

Thursday 29 January 2026

# Business Bulletin

*Iris Ghnothaichean*

Revised at 4:09pm



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Today's Business

### Meeting of the Parliament

**11:40 am** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**11:40 am** General Questions

**12:00 pm** First Minister's Questions

**followed by** Members' Business: Kenneth Gibson: Holocaust Memorial Day 2026, Bridging Generations

**2:15 pm** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**2:15 pm** Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

**followed by** Stage 1 Debate: Restraint and Seclusion in Schools (Scotland) Bill

**followed by** Stage 1 Debate: Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill

**followed by** Scottish Government Debate: Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Fruit and Vegetables) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft]

**followed by** Stage 3 Proceedings: Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill

**followed by** Business Motions

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**6:25 pm** Decision Time

**followed by** Members' Business: Michelle Thomson: Building Links with Bhutan

### Committee Meetings

**8:30am** Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

**8:30am** Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

**9:00am** Social Justice and Social Security Committee

## Meeting of the Parliament

11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11:40 am General Questions

- 1. Paul McLennan:** To ask the Scottish Government what progress it has made on improving accommodation standards in relation to legislation that currently exists in Scotland for seasonal agricultural workers. ([S6O-05435](#))
- 2. Dr Pam Gosal MBE:** To ask the Scottish Government, regarding any implications for its policy on single-sex spaces in the NHS in Scotland, what its response is to the recent ruling in the case brought by eight nurses at Darlington Memorial Hospital. ([S6O-05436](#))
- 3. Maggie Chapman:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it will take to sustain the projects aiming to tackle poverty and social exclusion in the North East Scotland region, that are currently supported by the Investing in Communities Fund, beyond March 2026. ([S6O-05437](#))
- 4. Jamie Greene:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will reconsider its stated position of opposing the construction of new nuclear power stations in Scotland. ([S6O-05438](#))
- 5. Graham Simpson:** To ask the Scottish Government how it plans to protect hospice care services over the coming year. ([S6O-05439](#))
- 6. Colin Beattie:** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it had with non-medical aesthetic practitioners regarding training opportunities for the sector in advance of the introduction of the Non-surgical Procedures and Functions of Medical Reviewers (Scotland) Bill. ([S6O-05440](#))
- 7. Liz Smith:** To ask the Scottish Government what support it will provide to young athletes who will be representing Scotland in sport in 2026. ([S6O-05441](#))
- 8. Jackie Dunbar:** To ask the Scottish Government how it is working to support Scottish businesses, in light of the potential impact of additional US trade tariffs on the Scottish economy. ([S6O-05442](#))

12:00 pm First Minister's Questions

- 1. Russell Findlay:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-04613](#))
- 2. Anas Sarwar:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-04614](#))
- 3. Alex Cole-Hamilton:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-04615](#))
- 4. Willie Coffey:** To ask the First Minister how the Scottish Government's new national housing agency will support its work to deliver more affordable homes. ([S6F-04631](#))
- 5. Liz Smith:** To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government is taking to improve transparency and accountability within NHS boards. ([S6F-04616](#))
- 6. Clare Haughey:** To ask the First Minister how the Scottish Government's launch of walk-in GP clinics will support its work to bring down waiting times and ensure everyone gets the care they need. ([S6F-04626](#)) R

**followed by** Members' Business: Kenneth Gibson: Holocaust Memorial Day 2026, Bridging Generations

**S6M-20318 Kenneth Gibson: Holocaust Memorial Day 2026, Bridging Generations**—That the Parliament recognises that 27 January is Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD); acknowledges that the Holocaust was the brutal and barbaric murder of six million Jewish men, women and children by

Germany's Nazi regime, and its collaborators, during the Second World War; understands that the date of HMD is the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration and extermination camp, where 1.1 million people were murdered, 90% of them Jewish; notes that the official theme for HMD 2026 is "Bridging Generations", as a reminder that the collective responsibility of all to remember does not end with the survivors, it lives on through their children, grandchildren and all people; recognises that this encourages all to engage actively with the past, and to listen, learn and carry those lessons forward to build a bridge between memory and action, and between history and hope for the future; is aware that the Holocaust is a shockingly dark chapter in human history, and considers that HMD is a crucially important event in the calendar, which aims to highlight the reason why its lessons can never be forgotten and why a zero tolerance approach must always be taken against antisemitism and all forms of prejudice.

