

Wednesday 29 October 2025

# Business Bulletin

*Iris Ghnothaichean*

Revised at 11:29am



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Today's Business

### Meeting of the Parliament

**2:00 pm** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**2:00 pm** Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

**followed by** Ministerial Statement: Ensuring Safe Maternity Services in Scotland

**followed by** Stage 3 Proceedings: Land Reform (Scotland) Bill

**followed by** Business Motions

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**10:00 pm** Decision Time

### Committee Meetings

**8:30am** Education, Children and Young People Committee

**9:00am** Rural Affairs and Islands Committee

**9:30am** Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee

**9:30am** Criminal Justice Committee

**9:30am** Public Audit Committee

**10:00am** Economy and Fair Work Committee

## Meeting of the Parliament

**2:00 pm** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**2:00 pm** Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

### Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic

- 1. Douglas Lumsden:** To ask the Scottish Government, regarding the potential impact on regional economies and employment, what assessment it has made of the extent to which projected transmission-related job opportunities are dependent on the consenting outcome for proposed overhead line projects within the current network upgrade programme. ([S6O-05058](#))
- 2. Meghan Gallacher:** To ask the Scottish Government, regarding the potential impact on businesses and the economy, what steps it is taking to ensure that business and regulatory impact assessments properly reflect the real-world impact of new policies on small and medium-sized enterprises. ([S6O-05059](#))
- 3. Davy Russell:** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on any potential impact of the recently reported decline in the number of computer studies teachers on employment in the technology and digital sectors. ([S6O-05060](#))
- 4. Tess White:** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on whether British Sign Language receives parity of treatment with Gaelic within its Languages portfolio, in light of evidence given by stakeholders to the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, as part of its inquiry into the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015, that, although BSL plans are delivered locally by listed authorities, strong national coordination, oversight and dedicated funding are still essential if the aims of the Act are to be met. ([S6O-05061](#))
- 5. Jamie Halcro Johnston:** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions the economy secretary has had with ministerial colleagues regarding the impact on the tourism sector of any new taxes or regulation. ([S6O-05062](#))
- 6. Katy Clark:** [Withdrawn] ([S6O-05063](#))
- 7. Karen Adam:** [Not Lodged] ([S6O-05064](#))
- 8. James Dornan:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on progress towards delivering the Clyde Mission, including what its impact has been on the local economy and job creation. ([S6O-05065](#))

### Finance and Local Government

- 1. Liz Smith:** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the validity of HMRC's analysis of Scottish Income Tax statistics, including the July 2025 outturn publication. ([S6O-05066](#))
- 2. Emma Roddick:** [Not Lodged] ([S6O-05067](#))
- 3. Emma Harper:** [Not Lodged] ([S6O-05068](#))
- 4. Audrey Nicoll:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the progress being made against its Public Service Reform Strategy. ([S6O-05069](#))
- 5. Maggie Chapman:** To ask the Scottish Government how much it will allocate in its forthcoming Budget to support older people to live independently in their local communities. ([S6O-05070](#))

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|--|--|---|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Today's Business<br><i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i> | Future Business<br><i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i> | Motions & Questions<br><i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i> | Legislation<br><i>Reachdas</i> | Other<br><i>Eile</i> |
| Chamber   Seòmar                                 |  |   |                                |                      |

**6. Dr Sandesh Gulhane:** To ask the Scottish Government, as part of setting its forthcoming Budget, whether it will commit to allocating 10% of the total NHS budget to primary care, in light of reported concerns regarding a 6% real-terms reduction in spending on primary care since 2021-22 and under-investment being a key driver of GP practice closures, recruitment challenges and increased pressure on hospitals. ([S6O-05071](#)) **R**

**7. Clare Haughey:** To ask the Scottish Government what engagement it has had with local authorities regarding their implementation of Scottish Government legislation. ([S6O-05072](#))

**8. Rachael Hamilton:** To ask the Scottish Government when it last met with Scottish Borders Council, and whether issues regarding the future of local facilities, including the potential closure of up to 30 sport and leisure facilities, were discussed. ([S6O-05073](#))

**followed by** Ministerial Statement: Ensuring Safe Maternity Services in Scotland

**followed by** Stage 3 Proceedings: Land Reform (Scotland) Bill

**followed by** Business Motions

[S6M-19441](#) **Graeme Dey: Business Programme—** That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 4 November 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions

*followed by* Social Justice and Social Security Committee Debate: Financial Considerations When Leaving an Abusive Relationship

*followed by* Stage 3 Proceedings: Land Reform (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

7.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 5 November 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands; Health and Social Care

