



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Parliamentary Year 5, No. 58, Session 6**

**Meeting of the Parliament**

**Tuesday 9 December 2025**

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

**1. Time for Reflection:** Tim Maguire, Humanist, led Time for Reflection.

**2. Revision to Business Programme:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-20066 —That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Tuesday 9 December 2025—

after

*followed by* Topical Questions

insert

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Education Statistics and the 2026 National Improvement Framework

delete

5.30 pm Decision Time

and insert

6.00 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

**3. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries.

**4. Ministerial Statement:** The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (Jenny Gilruth) made a statement and answered questions on Education Statistics and the 2026 National Improvement Framework.

**5. Urgent Question:** An urgent question, to ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the decision of the employment tribunal of Sandie Peggie vs NHS Fife Health Board, was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray).

**6. The 2023/24 Audit of Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Holdings Limited:** Richard Leonard, on behalf of the Public Audit Committee, moved S6M-20036—That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Public Audit Committee's 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6), The 2023/24 audit of Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Holdings Limited (SP Paper 846).

Daniel Johnson moved amendment S6M-20036.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-20036 in the name of Richard Leonard (The 2023/24 Audit of Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Holdings Limited), insert at end ", and calls on the Scottish Government to fulfil its commitment to invest all of the £14.2 million promised to modernise the yard to enable Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) to secure orders."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 82 (including 1 proxy vote), Against 7 (including 1 proxy vote), Abstentions 28).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 90 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 0, Abstentions 25).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament notes the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Public Audit Committee's 3rd Report, 2025 (Session 6), The 2023/24 audit of Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Holdings Limited (SP Paper 846), and calls on the Scottish Government to fulfil its commitment to invest all of the £14.2 million promised to modernise the yard to enable Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) to secure orders.

**7. Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces Community in Scotland:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey) moved S6M-20050—That the Parliament acknowledges and recognises the importance of Scotland's veterans and Armed Forces community and greatly values the significant contribution that it makes to society; recognises that the skills and experiences that it brings enrich communities; continues to support the Veterans Strategy Action Plan, which has a clear vision to ensure the best outcomes for veterans and their families; notes the progress made in delivering the action plan and the future work to develop

an updated plan following the publication of the new UK-wide Veterans Strategy; welcomes the findings of the Scottish Veterans Commissioner's latest progress report and acknowledges both the successes she identifies and the areas where further work is needed, and agrees that the Scottish Government should continue to work with partners across the public, private and third sectors to ensure that the veterans and Armed Forces community receives the access to support \*that\* they need.

Edward Mountain moved amendment S6M-20050.1—

As an amendment to motion S6M-20050 in the name of Graeme Dey (Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces Community in Scotland), insert at end ", and encourages the Scottish Government to work with the Ministry of Defence to facilitate access for retiring service personnel, who wish to move back to Scotland, to empty married quarters at a reduced rent for a period of up to one year from the end of their service."

After debate, the amendment was agreed to (DT).

The motion, as amended, was agreed to (DT).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—

That the Parliament acknowledges and recognises the importance of Scotland's veterans and Armed Forces community and greatly values the significant contribution that it makes to society; recognises that the skills and experiences that it brings enrich communities; continues to support the Veterans Strategy Action Plan, which has a clear vision to ensure the best outcomes for veterans and their families; notes the progress made in delivering the action plan and the future work to develop an updated plan following the publication of the new UK-wide Veterans Strategy; welcomes the findings of the Scottish Veterans Commissioner's latest progress report and acknowledges both the successes she identifies and the areas where further work is needed; agrees that the Scottish Government should continue to work with partners across the public, private and third sectors to ensure that the veterans and Armed Forces community receives the access to support \*that\* they need, and encourages the Scottish Government to work with the Ministry of Defence to facilitate access for retiring service personnel, who wish to move back to Scotland, to empty married quarters at a reduced rent for a period of up to one year from the end of their service.

**8. Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill - UK Legislation:** The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care (Neil Gray) moved S6M-20037—That the Parliament agrees that the relevant provisions of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 16 October 2024, and subsequently amended, relating to the prohibition on advertising of the England and Wales Voluntary Assisted Dying Service, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 103 (including 2 proxy votes), Against 2, Abstentions 9).

