



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 5, No. 96, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 18 March 2026

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

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic and then Finance and Local Government were answered by Deputy First Minister, a Cabinet Secretary and Ministers.

2. Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill: Mark Ruskell moved S6M-20921—That the Parliament agrees that the Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 70, Against 27, Abstentions 19).

3. Stage 3 Timetable: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21139—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Children (Care, Care Experience and Services Planning) (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 1 hour 30 minutes

Groups 4 and 5: 2 hours 20 minutes

Groups 6 to 8: 3 hours 30 minutes

Groups 9 to 11: 4 hours 30 minutes
Groups 12 to 14: 5 hours 15 minutes

Groups 15 and 16: 6 hours 20 minutes

Groups 17 to 19: 7 hours 40 minutes

Groups 20 to 23: 9 hours.

4. Children (Care, Care Experience and Services Planning) (Scotland) Bill- Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 6, 7, 8, 92, 93, 9, 10, 94, 95, 12, 13, 14, 15, 106, 108, 16, 17, 109, 18, 19A, 19B, 19, 20, 23, 116, 24, 117, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 30, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 31, 135, 32, 33, 34, 35, 136, 137, 138, 139, 38, 39, 40, 141, 142, 143, 42, 43, 148, 44, 153, 154, 160, 161, 163, 164, 48, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 175, 176, 177, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 197, 79, 80, 81, 82, 201, 83, 203, 204, 84, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 86, 87, 211, 89 and 90.

The following amendments were agreed to (by division)—

91 (For 92, Against 15, Abstentions 0)
21 (For 94, Against 1, Abstentions 15)
22 (For 92, Against 1, Abstentions 16)
29A (For 103, Against 4, Abstentions 0)
36 (For 86, Against 23, Abstentions 0)
37 (For 87, Against 23, Abstentions 0)
140 (For 84, Against 23, Abstentions 0)
41 (For 85, Against 24, Abstentions 0)
46 (For 89, Against 23, Abstentions 0)
162 (For 87, Against 24, Abstentions 0)
73A (For 97, Against 16, Abstentions 0)
73 (For 96, Against 18, Abstentions 0)
200 (For 97, Against 16, Abstentions 0)
202 (For 74, Against 22, Abstentions 14)
88 (For 99, Against 17, Abstentions 0)

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

11 (For 43, Against 70, Abstentions 0)
111 (For 16, Against 94, Abstentions 0)
158 (For 41, Against 66, Abstentions 0)
47 (For 39, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
53 (For 41, Against 72, Abstentions 0)
54 (For 31, Against 82, Abstentions 0)
74 (For 42, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
77 (For 45, Against 69, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 99, 134, 145, 169, 171, 172.

The following amendments were pre-empted: 112, 113, 114, 115 and 45.

The following amendments were not moved: 100, 101, 102, 96, 97, 98, 103, 104, 105, 107, 110, 2, 3, 144, 146, 147, 149, 150, 151, 152, 155, 156, 157, 159, 49, 50, 51, 165, 166, 52, 167, 168, 170, 55, 173, 174, 75, 183, 184, 76, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 78, 198, 199 and 210.

5. Revision to Business Programme: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21125—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Thursday 19 March 2026

delete

followed by Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Motion: Amendments to the Scottish Parliament Salaries Scheme

and insert

followed by Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Motion: Reimbursement of Members' Expenses Scheme Resolution

followed by Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Motion: Party Leaders' Expenses Scheme Resolution

(b) Tuesday 24 March 2026

after

followed by Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Debate: Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's 10th Report, 2026 (Session 6)

insert

followed by Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Motion on the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016 (Modifications) Resolution 2026

delete

6.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

6.05 pm Decision Time

(c) Wednesday 25 March 2026

delete

11.40 am General Questions

and insert

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

The motion was agreed to.

6. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21126—That the Parliament agrees that the Prisoners (Early Release) (Miscellaneous Amendment and Transitional Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21127—That the Parliament agrees that the Representation of the People Act 1983 Remedial (Scotland) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/353) be approved.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 86, Against 28, Abstentions 0).

8. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21128—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Landfill Tax (Standard Rate and Lower Rate) Order 2026 (SSI 2026/97) be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21129—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Aggregates Tax (Miscellaneous Amendment) Regulations 2026 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

10. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21130—That the Parliament agrees that the Investigation and Commencement of Repair (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

11. Approval of SSI: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21131—That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 (Consequential Provision) Regulations 2026 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

12. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21132—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between 9.00 am and 1.00 pm on Tuesday 24 March 2026.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

13. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21134—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm on Tuesday 24 March 2026.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

14. Committee Meeting Times: The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S6M-21135—That the Parliament agrees that, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between 9.00 am and 12 noon on Tuesday 24 March 2026.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

15. 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 9.08 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

16. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament

18 March 2026

Appendix

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

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 18 March 2026—

Finance and Public Administration Committee, 10th Report, 2026 (Session 6):
Annual Report of the Finance and Public Administration Committee 2025-26
(SP Paper 1072)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 15th Report, 2026 (Session 6):
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee report on the Marine Licensing
(Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2026 (draft) (SP Paper 1077)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 37th Report, 2026 (Session
6): Subordinate Legislation considered by the Delegated Powers and Law
Reform Committee on 17 March 2026 (SP Paper 1078)

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 5th Report, 2026 (Session 6):
Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) on the Armed Forces Bill (SP Paper
1080)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 14th Report, 2026 (Session 6):
Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Tobacco and Vapes
Bill (LCM-S6-51b) (SP Paper 1081)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 15th Report, 2026 (Session 6):
Annual report of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee 2025-26 (SP
Paper 1085)

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee, 16th Report, 2026 (Session 6):
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee Session 6 Legacy Report (SP
Paper 1086)

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 18 March 2026 and are
not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Scotland's Fourth Land Use Strategy 2026-2031 (SG/2026/35) laid under Section
57 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

**Independent National Whistleblowing Officer: Compendium of Case Reports
for March 2026 (INWO/2026/02)** laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the
Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

**Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: Compendium of Case Reports for
March 2026 (SPSO/2026/03)** laid under Sections 15(1) and 15(1A) of the Scottish
Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002

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