notes that ME Awareness Week runs from 12 to 18 May 2025 and aims to raise awareness of the need for greater investment in care and support for people with ME, including through #MEAction Scotland's Missing Millions rally outside the Scottish Parliament on 14 May; welcomes the reported announcement of £4.5 million in the Scottish Budget to fund specialist support for long COVID, myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME) and similar conditions; understands that, despite over an estimated 58,000 people across Scotland, including in Glasgow, having ME, there are virtually no specialist ME services in Scotland, except in NHS Lothian; further understands that NHS Fife has been unable to replace the only specialist ME nurse in Scotland due to a lack of suitably skilled and experienced candidates; notes the view that it is important to

expand services committed to following the 2021 ME/CFS NICE guidance, which includes key recommendations relating to diagnosis, management and specific care for those with severe ME, as well as children and young people with the condition; further notes the updated 2024 NHS board survey, which aimed to understand the barriers to, and opportunities from, implementing the updated NICE guidance and identify how NHS boards can best be supported to create ME/CFS specific care in the future; understands that the report indicated that awareness of the 2021 guidance among NHS boards had not been converted into implementation of the recommendations due to a lack of resource, capacity, pathways and training; notes the view that there is a need for appropriate training of healthcare professionals to ensure that they can offer appropriate, effective support to people with ME; further notes the view that the involvement of patients and third sector organisations across Scotland in the design and delivery of new services supported by this new funding is essential, and commends the volunteers and campaigners striving for better ME services for their continued efforts.

**S6M-17430: Karen Adam: Cross-Party Group Report on How to Reverse the Fall in the Number of Qualified Teachers of Deaf Children—** That the Parliament recognises the publication of the report of the Cross-Party Group on Deafness, *How do we reverse the fall in the number of Qualified Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People in Scotland?*; believes that qualified teachers of deaf children and young people are vital for enabling deaf children to reach their full potential, including in the Banffshire and Buchan Coast constituency; considers that the number of qualified teachers of deaf children has fallen dramatically in Scotland, by 37% since 2011; understands that there is currently no explicit right for any deaf child or parent to have access to a qualified teacher of the deaf; further understands that there is no salary increment with the relevant qualification, and understands that the reported declining number in qualified teachers coincides with a period where deaf attainment is below that of the hearing population.

**S6M-17103: Katy Clark: Recognition of the State of Palestine—** That the Parliament notes the calls from people in the West Scotland region and across the country for the UK Government to recognise the State of Palestine; understands that 146 member states of the UN recognise Palestine as a sovereign state, encompassing the West Bank and the Gaza Strip; believes that independent Palestinian statehood on the basis of a free people with rights to self-determination and territorial integrity is an inalienable right and requirement for permanent peace between Palestine and the State of Israel; expresses grave concern over what it sees as the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and the Israeli military escalation in the occupied West Bank, including the deployment of tanks into Jenin for the first time in over two decades, and notes the view that a much-needed pathway to a sustainable and peaceful solution must be rooted in accountability and justice, upholding the dignity of both Israeli and Palestinian civilians.

**S6M-16893: Richard Leonard: Scotland in the Red 2024 StepChange Scotland—** That the Parliament notes the publication of Scotland in the Red 2024, by the debt charity, StepChange Scotland; considers this a flagship report on personal debt, providing an insight on what life is like for people, in every local authority area, who are experiencing problem debt; understands that the average unsecured debt for a family with children has risen sharply to £18,953 and the

average level of arrears has soared to £5,193, which, it believes, is an increase of 61% on 2023 levels; further understands that, after paying essential bills, the charity's clients claiming universal credit, including those in Central Scotland, are left with an average of just £6 per month for everything else; commends the work of StepChange Scotland, which supported over 40,000 clients in 2024 who owe a total of £343 million of debt and £21 million in arrears on their household bills; believes that it is Scotland's largest debt charity, and acknowledges that it works towards a vision of a society free from problem debt.