**9. Committee Meeting Times:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-20067—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament during Members' Business on Wednesday 10 December 2025.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

**10.Motion Without Notice:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved a motion without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 5.51 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

**11. Decision Time:** The Parliament took decisions on items 6, 7, 8 and 9 as noted above.

**12. Dealing With the Dangerous Use of E-bikes and E-scooters:** The Parliament debated S6M-19918 in the name of Sue Webber—That the Parliament notes with concern reports of the growing dangerous use of e-bikes and e-scooters across Scotland, but particularly in Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow, and across major towns; understands that some e-bike and e-scooter users are often observed showing no regard for the traffic laws, endanger other road users and pedestrians, appear to violate the legally mandated speed limit and often do not use high-visibility clothing; believes that many users often wear what can be seen as intimidating clothing, such as balaclavas and face coverings; is concerned at reports that e-bikes and e-scooters are increasingly used to commit organised crime and vehicle theft; notes calls on the Scottish Government to give Police Scotland the appropriate resources and vehicles to counter people who use e-bikes and e-scooters in these ways, such as by seizing the vehicles, and further notes the call for greater action to be taken against the antisocial use of e-bikes and e-scooters, to provide a safer environment for roads users and pedestrians.

The meeting closed at 6:56 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
9 December 2025

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

**Committee Reports**

The following reports were published on 5 December 2025—

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, 8th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Report tracking the work of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee 2024-25 (SP Paper 925)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 89th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Legislative Consent Memorandum: delegated powers exercisable within devolved competence in the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Bill (SP Paper 926)

The following report was published on 8 December 2025—

Criminal Justice Committee, 11th Report, 2025 (Session 6): Report on the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2019 and the Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Act 2025 (Consequential Modifications) Regulations 2026 [draft] (SP Paper 927)

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Negative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 5 December 2025 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Education (Scotland) Act 2025 (Consequential Provisions) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/385)  
laid under section 64(4)(b) of the Education (Scotland) Act 2025 and section 210(5) of the Equality Act 2010

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 8 December 2025 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Common Services Agency (Membership and Procedure) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/387)  
laid under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/390)  
laid under section 68(2) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003

**Laid Only Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 8 December 2025 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Act 2024  
(Commencement No. 3) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/386 (C. 30))  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform  
(Scotland) Act 2010

Care Reform (Scotland) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2025 (SSI  
2025/388 (C. 31))  
laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform  
(Scotland) Act 2010

### **Other Documents**

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 5 December 2025 and  
are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**The Report of the Independent Reviewer - Age of Criminal Responsibility  
(Scotland) Act 2019 - Annual Report and Recommendations 2024-2025  
(SG/2025/273)** laid under section 21(2) of the Age of Criminal Responsibility  
(Scotland) Act 2019

**ScotRail Trains Limited Annual Report and Financial Statements For the year  
ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/280)** laid under The Public Finance and  
Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Caledonian Sleeper Limited Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended  
31 March 2025 (SG/2025/281)** laid under The Public Finance and Accountability  
(Scotland) Act 2000

**Scottish Rail Holdings Limited Annual Report and Accounts For the year  
ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/279)** laid under The Public Finance and  
Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Scrutiny report on draft Regulations: the Social Security (Up-rating)  
(Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 SCoSS/2025/15** laid  
under sections 22 and 97 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 8 December 2025 and  
are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Care Inspectorate Annual Report and Accounts 2024/25 (SG/2025/88)** laid under  
Schedule 11 Section 15(2) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 and  
Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Community Justice Scotland Annual Report & Accounts 2024/25  
(SG/2025/121)** laid under Section 11(4) of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act  
2016

**Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) Annual Report and Accounts  
2024- 25 For the period 1 April to 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/210)** laid under  
Section 8 (4) of the Industrial Training Act 1982

**Ending Homelessness Together: Annual report to the Scottish Parliament,**

**December 2025 (SG/2025/292)** laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

**Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Annual Report & Accounts 2024-25 SG/2025/322** laid under Chapter 1, Section 2 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005

**Police Investigations & Review Commissioner Annual Report & Accounts 2024/2025 (SG/2025/312)** laid under Section 43(5) of the Police Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2006

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 9 December 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**Independent Review of the Process for Determining Electoral Boundaries in Scotland (SG/2025/325)** laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

**Creative Scotland Group Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/283)** laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**Creative Scotland National Lottery Distribution Fund Annual Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/284)** laid under section 34 of the National Lottery etc. Act 1993 and section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

**The Scottish Government Non-Domestic Rating Account for the year ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/188)** laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

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