## 2:15 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**S6M-20610 Graeme Dey: Revision to Business Programme**—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business for Thursday 29 January 2026—

after

*followed by Scottish Government Debate: Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Fruit and Vegetables) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft]*

insert

*followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill*

delete

5.25 pm Decision Time

and insert

6.25 pm Decision Time

## 2:15 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

**The Presiding Officer has grouped the following questions: Questions 2, 4 and 6.**

### Education and Skills

**1. Martin Whitfield:** [Not Lodged] ([S6O-05443](#))

**2. Alexander Stewart:** To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the availability of permanent teaching posts for newly qualified teachers. ([S6O-05444](#))

**3. Alexander Burnett:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to improve the recruitment of teachers in rural areas. ([S6O-05445](#))

**4. Willie Rennie:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to ensure that newly qualified teachers are able to secure stable, long-term employment, in light of recent reports that only one in four newly qualified teachers secured permanent posts in 2024-25. ([S6O-05446](#))

**5. George Adam:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the establishment of the Centre for Teaching Excellence. ([S6O-05447](#))

**6. Stephen Kerr:** To ask the Scottish Government how many new teachers, who qualified in the last three years, are now in permanent teaching posts. ([S6O-05448](#))

**7. James Dornan:** [Withdrawn] ([S6O-05449](#))

**8. Michael Matheson:** [Not Lodged] ([S6O-05450](#))

**followed by** Stage 1 Debate: Restraint and Seclusion in Schools (Scotland) Bill

**S6M-20519 Daniel Johnson: Restraint and Seclusion in Schools (Scotland) Bill**—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Restraint and Seclusion in Schools (Scotland) Bill.

**followed by** Stage 1 Debate: Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill

**S6M-20527 Mark Ruskell: Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill**—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Greyhound Racing (Offences) (Scotland) Bill.

**followed by** Scottish Government Debate: Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Fruit and Vegetables) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft]

**S6M-20579 Jim Fairlie: Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Fruit and Vegetables) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft]**—That the Parliament agrees that the Common Organisation of the Markets in Agricultural Products (Fruit and Vegetables) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2026 [draft] be approved.

**followed by** Stage 3 Proceedings: Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill

**S6M-20549 Gillian Martin: Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill**—That the Parliament agrees that the Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill be passed.

**followed by** Business Motions

**S6M-20611 Graeme Dey: Business Programme**—That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 3 February 2026

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Prostitution (Offences and Support) (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Desecration of War Memorials (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Motion on Legislative Consent: Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill – UK Legislation

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.55 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 4 February 2026

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

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

*followed by* Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

*followed by* Motion on Reconsideration of a Bill: European Charter of Local Self-Government (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.40 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 5 February 2026

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

*followed by* Members' Business

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Climate Action and Energy, and Transport

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Ecocide (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Non-surgical Procedures and Functions of Medical Reviewers (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 10 February 2026

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions

*followed by* Stage 3 Proceedings: Community Wealth Building (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 11 February 2026

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

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.10 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 12 February 2026

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* Stage 1 Debate: Budget (Scotland) (No. 5) 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 2 February 2026, 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.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendment

**S6M-20611.1 Ash Regan: Business Programme**—As an amendment to motion S6M-20611 in the name of Graeme Dey (Business Programme), leave out from "*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Prostitution (Offences and Support) (Scotland) Bill" to "5.55 pm Decision Time" and insert—

"*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Desecration of War Memorials (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Prostitution (Offences and Support) (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Motion on Legislative Consent: Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill – UK Legislation

*followed by* Committee Announcements

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

6.30 pm Decision Time".

