



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 63, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Thursday 18 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 a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 2. First Minister's Questions:** Questions were answered by the First Minister (John Swinney).
- 3. Portfolio Questions:** Questions on Social Justice and Housing were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 4. Contract (Formation and Remedies) (Scotland) Bill:** The Minister for Victims and Community Safety (Siobhian Brown) moved S6M-20173—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Contract (Formation and Remedies) (Scotland) Bill.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

- 5. Sentencing Bill - UK Legislation:** The Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance) moved S6M-20174—That the Parliament agrees that all relevant provisions of the Sentencing Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 2 September 2025, and subsequently amended, affecting changes which align the treatment of national security offenders with terrorist offenders under the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 and the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1993, so far as these matters alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

6. 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 2.10 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 4 and 5 as noted above.

8. Fairer Funding Allocation for Scotland's Fishing and Coastal Communities: The Parliament debated S6M-19427 in the name of Alasdair Allan— That the Parliament considers the UK Government's allocation of the £360 million UK-EU Fishing and Coastal Growth Fund, which is based on population rather than fishing industry size, to be wholly unfair and deeply damaging to the Scottish fishing industry; understands that Scottish vessels consistently land more than half of the UK's total catch, 63% of total catch value, and over 60% of seafood exports; believes that prior to Brexit, allocations of funds under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund were 36% for England, 46% for Scotland, 10% for Northern Ireland and 8% for Wales, in comparison to the allocation of under 8% for Scotland via Barnett consequentials used as the mechanism for allocating the Fishing and Coastal Growth Fund; recognises what it sees as the vital importance of the fishing industry both economically and culturally to Scotland's coastal communities, including in the Western Isles, and notes calls on the UK Government to reconsider its position on the Fishing and Coastal Growth Fund allocation to better reflect the significant economic contribution of Scotland's fishers and coastal communities.

The meeting closed at 2.46 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
18 December 2025

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

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 18 December 2025—

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, 9th Report,
2025 (Session 6): Complaint against Ash Regan MSP (SP Paper 945)

Subordinate Legislation

Affirmative Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 18 December 2025 and is subject to the affirmative procedure—

Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 (Consequential and Supplementary Amendments) Regulations 2026 [draft]
laid under section 23(3)(a) of the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 18 December 2025 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Removing from Heritable Property (Form of Charge) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/402)
laid under section 224(3) of the Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. (Scotland) Act 2007

Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. (Decrees for Removing from Heritable Property) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025 (SSI 2025/403)
laid under section 224(3) of the Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. (Scotland) Act 2007

Scottish Secure Tenancies (Proceedings for Possession) (Form of Notice) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/404)
laid under section 109(4) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 18 December 2025 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/400 (C. 33))
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 18 December 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Animal Welfare Commission Annual Report of SAWC activity 2024-2025 (SG/2025/313) laid under Scottish Animal Welfare Commission Regulations 2020

Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)'s Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25 (SG/2025/270) laid under section 11(3) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1996 and Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

David MacBrayne HR (UK) Limited Directors' Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/266) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

David MacBrayne Limited Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/265) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

CalMac Ferries Limited Strategic Report, Directors' Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 (SG/2025/267) laid under section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Published by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

All documents are available on
the Scottish Parliament website at:

www.parliament.scot/documents

For information on the Scottish Parliament contact
Public Information on:

Telephone: 0131 348 5000 or 0800 092 7500

Email: sp.info@parliament.scot

Live chat on parliament.scot

You can write to us in any language or contact us
using the Text Relay service or in British Sign

Language through contactScotland-BSL.

© Parliamentary copyright. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

The Scottish Parliament's copyright policy can be found on the website -
www.parliament.scot or by contacting Public Information.