

Wednesday 31 January 2018

# Business Bulletin

*Iris Ghnothaichean*

Revised at 12:20pm



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Today's Business

### Meeting of the Parliament

**2:00 pm** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**2:00 pm** Urgent Question

**followed by** Portfolio Questions  
Communities, Social Security and Equalities

**followed by** Stage 1 Debate: Budget  
(Scotland) (No.2) Bill

**followed by** Business Motions

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5:15 pm** Decision Time

**followed by** Members' Business — S5M-  
09970 Ross Greer: Bus Services

### Committee Meetings

**10:00am** Finance and Constitution  
Committee

**10:00am** Local Government and  
Communities Committee

**10:00am** Rural Economy and Connectivity  
Committee

## Meeting of the Parliament

### 2:00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

### 2:00 pm Urgent Question

Liam Kerr: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the reported reform of firefighters' pay and conditions.

### followed by Portfolio Questions

#### Communities, Social Security and Equalities

**1. Claudia Beamish:** To ask the Scottish Government for what reason carers assistance is not included in its proposed uprating amendment to the Social Security (Scotland) Bill. ([S5O-01734](#))

**2. Gordon Lindhurst:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the work of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group. ([S5O-01735](#))

**3. Rona Mackay:** To ask the Scottish Government what arrangements are in place to empower community councils. ([S5O-01736](#))

**4. Bill Kidd:** To ask the Scottish Government how it is encouraging public bodies to do more to promote human rights. ([S5O-01737](#))

**5. Alexander Stewart:** To ask the Scottish Government what recent discussions it has had regarding the provision of new housing stock to meet future needs. ([S5O-01738](#))

**6. Rachael Hamilton:** To ask the Scottish Government what recent discussions it has had regarding the provision of social housing. ([S5O-01739](#))

**7. Gordon MacDonald:** To ask the Scottish Government how it meets the housing demand of older tenants with mobility issues. ([S5O-01740](#))

**8. Rhoda Grant:** To ask the Scottish Government which stakeholders it has had discussions with regarding providing alternatives to cash in lieu of disability benefits. ([S5O-01741](#))

**9. Neil Findlay:** To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the statement in its Programme for Government that the “third sector needs stability of funding and the opportunity for longer term planning and development”, how this is being rolled out across its departments and agencies. ([S5O-01742](#))

**10. Linda Fabiani:** To ask the Scottish Government what guidance it issues to local authority education departments regarding race equality. ([S5O-01743](#))

**11. Maurice Corry:** To ask the Scottish

Government how it ensures that there is consistent support and funding for the voluntary sector organisations that provide it with support and insight. ([S5O-01744](#))

**12. Gillian Martin:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to eliminate rural fuel poverty. ([S5O-01745](#))

**13. Liam Kerr:** To ask the Scottish Government how it will engage with local services to implement its social isolation and loneliness strategy. ([S5O-01746](#))

- 14. Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Government how it supports the voluntary and third sector in promoting healthy and active lifestyles. ([S5O-01747](#))
- 15. Ruth Maguire:** To ask the Scottish Government how the Scottish social security system will allow people who have difficulty communicating to receive information and express themselves in ways that best meet their needs. ([S5O-01748](#))
- 16. David Stewart:** To ask the Scottish Government what support it gives to local authorities and housing organisations in the Highlands and Islands in order to provide affordable homes that take account of demographics, age profile and economic activity. ([S5O-01749](#))
- 17. Jeremy Balfour:** To ask the Scottish Government what recent discussions it has had regarding the improvement of support services for vulnerable people finding themselves homeless or in temporary accommodation. ([S5O-01750](#))
- 18. Johann Lamont:** To ask the Scottish Government how many bodies in the voluntary sector that carry out an advocacy role are funded by it and its agencies. ([S5O-01751](#))
- 19. Colin Beattie:** To ask the Scottish Government how it will ensure that there is independent scrutiny of the new social security system and that it meets its aims and expectations. ([S5O-01752](#))
- 20. Ross Greer:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to

use existing medical and other evidence to determine entitlement to

devolved disability benefits and reduce the need for in-person

assessments. ([S5O-01753](#))

### followed by Stage 1 Debate: Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill

**[S5M-10183](#) Derek Mackay: Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill**—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

**[S5M-10183.1](#) Murdo Fraser: Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill**—As an amendment to motion S5M-10183 in the name of Derek Mackay (Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill), insert at end ", but, in so doing, regrets proposals to increase tax for 898,000 basic rate taxpayers, which breaks an SNP 2016 manifesto pledge."

