



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 57, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 4 December 2025

Note: (DT) signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

The meeting opened at 11:40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by the Deputy First Minister, Cabinet Secretaries, and a Minister.

2. First Minister's Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).

3. 70th Anniversary of Cumbernauld as a New Town: The Parliament debated S6M-19607 in the name of Jamie Hepburn—That the Parliament recognises that 9 December 2025 is the 70th anniversary of the designation of Cumbernauld as Scotland's third new town under the terms of the New Towns Act 1946, having been identified as a suitable location in the Clyde Valley Regional Plan; understands that this is a significant moment in the history of the town; recognises that the area designated included the existing villages of Cumbernauld and Condorrat, with the first part of the new town to be built being in the Kildrum area of the town to provide accommodation for workers at the nearby Burroughs factory; recalls that the inaugural ceremony for the new town was in June 1957, where the sod was cut at Kildrum Farm; appreciates the great sense of community that exists in Cumbernauld through its wide range of organisations and bodies that do great work to promote the town and support its residents; thanks all those who are involved in promoting the 70th anniversary, and wishes all those who live and work in Cumbernauld the best for the occasion and the future.

4. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Education and Skills were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers

5. Widening Access to Higher Education: Douglas Ross, on behalf of the Education, Children and Young People Committee, moved S6M-19984—That the Parliament notes the findings and recommendations in the Education, Children and Young People Committee's 5th Report, 2025 (Session 6), Widening access to higher education inquiry (SP Paper 782).

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5:02 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
4 December 2025

Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 4 December 2025 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

National Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2026 [draft]
laid under section 52(3) of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 4 December 2025 and is not subject to parliamentary procedure—

National Islands Plan - draft (SG/2025/294) laid under section 5(3)(a) of the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018

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