## Record of Members' Business taken by the Parliament in the past 12 months

5. Below is a table of Members' Business taken by the Parliament in the past 12 months, a record of all Members' Business taken from the start of session 6 is available on request.

| <b>Date</b>       | <b>MSP</b>       | <b>Party</b> | <b>Subject</b>                                                                  |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 September 2024  | Sue Webber       | CON          | A New Winchburgh Train Station                                                  |
| 4 September 2024  | Bob Doris        | SNP          | Tackling the Misuse of Off-road Vehicles                                        |
| 5 September 2024  | Sarah Boyack     | LAB          | Recognising the UN's Declaration for Future Generations                         |
| 10 September 2024 | Kenneth Gibson   | SNP          | Repealing the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020                           |
| 11 September 2024 | Graham Simpson   | CON          | Retrofitting and Tenement Maintenance                                           |
| 12 September 2024 | Bill Kidd        | SNP          | The Late Reverend John Ainslie                                                  |
| 17 September 2024 | Audrey Nicoll    | SNP          | Celebrating the Federation of Small Businesses' 50th Anniversary                |
| 18 September 2024 | Lorna Slater     | GRN          | 10 Years since Scotland's Independence Referendum                               |
| 19 September 2024 | Sharon Dowey     | CON          | Addressing Retail Crime and Antisocial Behaviour                                |
| 24 September 2024 | Martin Whitfield | LAB          | Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity                                           |
| 25 September 2024 | Gordon MacDonald | SNP          | Importance of the Scottish Wholesale Sector                                     |
| 26 September 2024 | Rona Mackay      | SNP          | Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Month                         |
| 1 October 2024    | Tess White       | CON          | Importance of Safe and Fair Sport for Women and Girls                           |
| 1 October 2024    | David Torrance   | SNP          | Celebrating 125 Years of Learning with Fife College (Rescheduled from 19 March) |
| 2 October 2024    | Stuart McMillan  | SNP          | Regulation of the Medical Aesthetics Industry in Scotland                       |

|            |          |                    |     |                                                                                                                                  |
|------------|----------|--------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3<br>2024  | October  | Katy Clark         | LAB | Ardrossan Harbour                                                                                                                |
| 8<br>2024  | October  | Clare Haughey      | SNP | Raising Awareness of Liver Disease                                                                                               |
| 9<br>2024  | October  | Jackson Carlaw     | CON | 40th Anniversary of the Brighton Bomb Blast                                                                                      |
| 10<br>2024 | October  | Paul O'Kane        | LAB | Challenge Poverty Week 2024                                                                                                      |
| 29<br>2024 | October  | Emma Roddick       | SNP | Recognising the Dangers of Artificial Intelligence (AI)                                                                          |
| 30<br>2024 | October  | N/A                | CON | Cancelled due to Parliamentary Business – to be rescheduled at a future date                                                     |
| 31<br>2024 | October  | Audrey Nicoll      | SNP | Invasive Non-native Species in Scotland                                                                                          |
| 5<br>2024  | November | Karen Adam         | SNP | Celebrating One Parent Families Scotland 80th Anniversary                                                                        |
| 5<br>2024  | November | Clare Adamson      | SNP | Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and World Pancreatic Cancer Day 2024 - rescheduled from 24 April 2024                          |
| 6<br>2024  | November | Fulton MacGregor   | SNP | Tackling Sibling Sexual Abuse in Scotland                                                                                        |
| 7<br>2024  | November | Gillian Mackay     | GRN | North Lanarkshire School Bus Campaign                                                                                            |
| 12<br>2024 | November | Alex Cole-Hamilton | LD  | Protecting Communities from Antisocial Behaviour and Antisocial Driving                                                          |
| 13<br>2024 | November | Douglas Lumsden    | CON | Rural Roads Infrastructure                                                                                                       |
| 14<br>2024 | November | Ruth Maguire       | SNP | Day of the Imprisoned Writer                                                                                                     |
| 19<br>2024 | November | Gordon MacDonald   | SNP | Celebrating the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership                                                                                 |
| 20<br>2024 | November | Marie McNair       | SNP | World COPD Day                                                                                                                   |
| 21<br>2024 | November | Roz McCall         | CON | Increasing Stroke Awareness                                                                                                      |
| 26<br>2024 | November | n/a                | SNP | Cancelled due to Parliamentary Business – to be rescheduled at a future date                                                     |
| 27<br>2024 | November | Richard Leonard    | LAB | Marking the 40th Anniversary of the Miners' Strike                                                                               |
| 28<br>2024 | November | Christine Grahame  | SNP | 25 Years of Tweeddale Youth Action                                                                                               |
| 3<br>2024  | December | Craig Hoy          | CON | Findings of the Cross-Party Group on Beer and Pubs Report, What Does "Brand Scotland" Mean for the Scottish Beer and Pub Sector? |

