

*The rest of this Official Report will be published progressively as soon as the text is available.*

## Scottish Parliament

Thursday 14 May 2026

*[The Presiding Officer opened the meeting at 09:30]*

### Oaths and Affirmations

**The Presiding Officer (Alison Johnstone):** Good morning. I declare the seventh session of the Scottish Parliament, 2026 to 2031, duly constituted. The only item of business this morning is members' oaths and affirmations. I will call each member in turn. When a member is called, they should proceed to the well of the chamber, where they will either take the oath or make an affirmation.

**John Swinney (Perthshire North) (SNP):** Before I take my oath, let me pledge that the primary loyalty of the Scottish National Party is to the people of Scotland, in line with the constitutional principle of the sovereignty of the people.

I, John Ramsay Swinney, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Malcolm Offord (West Scotland) (Reform):** I, Malcolm Offord, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Anas Sarwar (Glasgow) (Lab):** Bi-smi llāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm.

I, Anas Sarwar, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Ross Greer (West Scotland) (Green):** The ultimate loyalty of the Scottish Greens is not to king or crown but to the people of Scotland, who are sovereign.

I, Ross John Greer, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Gillian Mackay (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Green):** My oath is to the people of Scotland, who are sovereign.

I, Gillian Audrey Mackay, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Russell Findlay (West Scotland) (Con):** I, Russell Findlay, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Edinburgh North Western) (LD):** I, Alex Cole-Hamilton, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**George Adam (Paisley) (SNP):** I, George Adam, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Karen Adam (Banffshire and Buchan Coast) (SNP):** I, Karen Adam, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

*The member repeated the solemn affirmation in British Sign Language.*

**Clare Adamson (Motherwell and Wishaw) (SNP):** I, Clare Adamson, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

Ah, Clare Adamson, depone that Ah will be leal and haud aefauld affiliation tae His Majiesty King Chairles, his heirs, and ony fa come efter him, sae help me God.

**Irshad Ahmed (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Lab):** Bi-smi llāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm.

I, Irshad Ahmed, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

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**Heather Anderson (Dundee City West) (SNP):** I, Heather Jane Dow Anderson, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Eh, Heather Jane Dow Anderson, dae solemnly, aefauldly an leal-hertitly sweir an uphud that Eh will be traist and bear true lealtie tae His Majiesty King Chairles, his heirs an successors, efter the laa.

**Tom Arthur (Renfrewshire West and Levern Valley) (SNP):** I, Tom Arthur, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Lab):** I, Jackie Baillie, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Claire Baker (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Lab):** I, Claire Baker, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Max Bannerman (Highlands and Islands) (Reform):** I, Max Mackenzie Bannerman Marshall, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**David Barratt (Cowdenbeath) (SNP):** My loyalty is to the people of the Cowdenbeath constituency. I take the following affirmation as required by law.

I, David John Barratt, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Andrew Baxter (Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch) (LD):** I, Andrew Phillip Baxter, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Colin Beattie (Midlothian North) (SNP):** I declare that my first loyalty is to the people of Scotland.

I, Colin Beattie, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Senga Beresford (South Scotland) (Reform):** I, Senga Beresford, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Neil Bibby (West Scotland) (Lab):** I, Neil Bibby, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Dawn Black (Angus North and Mearns) (SNP):** I say before I start that my first concern is for the people of Angus North and Mearns and for the people of Scotland.

I, Dawn Suzanne Thorndycraft Black, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Amanda Bland (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Reform):** I, Amanda Bland, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Steven Bonnar (Uddingston and Bellshill) (SNP):** My true allegiance is to the people of Scotland. It is they who are sovereign and it is in their interests alone that I say this affirmation.

I, Steven Bonnar, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Gary Bouse (Falkirk West) (SNP):** I, Gary Bouse, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Miles Briggs (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Con):** I, Miles Briggs, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Alan Brown (Kilmarnock and Irvine Valley) (SNP):** I, Alan Brown, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

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**Keith Brown (Clackmannanshire and Dunblane) (SNP):** I, Keith James Brown, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Siobhian Brown (Ayr) (SNP):** I, Siobhian Brown, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Holly Bruce (Glasgow Southside) (Green):** Before I begin, I declare that my affirmation is to the sovereign folk of Scotland.

I, Holly Bruce, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Ah, Holly Bruce, dee solemnly, sincerely an leal-hertitly sweir an uphaid, aat Ah wull be faithful and bear true lealtie tae His Majiesty King Chairles, his heirs an ony fa come aifter him, accordin tae laa.

**Ariane Burgess (Highlands and Islands) (Green):** I, Ariane Burgess, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Nam bheachdsa, tha muinntir na h-Alba uachdarail. Tha mise Ariane Burgess, gu sòlaimte is firinneach a' cur an cèill agus ag innse gum bi mi dileas agus fìor umhail do A Mhòrachd An Rìgh Teàrlach, a oighreachan agus a thànaistean, a rèir an lagh.

**Alexander Burnett (Aberdeenshire West) (Con):** I, Alexander James Amherst Burnett of Leys, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Michelle Campbell (Renfrewshire North and Cardonald) (SNP):** I, Michelle Simone Campbell, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Finlay Carson (Galloway and West Dumfries) (Con):** I, Finlay Hamilton Carson, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Maggie Chapman (North East Scotland) (Green):** I affirm the sovereignty of the people of Scotland and hereby declare and pledge that, in all my actions and deliberations, their interests shall be paramount.

