

Tuesday 26 March 2024

# Business Bulletin

*Iris Ghnothaichean*

Revised at 1:15pm



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Today's Business

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-12668, today's business will be as follows:

### Meeting of the Parliament

**2:00 pm** Time for Reflection: Rev Neil Glover, Minister for Aberfeldy, Dull & Weem, Grantully, Logierait and Strathtay

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**followed by** Topical Questions

**followed by** Ministerial Statement: Working Towards a Tobacco-free Scotland by 2034 and Tackling Youth Vaping

**followed by** Stage 1 Debate: Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

**followed by** Scottish Government Debate: Widening Access - Equality of Access to Higher Education

**followed by** Committee Announcements

**followed by** Business Motions

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5:30 pm** Decision Time

**followed by** Members' Business — S6M-12066 Foysoi Choudhury: Brain Tumour Awareness Month

### Committee Meetings

**9:00am** Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

**9:15am** Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

**9:30am** Finance and Public Administration Committee

**9:30am** Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

**10:00am** Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

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

## Meeting of the Parliament

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-12668, today's business will be as follows:

**2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Rev Neil Glover, Minister for Aberfeldy, Dull & Weem, Grantully, Logierait and Strathtay**

**followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions**

**[S6M-12668](#) 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 Tuesday 26 March 2024—

after

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Working Towards a Tobacco-free Scotland by 2034 and Tackling Youth Vaping

delete

5.00 pm Decision Time

and insert

5.30 pm Decision Time

**followed by Topical Questions**

**1. Audrey Nicoll:** To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman's report on how women born in the 1950s were affected by increases to the state pension age, and given that women are more likely to live in poverty than men, what assessment it has made of the potential impact that changes to the state pension age have had on the poverty rate among women in Scotland. ([S6T-01903](#))

**2. Roz McCall:** To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to reports that Scotland has become the "worst country in Europe" for unqualified beauticians injecting customers with cosmetic treatments. ([S6T-01893](#))

**3. Katy Clark:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on what action it is taking to tackle child poverty. ([S6T-01899](#))

**followed by Ministerial Statement: Working Towards a Tobacco-free Scotland by 2034 and Tackling Youth Vaping**

## followed by Stage 1 Debate: Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

**[S6M-12639 Shirley-Anne Somerville: Gender Representation on Public Boards \(Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Bill](#)**—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill.

## followed by Scottish Government Debate: Widening Access - Equality of Access to Higher Education

**[S6M-12642 Graeme Dey: Widening Access - Equality of Access to Higher Education](#)**—That the Parliament notes the recent report by the Commissioner on Fair Access; welcomes the progress that has been made to widen access to university, with a 45% increase in students from the most deprived communities entering university since 2013-14; is grateful for the work of the higher education sector in achieving this success; agrees with the commissioner's finding that increasing the share of students from the most deprived areas has not led to fewer students progressing to higher education from less deprived areas; reaffirms its commitment to widening access and to meeting the 2026 interim target and the 2030 target, which it agrees will require concerted effort from government and institutions to meet this challenge; agrees that it is vital that higher education continues to be based on the ability to learn rather than the ability to pay, and further agrees that undergraduate students in Scotland should not be expected to pay any form of tuition fees, whether up front or in the form of charges during their course or after graduation, such as graduate endowments or graduate taxes.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

**[S6M-12642.1 Liam Kerr: Widening Access - Equality of Access to Higher Education](#)**—As an amendment to motion S6M-12642 in the name of Graeme Dey (Widening Access - Equality of Access to Higher Education), leave out from ", and further" to end and insert "; acknowledges that a cap on university places for Scottish domiciled students exists due to the Scottish Government's underfunding of Scotland's institutions; condemns the decision to cut at least a further 1,200 university places for Scottish domiciled students next year, and calls on the Scottish Government to recognise that the current funding model is unsustainable, and that it needs to build a consensus around an optimum model that commands broad public support to end the underfunding of Scotland's universities and ensures that world-leading university education can be offered to all who want it, regardless of means and background."