**[S5M-10183.2](#) James Kelly: Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill**—As an amendment to motion S5M-10183 in the name of Derek Mackay (Budget (Scotland) Bill), insert at end ", but, in so doing, believes that proposed Scottish income tax rates do not raise enough revenue or redistribute enough wealth to tackle poverty, ensure that local services are properly resourced, nor provide the funding for a public sector pay rise."

### followed by Business Motions

**[S5M-10209](#) Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion—That the Parliament agrees—**

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 6 February 2018

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Equalities and Human Rights Committee Debate: Equality Statement - Scottish Draft Budget 2018-19

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Right to Vote

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 7 February 2018

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions

Economy, Jobs and Fair Work;

Finance and Constitution

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Stemming the Plastic Tide: Action to Tackle the Impact of Single-use Plastics on Land and in our Seas

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 8 February 2018

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

*followed by* Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Stage 1 Debate: Islands (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Financial Resolution: Islands (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 20 February 2018

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 21 February 2018

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions

Rural Economy and Connectivity;

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

*followed by* Stage 3 Proceedings: Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 22 February 2018

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

*followed by* Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

and (b) that, in relation to First Minister's Questions on 8 February 2018, in rule 13.6.2, insert at end "and may provide an opportunity for Party Leaders or their representatives to question the First Minister".

### **followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions**

**[S5M-10210](#) Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Approval of SSI**—That the Parliament agrees that the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Covert Human Intelligence Sources - Code of Practice) (Scotland) Order 2018 [draft] be approved.

**[S5M-10211](#) Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Approval of SSI**—That the Parliament agrees that the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Covert Surveillance and Property Interference - Code of Practice) (Scotland) Order 2018 [draft] be approved.

**[S5M-10212](#) Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Approval of SSI**—That the Parliament agrees that the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Equipment Interference – Code of Practice) (Scotland) Order 2018 [draft] be approved.

**[S5M-10213](#) Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill**—That the Parliament agrees that, subject to its agreement to the general principles of the Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill, for the purposes of consideration of the Bill at stage 2, in Rule 9.10.2 of Standing Orders—

- the word "third" be substituted for the word "fourth" in both places where it occurs,

- the words “except on a final lodging-day, when amendments may be lodged only until 12:00” be omitted.

## 5:15 pm Decision Time

### followed by Members' Business

#### Debate on the subject of—

**[S5M-09970](#) Ross Greer: Bus Services**—That the Parliament is concerned by reported rises in bus fares by First Bus, particularly in Glasgow and the West Scotland region; understands that fares for under-16s have risen by 40% and that single adult fares have increased by a further 15%; further understands that unaccompanied child fares have been withdrawn entirely following a move in 2017 to no longer offer return fares; considers that changes to fare structures that favour smartphone app-based ticketing will impact on those less likely to own a smartphone; expresses concern that fare rises will, it believes, also have a considerable negative impact on families, young people and low-earners; notes that several bus routes in Glasgow and the West Scotland region have been withdrawn or reduced, including the 4A service, with, it considers, little to no consultation with local residents, and further notes the view that that bus services should be affordable, environmentally sustainable and accessible to all members of society.

## Committee Meetings

All meetings take place in the Scottish Parliament, unless otherwise specified.

### Finance and Constitution Committee 4th Meeting, 2018

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in the David Livingstone Room (CR6)

1. **European Union (Withdrawal) Bill (UK Parliament Legislation):** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Professor Aileen McHarg, Professor of Public Law, University of Strathclyde;  
Professor Alan Page, Professor of Public Law, University of Dundee;  
and then from—  
Michael Russell, Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe, Ian Davidson, Deputy Director, Constitution and UK Relations Division, and Luke McBratney, Bill Manager, Constitutional Policy Team, Scottish Government.

### Local Government and Communities Committee 4th Meeting, 2018

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in the James Clerk Maxwell Room (CR4)

1. **Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Annual Report 2016/17:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
  
Rosemary Agnew, Ombudsman, Niki Maclean, Director, and John Stevenson, Head of Improvement, Engagement and Standards, Scottish Public Services Ombudsman.
2. **Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Annual Report 2016/17 (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
3. **Homelessness (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.
  
4. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.

### Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee 4th Meeting, 2018

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in the Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Scottish Government Digital Strategy:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
  
Fergus Ewing, Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy and Connectivity, Alan Johnston, Head of Connectivity, Economy & Data Division, and Robbie McGhee, Head of Digital Connectivity Policy, Scottish Government.
3. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

4. **Aquaculture Inquiry:** The Committee will consider its approach to the inquiry.

## Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

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