

Thursday 12 March 2020

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean

Revised at 11:10am



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Royal Assent

The Non-Domestic Rates (Scotland) Act 2020 received Royal Assent on Wednesday 11 March 2020.

Portfolio Questions - Pilot Groupings

The Presiding Officer has grouped questions 4 and 8 at next week's Economy, Fair Work and Culture portfolio questions.

Today's Business

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S5M-21233, today's business will be as follows:

Meeting of the Parliament

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

12:45 pm Members' Business — S5M-20766

Jamie Halcro Johnston: Scottish
Apprenticeship Week 2020

2:30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:30 pm Portfolio Questions

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Animals and
Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers)
(Scotland) Bill

followed by Urgent Statement: Novel
coronavirus COVID-19 update

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:15 pm Decision Time

Committee Meetings

9:00am Public Audit and Post-legislative
Scrutiny Committee

9:30am Culture, Tourism, Europe and
External Affairs Committee

9:30am Equalities and Human Rights
Committee

9:30am Standards, Procedures and Public
Appointments Committee

1:00pm Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

Meeting of the Parliament

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S5M-21233, today's business will be as follows:

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

[S5M-21233](#) Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion—That the Parliament agrees the following revisions to the programme of business on Thursday 12 March 2020—

delete

2.30 pm Ministerial Statement: Novel coronavirus COVID-19 update

followed by Portfolio Questions: Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity

and insert

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity

11:40 am General Questions

- 1. Tom Arthur:** To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to tackle adverse childhood experiences in the Renfrewshire South constituency. ([S5O-04260](#))
- 2. Bob Doris:** To ask the Scottish Government what impact changes to the pension age and new rules for mixed-age couples might have on discretionary housing payments in Scotland. ([S5O-04261](#))
- 3. Brian Whittle:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to ensure that people across the country have easy access to community sports facilities. ([S5O-04262](#))
- 4. Rhoda Grant:** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had regarding the proposed privatisation of the new merged college on Shetland. ([S5O-04263](#))
- 5. James Dornan:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to reduce the disability employment gap. ([S5O-04264](#))
- 6. Mark Griffin:** To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the Scottish Fiscal Commission's forecast that spending on devolved employability services will be £27 million lower in 2022-23. ([S5O-04265](#))
- 7. John Mason:** To ask the Scottish Government how it ensures that the action that it takes to restrict hate speech does not inadvertently discourage freedom of speech. ([S5O-04266](#))
- 8. Pauline McNeill:** To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to reported concerns regarding morale at the Glasgow School of Art. ([S5O-04267](#))
- 9. Sandra White:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the progress being made with the introduction in Scotland of the external wall fire review form, EWS1. ([S5O-04268](#))

10. Rachael Hamilton: To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the decision by the National Laundry Programme Board not to maintain a full production laundry service at the Borders General Hospital. ([S50-04269](#))

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

1. Jackson Carlaw: Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S5F-04030](#))

2. Richard Leonard: Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S5F-04031](#))

3. Willie Rennie: Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S5F-04032](#))

4. Bruce Crawford: To ask the First Minister what the Scottish Government's response is to the UK Budget. ([S5F-04049](#))

5. Peter Chapman: To ask the First Minister for what reason Abellio ScotRail and Serco are to be given a reported £103 million in additional public funding despite not meeting their targets. ([S5F-04045](#))

6. Pauline McNeill: To ask the First Minister what the Scottish Government's response is to comments by Scottish Women's Aid that victims of domestic violence face being put on waiting lists of up to six months before they can access services. ([S5F-04037](#))

12:45 pm Members' Business — S5M-20766 Jamie Halcro Johnston: Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2020

S5M-20766 Jamie Halcro Johnston: Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2020—That the Parliament notes that Scottish Apprenticeship Week takes place from 2 to 6 March 2020; understands that this year's theme is Talent Without Limits; appreciates that the annual campaign is coordinated by Skills Development Scotland and aims to highlight the opportunities that Scottish apprenticeships create for everyone, no matter their background, and for every business, no matter its size or sector; notes that events, activities and visits will take place across the country to celebrate the diversity that makes work-based learning good for individuals, employers and the economy; celebrates that a growing number of employers and training providers are offering foundation, modern and graduate apprenticeships, and notes that Members are being encouraged to take part in a local visit or event as part of the week.