|                  |                  |      |                                                                                                                             |
|------------------|------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 December 2024  | Emma Harper      | SNP  | The Open University Supports the Scots Language – rescheduled from 26 November 2024                                         |
| 4 December 2024  | Michael Matheson | SNP  | Powering Futures - Putting Young People at the Heart of the Energy Transition                                               |
| 5 December 2024  | Paul Sweeney     | LAB  | Publication of the Marie Curie Report, Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024                                                    |
| 10 December 2024 | Kenneth Gibson   | SNP  | Opposition to the Post Office Closure Plan                                                                                  |
| 11 December 2024 | Jeremy Balfour   | CON  | Reversal of £10 Million Funding for Changing Places Toilets                                                                 |
| 12 December 2024 | David Torrance   | SNP  | Kingdom Off Road Motorcycle Club Awarded £90,000 of Funding                                                                 |
| 17 December 2024 | Emma Roddick     | SNP  | Celebrating 10 Years of Same-sex Marriage in Scotland                                                                       |
| 18 December 2024 | Lorna Slater     | GRN  | A Safe, Accessible and Sustainable Holyrood Park for the 21st Century                                                       |
| 19 December 2024 | Pam Gosal        | CON  | Repairing Potholes on Scotland's Roads                                                                                      |
| 7 January 2025   | Foyso Choudhury  | LAB  | The Importance of Medical Technology for Patients with Diabetes                                                             |
| 8 January 2025   | George Adam      | SNP  | St Mirren Announces Landmark Partnership with UWS                                                                           |
| 9 January 2025   | Ash Regan        | ALBA | Expanding Scotland's Connectivity from Edinburgh and Beyond                                                                 |
| 14 January 2025  | Meghan Gallacher | CON  | Introduction of NOVA Scotland                                                                                               |
| 15 January 2025  | Kenneth Gibson   | SNP  | Compensation for the WASPI Women                                                                                            |
| 16 January 2025  | Rhoda Grant      | LAB  | Scottish Human Rights Commission's Spotlight Project into Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the Highlands and Islands |
| 16 January 2025  | Tim Eagle        | CON  | Improving Access to Health and Social Care in Rural Scotland (rescheduled from 30 October)                                  |
| 21 January 2025  | David Torrance   | SNP  | European Showmen's Union Congress 2025                                                                                      |
| 22 January 2025  | Oliver Mundell   | CON  | Celebrating the Continued Social, Cultural and Economic Importance of Robert Burns                                          |
| 23 January 2025  | Michelle Thomson | SNP  | Promoting the Role of Women in Scotland's Journey to Net Zero                                                               |
| 28 January 2025  | Clare Adamson    | SNP  | Brexit Harm to Scotland, Five Years Since the UK Left the EU                                                                |
| 29 January 2025  | Jackson Carlaw   | CON  | Holocaust Memorial Day 2025, For a Better Future                                                                            |

