

Tuesday 23 April 2024

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean

Revised at 12:45pm



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Today's Business

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-12946, today's business will be as follows:

Meeting of the Parliament

2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions

followed by Ministerial Statement: Gender Identity Healthcare for Young People

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill

followed by Financial Resolution: Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill

followed by Appointment of Members of the Standards Commission for Scotland

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business — S6M-12841 Clare Haughey: Seventh Anniversary of the Two-child Benefit Cap

Committee Meetings

9:00am Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

9:15am Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

9:30am Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

9:30am Finance and Public Administration Committee

10:00am Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Meeting of the Parliament

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-12946, today's business will be as follows:

2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

[S6M-12946](#) George Adam on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Revision to Business Programme—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for—

(a) Tuesday 23 April 2024—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Gender Identity Healthcare for Young People

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

(b) Wednesday 24 April 2024—

delete

9.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

and insert

8.20 pm Decision Time

(c) Thursday 25 April 2024—

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

3.55 pm Decision Time

followed by Topical Questions

1. Sarah Boyack: To ask the Scottish Government what potential impact the proposed Berwick Bank offshore windfarm not being included in the Contracts for Difference Allocation Round 6 will have on achieving Scotland's climate targets. ([S6T-01932](#))

2. Stuart McMillan: To ask the Scottish Government, in light of reported statistics indicating that wet wipes contribute to up to 94% of sewer blockages, what assessment it has made of the potential impact on Scottish Water of the planned ban on wet wipes containing plastic, including whether water and sewerage charges will be reduced in the future as a result of the ban. ([S6T-01937](#))

3. Meghan Gallacher: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the LGBT Youth Scotland pilot programme to introduce youth clubs in schools. ([S6T-01938](#))

followed by Ministerial Statement: Gender Identity Healthcare for Young People

followed by Stage 1 Debate: Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill

[S6M-12922](#) **Angela Constance: Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill—** That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill.

followed by Financial Resolution: Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill

[S6M-12560](#) **Shona Robison: Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution—** That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

followed by Appointment of Members of the Standards Commission for Scotland

[S6M-12910](#) **Maggie Chapman: Appointment of Members of the Standards Commission for Scotland—** That the Parliament agrees, under section 8 of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000, to appoint Morag Ferguson and Lezley Stewart as Members of the Standards Commission for Scotland.

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:30 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Debate on the subject of—

[S6M-12841](#) Clare Haughey: Seventh Anniversary of the Two-child Benefit Cap—That the Parliament regrets to mark the seventh anniversary of the introduction by the UK Government of the two-child benefit cap, and the associated so-called rape clause; notes with alarm reports that over 87,000 children across Scotland are affected by the cap, including 3,610 in South Lanarkshire; further notes the work of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, which reports that the poverty rate for children in families with three or more children was almost twice as high as the poverty rate for children in one- or two-child families in 2021-22, at 43% compared with 23% and 22% respectively, as a result of UK welfare policies such as the two-child benefit limit; highlights what it considers to be the contrast between the inhumane practices of the UK Government's Department for Work and Pensions and the compassionate approach of the Scottish Government's Social Security Scotland; understands that the Scottish Government has already spent more than £733 million over the last five financial years to mitigate UK Government welfare policies, despite what it sees as a remarkably challenging financial environment and the fiscal limitations of devolution; notes that the Scottish Child Payment and other devolved policies are forecast to keep up to 100,000 children in Scotland out of relative poverty in this financial year; further notes the view that Scotland should continue to build a social security system that is founded on dignity, fairness and respect, and notes the calls urging the UK Government to reverse the two-child benefit cap and what it regards as the other abhorrent and ineffective welfare reforms that have been implemented over more than a decade of austerity.

Committee Meetings

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

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee 12th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in T4.60-CR6 The Livingstone Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
2. **Local government in Scotland: Financial bulletin 2022/23:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Jo Armstrong, Chair, and Andrew Burns, Deputy Chair, Accounts Commission;
Carol Calder, Audit Director, Blyth Deans, Senior Manager, and Lucy Jones, Audit Manager, Audit Scotland.
3. **Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the Bill at Stage 2.
4. **Local government in Scotland: Financial bulletin 2022/23:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee 14th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:15 am in T4.40-CR2 The Fairfax Somerville Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Climate Change Committee – Progress in reducing emissions in Scotland – 2023 Report to Parliament:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Chris Stark, Chief Executive, and Professor Keith Bell, Scotland Champion, Climate Change Committee.
3. **Climate Change Committee – Progress in reducing emissions in Scotland – 2023 Report to Parliament:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.
4. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme and an initial approach to its scrutiny of the Land Reform (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee 13th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T1.40-CR5 The Smith Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 5, 6 and 7 in private.
2. **Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Morna Grandison, Director of Interventions, Law Society of Scotland;
Gavin MacColl KC, Faculty of Advocates;
Dr Alisdair MacPherson, Senior Lecturer in Commercial Law, University of Aberdeen;
Professor Gareth Morgan, Charity Law Association;
and then from—
Morna Grandison, Director of Interventions, Law Society of Scotland;
Sandy Lamb, Partner, Lindsays;

Ken Pattullo, Partner, Begbies Traynor.

3. **Instruments subject to affirmative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Scottish Tribunals \(Listed Tribunals\) Regulations 2024](#) (SSI 2024/Draft)
4. **Instruments subject to negative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Plant Health \(Export Certification\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Order 2024](#) (SSI 2024/86)
[Town and Country Planning \(General Permitted Development\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Order 2024](#) (SSI 2024/102)
5. **Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the delegated powers provisions in this Bill after Stage 2.
6. **Committee correspondence:** The Committee will consider correspondence received from the Minister for Parliamentary Business.
7. **Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier in the meeting.

Finance and Public Administration Committee 14th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in TG.40-CR1 The Burns Room

1. **Aggregates Tax and Devolved Taxes Administration (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft Stage 1 report.
2. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee 10th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in T1.60-CR4 The Clerk Maxwell Room

1. **Public petitions: PE01787** The Committee will consider the following continued petition—
The use of Makaton sign language in the legal system.
2. **Suicide Prevention in Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Rob Gowans, Policy and Public Affairs Manager, Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE);
Neil Mathers, Executive Director, Samaritans Scotland;
John Gibson, Chief Executive Officer, The Canmore Trust;
Dan Farthing, Head of Suicide Prevention, Scottish Action for Mental Health (SAMH);
Jason Schroeder, Chief Executive Officer, Scottish Men's Sheds Association;
Rebecca Hoffman, National Policy Lead, LGBT Health and Wellbeing;
Aidan Mitchell, Policy and Public Affairs Officer, Change Mental Health;
Dr Richmond Davies, Head of Public Health Analytics and Intelligence, Public Health Scotland.
3. **Suicide Prevention in Scotland (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard under agenda item 2.

Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

Web site: <https://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:

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees>

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