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**6:25 pm** Decision Time

**followed by** Members' Business: Michelle Thomson: Building Links with Bhutan

**S6M-19514 Michelle Thomson: Building Links with Bhutan**—That the Parliament welcomes the financial and administrative support from the Tam O'Shanter Trust for the recent parliamentary visit to Bhutan, and thanks Bhutan Homestay and the Loden Foundation for the additional in-country support, including arranging insightful meetings with entrepreneurs, parliamentarians and others; notes that Bhutan has a population approaching 800,000 and is set amidst the Himalayas, bordered by India and Tibet, and that its culture and governance are very different from Scotland; acknowledges its vibrant Buddhist heritage and magnificent cultural assets, including its numerous fortresses and temples, the best known of which is The Paro Taktsang, also known as the Tiger's Nest, which is a legendary monastery that hangs precariously on the edge of a 3,120m-tall cliff; appreciates that Bhutan is notable for its use of a national happiness index to assess progress and is ranked as one of the top 20 least corrupt countries in the world; understands that its political and institutional development is less mature and very different from Scotland's, but that there are areas where a sharing of innovative practice may prove mutually beneficial, such as on climate change, population retention, entrepreneurship, and education and skills; commends the work undertaken by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh to document and conserve Bhutan's rich plant diversity; notes the view that there are opportunities to further develop relationships with Bhutan and that active consideration should be given to forming a Cross Party Group on Bhutan, with members from both Scotland and Bhutan, and including academic and cultural communities; further notes the view that there could be a useful focus on developing cultural links to enjoy and appreciate the countries' different cultural assets, and notes the invitation for the Loden Foundation to work with friends in Scotland, including those in the Falkirk East constituency.

## Committee Meetings

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

### Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee

#### 4th Meeting, 2026

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

- 1. Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
- 2. Historic Environment Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Angus Robertson, Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture and Kenneth Hogg, Director for Culture and External Affairs, Scottish Government.
- 3. Budget Scrutiny 2026-27: funding for culture:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Lucy Casot, Chief Executive Officer, Museums Galleries Scotland;  
Councillor Richard Bell, Resource Spokesperson and Mathew Sweeney, Chief officer, COSLA;  
Steven Roth, Executive Director, Scottish Ballet;  
Billy Garrett, Director of Culture, Tourism and Events, Glasgow Life.
- 4. Evidence Session (In Private):** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda items 2 and 3.

### Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

#### 4th Meeting, 2026

The Committee will meet at 8:30AM in T4.60-CR6 The Livingstone Room

- 1. Scottish Parliament (Recall and Removal of Members) Bill:** The Committee will consider the Bill at Stage 2.

### Social Justice and Social Security Committee

#### 4th Meeting, 2026

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

- 1. Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 6, 7 and 8 in private.
- 2. Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on:  
[The Domestic Abuse \(Protection\) \(Scotland\) Act 2021 \(Consequential and Supplementary Amendments\) Regulations 2026 \[draft\]](#)  
[The Removing from Heritable Property \(Form of Charge\) Amendment \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/402\)](#)  
[The Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. \(Decrees for Removing from Heritable Property\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/403\)](#)

[The Scottish Secure Tenancies \(Proceedings for Possession\) \(Form of Notice\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/404\)](#) from—

Màiri McAllan, Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Pauline Brice, Housing Policy Manager, Yvette Sheppard, Head of Rented Sector Unit, and Craig McGuffie, Solicitor, Scottish Government.

**3. Subordinate legislation:** Màiri McAllan (Cabinet Secretary for Housing) to move—

S6M-20309—That the Social Justice and Social Security Committee recommends that the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 (Consequential and Supplementary Amendments) Regulations 2026 [draft] be approved.

**4. Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instruments—

[The Removing from Heritable Property \(Form of Charge\) Amendment \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/402\)](#)

[The Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. \(Decrees for Removing from Heritable Property\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Order 2025 \(SSI 2025/403\)](#)

[The Scottish Secure Tenancies \(Proceedings for Possession\) \(Form of Notice\) Amendment Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/404\)](#)

[The Social Security \(Residence in an EEA State or Switzerland\) \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025 \(SSI 2025/415\)](#)

**5. Scottish Fiscal Commission:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Professor Graeme Roy, Chair, Justine Riccomini, Commissioner, and Michael Davidson, Head of Social Security and Devolved Taxes, Scottish Fiscal Commission.

**6. Scottish Fiscal Commission:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard under item 5.

**7. Funeral Support Payment:** The Committee will consider its approach to the inquiry.

**8. Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

## 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)	5180
Legislation Team	5277
Non-Government Bills Unit (NGBU)	6124

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

**MSP Details at:** <https://www.parliament.scot/msps/current-and-previous-msps>

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