2:30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2:30 pm Portfolio Questions

Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity

1. Michelle Ballantyne: To ask the Scottish Government what meetings it has held with stakeholders regarding the potential impact on public transport of the coronavirus, COVID-19. ([S50-04252](#))

2. Jamie Halcro Johnston: To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to improve travel connectivity to and within the Highlands and Islands. ([S50-04253](#))

3. Jeremy Balfour: To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the impact of the recent two-day closure of the Queensferry Crossing. ([S50-04254](#))

4. Rona Mackay: To ask the Scottish Government whether it plans to further develop rail halts in areas where there is an identified need. ([S5O-04255](#))

5. Monica Lennon: [Withdrawn] ([S5O-04256](#))

6. Bill Bowman: To ask the Scottish Government what measures it is taking to ensure that the Port of Dundee is properly equipped to handle decommissioning work. ([S5O-04257](#))

7. Liam Kerr: To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has for more investment in safety improvements for the A90, and whether these will include additional funding to improve the effectiveness of the average speed cameras. ([S5O-04258](#))

8. Tom Mason: To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to reduce speeding on the AWPR. ([S5O-04259](#))

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Animals and Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Bill

[S5M-21200](#) Mairi Gougeon: Animals and Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Bill—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Animals and Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Bill.

followed by Urgent Statement: Novel coronavirus COVID-19 update

followed by Business Motions

[S5M-21237](#) Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion—That the Parliament agrees the following revisions to the programme of business on Tuesday 17 March 2020—

after

followed by Topical Questions

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Novel coronavirus COVID-19 update

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.45 pm Decision Time

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:15 pm Decision Time

Committee Meetings

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

Public Audit and Post-legislative Scrutiny Committee 8th Meeting, 2020

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in the Adam Smith Room (CR5)

1. **Declaration of interests:** Johann Lamont will be invited to declare any relevant interests.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 4 and 6 in private.
3. **Section 22 report - The 2018/19 audit of Disclosure Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from-

Lorna Gibbs, former Chief Executive, Gerrard Hart, Director of Protection Services and Policy, and Joy Bramfitt-Wanless, former Programme Director, Disclosure Scotland; Paul Johnston, Director-General, Education, Communities and Justice, and Michael Chalmers, Director for Children and Families, Scottish Government.

4. **Section 22 report - The 2018/19 audit of Disclosure Scotland:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard at agenda item 2 and take further evidence from—
Caroline Gardner, Auditor General for Scotland;
Mark Roberts, Audit Director, Performance Audit and Best Value, Audit Scotland.
5. **Post-legislative Scrutiny: Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (in private):** The Committee will consider a revised draft report.
6. **Audit Scotland - Code of Audit Practice 2020: Consultation draft:** The Committee will consider the draft Code of Audit Practice.

Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee 9th Meeting, 2020

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in the Robert Burns Room (CR1)

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Act 2020 Remedial Order 2020 (SG 2020/19) from—
Ben Macpherson, Minister for Public Finance and Migration, Lucy Carmichael, Bill Team Leader, Ninian Christie, Solicitor, and Keith White, Lawyer, Scottish Government.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the UEFA European Championship (Trading and Advertising) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 [draft] from—
Ben Macpherson, Minister for Public Finance and Migration, Lucy Carmichael, Bill Team Leader, Ninian Christie, Solicitor, and Keith White, Lawyer, Scottish Government.
3. **Subordinate legislation:** Ben Macpherson (Minister for Public Finance and Migration) to move—
S5M-21118—That the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee recommends that the UEFA European Championship (Trading and Advertising) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 [draft] be approved.
4. **Screen Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from-

Isabel Davis, Executive Director, and David Smith, Director, Screen Scotland.

5. **Consideration of evidence (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
6. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Equalities and Human Rights Committee 6th Meeting, 2020

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in the Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)

1. **Public petition:** The Committee will consider petition PE1695 by Ben and Evelyn Mundell, on access to justice in Scotland.
2. **Race Equality, Employment and Skills (in private):** The Committee will consider its approach to engagement on the inquiry.

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee 8th Meeting, 2020

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in the James Clerk Maxwell Room (CR4)

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether its consideration of a Committee Bill to amend the process for complaints against MSPs should be taken in private at future meetings.
3. **Scottish Elections (Reform) Bill:** The Committee will consider the Bill at Stage 2 (Day 1).
4. **Proxy voting:** The Committee will consider a note by the Clerk.

Justice Sub-Committee on Policing 5th Meeting, 2020

The Committee will meet at 1.00 pm in the David Livingstone Room (CR6)

1. **Declaration of interests:** Shona Robison will be invited to declare any relevant interests.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Sub-Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
3. **Policing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) climate summit:** The Sub-Committee will take evidence on policing preparation for the COP26 climate summit, which is to take place in Glasgow in November, from—
Assistant Chief Constable Bernie Higgins, Conference of the Parties 26, and James Gray, Chief Financial Officer, Police Scotland.
4. **Work programme:** The Sub-Committee will consider its forward work programme.

Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

Web site: <http://www.parliament.scot>

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Chamber Desk (Motions and Questions)	5199
Parliamentary Business Team (Chamber, Parliamentary Bureau)	5187
Legislation Team	5277
Non-Government Bills Unit (NGBU)	6124

Committee web sites at:

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/committees.aspx>

Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations	5234
Delegated Powers and Law Reform	5212
Economy, Jobs and Fair Work	5403
Education and Skills	5204
Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform	5240
Equalities and Human Rights	5223
Finance and Constitution	5215
Health and Sport	5224
Justice	5047
Local Government and Communities	6037
Public Audit and Post-legislative Scrutiny	5390
Public Petitions	5254
Rural Economy and Connectivity	5211
Social Security	5228
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments	6924

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<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/21516.aspx>

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