**[S6M-12642.2 Pam Duncan-Glancy: Widening Access - Equality of Access to Higher Education](#)**—As an amendment to motion S6M-12642 in the name of Graeme Dey (Widening Access - Equality of Access to Higher Education), insert at end "; notes the Scottish Government's own Equality and Fairer Scotland Budget Statement accompanying the 2024-25 budget, which warns of 'a significant risk that the reduction in the HE resource budget will increase competition for remaining university places, which could disadvantage learners from socio-economically disadvantaged areas with lower prior attainment'; understands that this funding crisis extends to the whole tertiary education sector, with Audit Scotland noting that it will be 'difficult for colleges to balance delivering high-quality learning at the volume expected while contributing to other Scottish Government priorities'; calls on the Scottish Government to set out its plans to meet its commitment in the 2023-24 Programme for Government to lead development of a new post-16 education funding model, and believes that a sustainably funded tertiary education sector is crucial to the future of 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-12066](#) Foysoil Choudhury: Brain Tumour Awareness Month**—That the Parliament notes that March 2024 is Brain Tumour Awareness Month, a month dedicated to raising awareness of what it sees as the importance of brain tumour research and shining a light on the patient population across Scotland; understands that one in three people know someone affected by what it considers to be this devastating disease; further understands that, unlike in many other cancers, brain tumour survival statistics have changed little in over a generation, and notes the belief that brain tumours must be treated as a clinical and strategic priority by government, and that, as brain tumours are recognised as a "cancer of unmet need", money must be ring fenced to support the discovery science that, it understands, could transform patient outcomes in the field.

## Committee Meetings

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

### Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee 12th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in T4.40-CR2 The Fairfax Somerville Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 4, 5, 6 and 7 in private.
2. **Natural capital finance:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Stuart Greenwood, Partner, Rural Property and Business, Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP;  
Olly Hughes, Managing Director, Forestry, Gresham House;  
Joel Paterson, Head of Natural Capital, Scotland, Strutt & Parker;  
Stephen Young, Director of Policy, Scottish Land and Estates;  
and then from—  
Dr Naomi Beingessner, Social Researcher in Transformative Land Management, The James Hutton Institute;  
Dr Lydia Cole, Lecturer, University of St Andrews;  
Dr Josh Doble, Policy Manager, Community Land Scotland;  
Jo Pike, Deputy Chair, Scottish Forum on Natural Capital and Chief Executive, Scottish Wildlife Trust.
3. **UK subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider a proposal by the Scottish Government to consent to the UK Government legislating in a devolved area as set out in the following UK statutory instrument proposal—  
The Green Gas Support Scheme Regulations 2021
4. **Natural capital finance:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.
5. **Automated Vehicles Bill (UK Parliament legislation):** The Committee will consider a draft report on legislative consent memorandum [LCM-S6-42](#) and supplementary legislative consent memorandum [LCM-S6-42a](#).
6. **Proposed national outcomes:** The Committee will consider correspondence from the Convener of the Finance and Public Administration Committee in relation to parliamentary scrutiny of the proposed national outcomes.
7. **Land Reform (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider a draft call for views.

### Health, Social Care and Sport Committee 10th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:15 am in TG.60-CR3 The Fleming Room

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 5 and 6 in private, and whether to consider, in private at future meetings, a draft report on the Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Alcohol (Minimum Pricing) (Scotland) Act 2012 (Continuation) Order 2024 [draft] and the Alcohol (Minimum Price per Unit) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 [draft] from—  
Christina McKelvie, Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy, Orlando Heijmer-Mason, Drugs Policy Division, Katherine Myant, Health and Social Care Analysis, and James Wilson, Population Health Strategy and Improvement, Scottish Government.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** Christina McKelvie (Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy) to move—  
S6M-12220—That the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee recommends that the Alcohol (Minimum Pricing) (Scotland) Act 2012 (Continuation) Order 2024 [draft] be approved.  
S6M-12221—That the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee recommends that the Alcohol (Minimum Price per Unit) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 [draft] be approved.
4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—  
[Regulation of Care \(Social Service Workers\) \(Scotland\) Order 2024](#)
5. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider a draft report on the Alcohol (Minimum Pricing) (Scotland) Act 2012 (Continuation) Order 2024 [draft] and the Alcohol (Minimum Price per Unit) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2024 [draft].
6. **National Care Service (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 2.