|                  |                       |     |                                                                                        |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 January 2025  | Alex Rowley           | LAB | Scottish Engineering's Engineering Skills Gap Analysis for Scotland                    |
| 4 February 2025  | Christine Grahame     | SNP | The Lockerbie Bombing, A Father's Search for Justice                                   |
| 5 February 2025  | Mark Ruskell          | GRN | Save Local Libraries                                                                   |
| 6 February 2025  | Elena Whitham         | SNP | Report on Alcohol Use Disorder in the Justice System                                   |
| 18 February 2025 | Beatrice Wishart      | LD  | Opportunities and Challenges for Scotland's Fishing Sector in 2025                     |
| 19 February 2025 | Rachael Hamilton      | CON | Tackling the Rise in Rural Crime and Equipment Theft in Scotland                       |
| 20 February 2025 | Kenneth Gibson        | SNP | The Ongoing Impact of PFI/PPP on Scotland's Public Finances                            |
| 25 February 2025 | Emma Harper           | SNP | Eating Disorders Awareness Week 2025                                                   |
| 26 February 2025 | Fulton MacGregor      | SNP | Northern Corridor Community Forum's Evidence-based Report                              |
| 27 February 2025 | Murdo Fraser          | CON | Protection of Park Home Residents                                                      |
| 4 March 2025     | Carol Mochan          | LAB | Holistic Approach to Alcohol-related Brain Damage                                      |
| 5 March 2025     | Colin Beattie         | SNP | Three Years of Solidarity with Ukraine                                                 |
| 6 March 2025     | Marie McNair          | SNP | Impact of UK Welfare Reforms in Scotland                                               |
| 11 March 2025    | Alexander Stewart     | CON | Additional Support Needs in Scotland                                                   |
| 12 March 2025    | Audrey Nicoll         | SNP | International Women's Day 2025                                                         |
| 13 March 2025    | Paul O'Kane           | LAB | Young Carers Action Day 2025                                                           |
| 18 March 2025    | Clare Adamson         | SNP | MacDiarmid's Brownsbank Cottage, a Scottish Cultural Treasure                          |
| 19 March 2025    | Tess White            | CON | Addressing Sexual Violence in Scotland's Hospitals                                     |
| 20 March 2025    | Michael Matheson      | SNP | Awareness of Criminal Exploitation of Children                                         |
| 25 March 2025    | Stuart McMillan       | SNP | Peel Ports' Conservancy Fee Plans for Clydeport Area                                   |
| 26 March 2025    | Maggie Chapman        | GRN | Ending Destitution in Scotland – a Road Map for Policymakers                           |
| 27 March 2025    | Liz Smith             | CON | 300 Years of The Black Watch                                                           |
| 1 April 2025     | Daniel Johnson        | LAB | Learning Disability, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill                                   |
| 2 April 2025     | Jamie Halcro Johnston | CON | Scotland's Islands                                                                     |
| 3 April 2025     | George Adam           | SNP | Celebrating the University of the West of Scotland's Groundbreaking Foundation Academy |
| 22 April 2025    | Douglas Lumsden       | CON | Addressing Waiting Times in NHS Grampian                                               |