*followed by* Scottish Labour Party Business

*followed by* Business Motions

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| Today's Business<br><i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i> | Future Business<br><i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i> | Motions & Questions<br><i>Gluasadan agus Ceistean</i> | Legislation<br><i>Reachdas</i> | Other<br><i>Eile</i> |
| Chamber   Seòmar                                 |  |   |                                |                      |

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.10 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 6 November 2025

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 Portfolio Questions: Social Justice and Housing

*followed by* Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Debate: Strengthening Committees' Effectiveness

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 11 November 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

4.15 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 12 November 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

|  |  |  |                                |                      |
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| Today's Business<br><i>Gnothaichean an-diugh</i> | Future Business<br><i>Gnothaichean ri teachd</i> | Motions & Questions<br><i>Glusadan agus Ceistean</i> | Legislation<br><i>Reachdas</i> | Other<br><i>Eile</i> |
| Chamber   Seòmar                                 |  |  |                                |                      |

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

*followed by* Scottish Green Party Business

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.10 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 13 November 2025

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 Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Parliament (Recall and Removal of Members) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 3 November 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word “except” the words “to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or” are inserted.

**S6M-19442 Graeme Dey: Stage 1 Extension—** That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Scottish Parliament (Recall and Removal of Members) Bill at stage 1 be extended to 14 November 2025.

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**S6M-19443 Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Aggregates Tax (Administration) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

**S6M-19444 Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Councillors) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

**S6M-19445 Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2025 [draft] be approved.

**[S6M-19446](#) Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Members of the House of Commons) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

**[S6M-19447](#) Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Members of the House of Lords) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

**[S6M-19448](#) Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act (Postponement of Tax Pending a Review or Appeal) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

**[S6M-19449](#) Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Free-Range Poultrymeat Marketing Standards (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

**[S6M-19450](#) Graeme Dey: Approval of SSI—** That the Parliament agrees that the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act (Record Keeping) Amendment Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

**[S6M-19451](#) Graeme Dey: Suspension of Standing Orders—** That the Parliament agrees that, for the purposes of consideration of the second supplementary legislative consent memorandum on the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, Rule 9B.3.5 of Standing Orders is suspended.

**10:00 pm** Decision Time

## Committee Meetings

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

### Education, Children and Young People Committee 30th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 8:30AM in TG.40-CR1 The Burns Room

- 1. Restraint and Seclusion in Schools (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—  
Jenny Gilruth, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Alison Taylor, Interim Director for Learning, Stella Smith, Head of Supporting Learners Policy Unit, and Robert Eckhart, Supporting Learners Policy Team Leader, Scottish Government;  
Nico McKenzie-Juetten, Head of School Education Branch, Scottish Government Legal Directorate.
- 2. University of Dundee:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Professor Nigel Seaton, Interim Principal and Vice-Chancellor and Lee Hamill, Interim Finance Director, University of Dundee.
- 3. Evidence Session (In Private):** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda items 1 and 2.

### Rural Affairs and Islands Committee 29th Meeting, 2025

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

- 1. Crofting and Scottish Land Court Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—  
Dr Josh Doble, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Community Land Scotland;  
Sandra Holmes, Head of Community Assets, Highlands and Islands Enterprise;  
Phil Knott, Scotland Chair, Nature Friendly Farming Network;  
James MacKessack-Leitch, Policy and Practice Lead, Scottish Land Commission;  
Jackie McCreery, Legal Adviser, Scottish Land and Estates;  
Rhianna Montgomery, Rural Business Policy Manager, National Farmers Union Scotland;  
Anne Murray, Chief Officer, Economic and Community Regeneration, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar;  
Donna Smith, Chief Executive, Scottish Crofting Federation.
- 2. Subordinate legislation:**  
  
The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—  
  
[Rural Support \(Simplification and Improvement\) \(Data Publication\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/274)
- 3. Crofting and Scottish Land Court Bill (In Private):** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

**4. Work programme (In Private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.

## Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee 16th Meeting, 2025

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

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 5 in private.
2. **Emergency cardiac care thematic evidence session:** The Committee will take evidence on thematic emergency cardiac care issues in Scotland that have been raised in multiple petitions. The Committee will take evidence from—  
 Kym Kestell, Policy and Public Affairs Officer, British Heart Foundation Scotland;  
 Kirsty Morrison, Policy and Campaigns Officer, Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland;  
 Steven Short, Programme Lead, Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest, Scottish Ambulance Service.

### 3. Consideration of continued petitions:

The Committee will consider the following continued petitions—

- PE1953: Review Education Support staff roles;
- PE1999: Fully implement the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- PE2006: Review and simplify the legislation in relation to dismissal of property factors;
- PE2033: Introduce a full ban on disposable vapes;
- PE2073: Ensure accurate information is used when issuing court summons;
- PE2084: Allow alkaline hydrolysis; and
- PE2131: Grant Scottish rivers, including the River Clyde, the legal right to personhood.