### Finance and Public Administration Committee 12th Meeting, 2024

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

1. **Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill Financial Memorandum:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Graham Thomson, Head of Legislation and Divisional Development, and Steven Bunch, Bill Team Leader, Scottish Government.
2. **Scottish Fiscal Commission: Fiscal Sustainability Perspectives: Climate Change:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Professor Graeme Roy, Chair, Professor David Ulph, Commissioner, John Ireland, Chief Executive, and Claire Murdoch, Head of Fiscal Sustainability and Public Funding, Scottish Fiscal Commission.
3. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.

### Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee 10th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T4.60-CR6 The Livingstone Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 4 and 5 in private.
2. **Community Wealth Building:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Matthew Brown, Council Leader, Preston City Council;  
Rob Davidson, Strategy Manager, Community Wealth Building, South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE);  
Stacey Dingwall, Head of Policy and External Affairs, Federation of Small Businesses Scotland;  
Iain Gulland, Chief Executive, Zero Waste Scotland;  
Angus Hardie, Director, Scottish Community Alliance;  
Louise Kirk, Representative, Ayrshire Community Wealth Building Commission;  
Neil McInroy, Chair, Economic Development Association Scotland;  
Linda Somerville, Deputy General Secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress.
3. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instruments—



[Non-Domestic Rates \(Islands and Remote Areas Hospitality Relief\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2024](#) (SSI 2024/55)

[Non-Domestic Rates \(Transitional Relief\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2024](#) (SSI 2024/59)

4. **Community Wealth Building:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
5. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

### Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee 11th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in T1.40-CR5 The Smith Room

1. **Declaration of interests:** Tim Eagle will be invited to declare any relevant interests.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 5, 6 and 7 in private.
3. **Instruments subject to negative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—  
[Police Pension Scheme \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2024](#) (SSI 2024/80)  
[Meat Preparations \(Import Conditions\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2024](#) (SSI 2024/81)
4. **Instruments not subject to any parliamentary procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—  
[Planning \(Scotland\) Act 2019 \(Commencement No. 13 and Saving Provisions\) Regulations 2024](#) (SSI 2024/79 (C.7))  
[Hate Crime and Public Order \(Scotland\) Act 2021 \(Commencement and Transitional Provision\) Regulations 2024](#) (SSI 2024/82 (C.8))
5. **Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Bill :** The Committee will consider the delegated powers provisions in this Bill after Stage 2.
6. **Quarterly report:** The Committee will consider a draft report for the parliamentary quarter from 8 December 2023 to 29 February 2024.
7. **Judicial Factors (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1

### Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee 9th Meeting, 2024

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

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Legal Aid (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] from—  
Siobhian Brown, Minister for Victims and Community Safety, Emma Thomson, Solicitor, Legal Directorate, and Katie Case, Legal Aid Policy Officer, Access to Justice Team, Scottish Government.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** Siobhian Brown (Minister for Victims and Community Safety) to move—S6M-12219—That the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee recommends that the Legal Aid (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [draft] be approved.
3. **HIV anti-stigma campaign/Achieving Zero New Transmission of HIV in Scotland by 2030:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Jenni Minto, Minister for Public Health and Women's Health, and Rebekah Carton, Sexual Health, BBV and Respiratory Surveillance Team Leader, Scottish Government.

4. **HIV anti-stigma campaign/Achieving Zero New Transmission of HIV in Scotland by 2030 (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard under agenda item 3.
5. **Suicide Prevention Strategy (in private):** The Committee will consider its approach to the inquiry.
6. **Pre-Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 (in private):** The Committee will consider its approach.



## Contacts for Further Information

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Committee web sites at:

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