|               |                   |     |                                                                                             |
|---------------|-------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 23 April 2025 | Jackie Dunbar     | SNP | Global Intergenerational Week 2025                                                          |
| 24 April 2025 | Neil Bibby        | LAB | BBC Scotland's Decision to End River City and Close its Dumbarton Studios                   |
| 29 April 2025 | Marie McNair      | SNP | Testicular Cancer Awareness Month                                                           |
| 30 April 2025 | Meghan Gallacher  | CON | Best Start New Model of Neonatal Care                                                       |
| 1 May 2025    | Emma Harper       | SNP | World Asthma Day 2025                                                                       |
| 6 May 2025    | Christine Grahame | SNP | 30th Anniversary of Eco-Schools and Success for St Andrew's RC Primary School in Gorebridge |
| 7 May 2025    | Roz McCall        | CON | Mental Health Awareness Week 2025                                                           |
| 8 May 2025    | Michael Marra     | LAB | Wraparound Care for Children with Additional Support Needs                                  |
| 13 May 2025   | Gordon MacDonald  | SNP | Construction Skills for the Future                                                          |
| 14 May 2025   | Kenneth Gibson    | SNP | Marine Conservation Society Publishes 2024 State of our Beaches Report                      |
| 15 May 2025   | Ross Greer        | GRN | Addressing the Impact of Second Home Ownership in Scotland                                  |
| 20 May 2025   | Beatrice Wishart  | LD  | Radio Teleswitch Service Switch-off                                                         |
| 21 May 2025   | Clare Adamson     | SNP | The Harm of Gambling Addiction                                                              |
| 22 May 2025   | Kevin Stewart     | SNP | Aberdeen to Welcome the Tall Ships Races                                                    |
| 27 May 2025   | Elena Whitham     | SNP | Common Ground Forum on Deer                                                                 |
| 28 May 2025   | Sharon Dowey      | CON | Improving Access to Hearing Care for Scotland's Ageing Population                           |
| 29 May 2025   | Michelle Thomson  | SNP | 30 Years on from the Bosnian Genocide in Srebrenica                                         |
| 3 June 2025   | Rhoda Grant       | LAB | Combatting Commercial Sexual Exploitation                                                   |
| 4 June 2025   | Bob Doris         | SNP | Celebrating 50 Years of Summerston                                                          |
| 5 June 2025   | Karen Adam        | SNP | Thomas Blake Glover, Fraserburgh's International Legacy                                     |
| 10 June 2025  | Miles Briggs      | CON | A720 Sheriffhall Roundabout                                                                 |
| 11 June 2025  | Stuart McMillan   | SNP | 60th Anniversary of the Scottish Law Commission                                             |
| 12 June 2025  | Colin Smyth       | LAB | Justice for the Fornethy Survivors                                                          |
| 17 June 2025  | Bill Kidd         | SNP | Ongoing Crisis in Gaza                                                                      |
| 18 June 2025  | Liam Kerr         | CON | Recognising RAAC in Council and Former Council Housing                                      |
| 19 June 2025  | Marie McNair      | SNP | Action Mesothelioma Day 2025                                                                |
| 23 June 2025  | n/a               | SNP | Cancelled due to Parliamentary Business – to be rescheduled at a future date                |



|                   |                 |     |                                                                              |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 June 2025      | Douglas Ross    | CON | Action to Address the Impact of Gulls in Scotland                            |
| 26 June 2025      | Patrick Harvie  | GRN | The Future of Glasgow's Bus Services. Rescheduled from 25 June 2025          |
| 2 September 2025  | Alex Rowley     | LAB | Provision of NHS Dentistry                                                   |
| 3 September 2025  | Kenneth Gibson  | SNP | Recognising the Impact of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)                       |
| 4 September 2025  | Bob Doris       | SNP | Peak Rail Fares Abolished                                                    |
| 9 September 2025  | Liz Smith       | CON | Celebrating Residential Outdoor Education for Young People                   |
| 10 September 2025 | Stuart McMillan | SNP | Improving Bladder Cancer Diagnosis in Scotland                               |
| 11 September 2025 | Sarah Boyack    | LAB | Scottish Youth Parliament's Work on Transport                                |
| 17 September 2025 | Bill Kidd       | SNP | Nuclear Incidents – rescheduled from 16 September 2025                       |
| 17 September 2025 | Pam Gosal       | CON | Welcoming the Supreme Court's Judgment on the Definition of the Word "Woman" |
| 18 September 2025 | Emma Roddick    | SNP | Increasing Frequency and Intensity of Wildfires                              |

### Record of Members' Business taken by the Parliament in Session 6

| <b>Party</b>          | <b>SNP</b> | <b>CON</b> | <b>LAB</b> | <b>GRN</b> | <b>LD</b> | <b>Alba</b> | <b>TOTAL</b> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Frequency (no)</b> | 228        | 107        | 70         | 27         | 13        | 1           | 446          |
| <b>Frequency %</b>    | 51         | 24         | 16         | 6          | 3         | 0           | 100          |

Parliamentary Business Team  
September 2025