### 4. Consideration of new petitions:

The Committee will consider the following new petitions—

- PE2172: Allow late proposals to alter the Council Tax Valuation Band in exceptional circumstances;
- PE2175: Immediate ban on the sale and use of Disposable (Instant) Barbeques in Scotland;
- PE2176: Introduce penalties for failing to comply with Mental Welfare Commission recommendations related to duty of candour; and
- PE2177: Support and fund mobility services.



5. **Consideration of evidence:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.

## Criminal Justice Committee 28th Meeting, 2025

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

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Early Release of Prisoners (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] and the Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Amendment Rules 2025 (SSI 2025/277) from—  
Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, Fiona Thom, Head of Parole, Release and Reintegration, and Ruth Swanson, Solicitor, Legal Directorate, Scottish Government;  
Teresa Medhurst, Chief Executive, Scottish Prison Service.
2. **Subordinate legislation:**  
  
Angela Constance (Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs) to move—  
  
S6M-19222—That the Criminal Justice Committee recommends that the Early Release of Prisoners (Scotland) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.
3. **Subordinate legislation:**  
  
The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—  
  
[Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions \(Scotland\) Amendment Rules 2025](#) (SSI 2025/277)
4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland General Regulatory Chamber (Police Appeals) (Procedure) Regulations 2025 [draft], the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland General Regulatory Chamber Police Appeals and Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Composition) Regulations 2025 [draft] and the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions and Members of the Police Appeals Tribunal) Regulations 2025 from—  
Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, Alasdair Thomson, Senior Tribunals Policy Officer, and Emma Thomson, Solicitor, Legal Directorate, Scottish Government.
5. **Subordinate legislation:**  
  
Angela Constance (Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs) to move—  
  
S6M-18945—That the Criminal Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland General Regulatory Chamber (Police Appeals) (Procedure) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.  
  
S6M-18946—That the Criminal Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland General Regulatory Chamber Police Appeals and Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Composition) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

S6M-19179—That the Criminal Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions and Members of the Police Appeals Tribunal) Regulations 2025 [draft] be approved.

6. **Prostitution (Offences and Support) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—  
 Dr Niina Vuolajärvi, Assistant Professor in International Migration, London School of Economics;  
 Ruth Breslin, Director, Sexual Exploitation Research and Policy Institute, Republic of Ireland;  
 Dr Larissa Sandy, Associate Professor of Criminology, University of Nottingham;  
 Professor Jo Phoenix, Professor of Criminology, University of Reading.
7. **Evidence Session (In Private):** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 6.
8. **Inquiry into the harm caused by substance misuse in Scottish Prisons (In Private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.

## Public Audit Committee 28th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:30AM in TG.60-CR3 The Fleming Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take agenda items 3, 4 and 5 in private.
2. **Flooding in communities: Moving towards flood resilience:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
 Roy Brannen, Director-General Net Zero, Diarmund Ó Néill, Interim Director for Environment and Forestry, Anne Aitken, Deputy Director for Environmental Quality and Resilience, and Michelagh O'Neill, Flooding Team Leader, Scottish Government;  
 Nicole Paterson, Chief Executive Officer and Alex Flucker, Chief Operating Officer, Data, Evidence, and Innovation, Scottish Environment Protection Agency;  
 Gareth Dixon, Policy Manager, Local Government Finance and Mark Boyd, Head of Finance, North Ayrshire Council, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA);  
 Will Burnish, Senior Engineer, Moray Council and Lead Local Authority Forum for Flooding, Scottish Collaboration of Transport Specialists (Flooding).
3. **Flooding in communities: Moving towards flood resilience:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard at agenda item 2 and take further evidence from—  
 Stephen Boyle, Auditor General for Scotland;  
 Cornilius Chikwama, Audit Director, Audit Scotland.
4. **Flooding in communities: Moving towards flood resilience:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard at agenda items 2 and 3 and agree any further action it wishes to take.
5. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

## Economy and Fair Work Committee 29th Meeting, 2025

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

- Declaration of interests:** Sarah Boyack will be invited to declare any relevant interests.
- Decisions on taking business in private:**

The Committee will decide whether to take items 4 and 5 in private, and whether consideration of its work programme should be taken in private at future meetings.

- Consumer Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
David Wilson, Chair, Sam Ghibaldan, Chief Executive, and Sue Bomphray, Director of Operations and Partnerships, Consumer Scotland.
- Evidence Session:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 3.
- Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Contacts for Further Information

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|   |      |
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Committee web sites at: <https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees>

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