I, Maggie Chapman, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Ini Maggie Chapman ndinotsidza nomwoyo wangu wose kuti ndichave mutsigiri anovimbika uye akatendeka wa Mambo Charles, na nevanji wavo, navose vachatonga mushure mavo, ndichiita zvose izvi pamutemo.

**Yi-pei Chou Turvey (North East Scotland) (LD):** I, Yi-pei Chou Turvey, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

Benren, Chou Yi-pei, jin zai ci xuanshi, wo jiang ge shou chengxin bing dushi xiaozhong Charles guowang bixia yiji ta de jichengren, bing yifa luxing zhize. Yuanshang di baoyou wo.

Moi, Yi-Pei Chou Turvey, jure que je serai fidèle et porterai véritable allégeance à Sa Majesté le Roi Charles, ses héritiers et ses successeurs, conformément à la loi. Ainsi, que Dieu me soit en aide.

**Katy Clark (West Scotland) (Lab):** In order to represent the people, I, Katy Clark, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Angela Constance (Almond Valley) (SNP):** I, Angela Constance, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Victor Currie (Highlands and Islands) (Reform):** I, Victor Anthony Conan Currie, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Martyn Day (Falkirk East and Linlithgow) (SNP):** I, Martyn Day, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

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**Sanne Dijkstra-Downie (Edinburgh Northern) (LD):** I, Sanne Carlien Dijkstra-Downie, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Ik, Sanne Carlien Dijkstra-Downie, verklaar hierbij plechtig, oprecht en naar waarheid, dat ik trouw zal zijn en loyaliteit zal betonen aan Zijne Majesteit Koning Charles, zijn erfgenamen en opvolgers, overeenkomstig de wet.

**Bob Doris (Glasgow Kelvin and Maryhill) (SNP):** I, Bob Doris, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**The Presiding Officer:** There will now be a break in proceedings. Members' oaths and affirmations will resume at 10.30 am.

10:11

*Meeting suspended.*

10:30

*On resuming—*

**The Presiding Officer:** We resume members' oaths and affirmations.

**Iris Duane (Glasgow) (Green):** My allegiance is to the people of Scotland, for whom I hope to create a fairer and more equal future in which nobody is born to rule.

I, Iris Duane, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Jackie Dunbar (Aberdeen Donside) (SNP):** I, Jacqueline Edith Elizabeth Dunbar, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Ah, Jacqueline Edith Elizabeth Dunbar, div depono solemnly and sincerely aat Ah wull be faithful and leal tae His Majiesty King Chairles, his heirs an aa fa come aifter him, accordin tae laa.

**Duncan Dunlop (South Scotland) (LD):** I make this solemn affirmation to serve my constituents across the south of Scotland and to further the rights of care-experienced people.

I, Duncan Angus Melville Dunlop, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Tim Eagle (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** I, Tim Eagle, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Joe Fagan (South Scotland) (Lab):** I, Joe Fagan, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Jim Fairlie (Perthshire South and Kinross-shire) (SNP):** I, James McGregor Fairlie, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Stephen Flynn (Aberdeen Deeside and North Kincardine) (SNP):** I, Stephen Mark Flynn, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Murdo Fraser (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con):** I, Murdo MacKenzie Fraser, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Meghan Gallacher (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Con):** I, Meghan Gallacher, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Zen Ghani (Glasgow Cathcart and Pollok) (SNP):** Bi-smi llāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm.

I, Zen Ghani, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

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**Kenneth Gibson (Cunninghame North) (SNP):** I, Kenneth Gibson, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Patricia Gibson (Cunninghame South) (SNP):** I, Patricia Gibson, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Jenny Gilruth (Mid Fife and Glenrothes) (SNP):** I, Jennifer Madeleine Gilruth, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Hannah Mary Goodlad (Shetland Islands) (SNP):** I, Hannah Mary Goodlad, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

I, Hannah Mary Goodlad, tak on tae bide faithfu an bear full allegiance tae His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and ony eens at come efter him, accoardeen tae da laa, sae help me Loard.

**Neil Gray (Airdrie) (SNP):** I, Neil Charles Gray, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

I, Neil Charles Gray, tak on tae bide faithful an cairry true allegiance tae His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, accordin tae laa.

**David Green (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (LD):** I, David Green, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Mark Griffin (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Lab):** I, Mark Griffin, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Katie Hagmann (Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley) (SNP):** I, Katie Elise Hagmann, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Rachael Hamilton (Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire) (Con):** I, Rachael Hamilton, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Adam Harley (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (LD):** I, Adam Harley, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Patrick Harvie (Glasgow) (Green):** My loyalty remains with all those who call Scotland home. They are sovereign.

I, Patrick Harvie, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Clare Haughey (Rutherglen and Cambuslang) (SNP):** I, Clare Joan Haughey, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Jamie Hepburn (Cumbernauld and Kilsyth) (SNP):** I, James Douglas Hepburn, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Craig Hoy (Dumfriesshire) (Con):** I, Craig William Hoy, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Lab):** I, Daniel Johnson, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Alex Kerr (Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse) (SNP):** My primary loyalty, over any loyalty, is to the people of Scotland and the common good. I am making this affirmation so that I can take up my seat and represent my constituents.

I, Alex Kerr, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

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**Calum Kerr (Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale) (SNP):** I, Calum Robert Kerr, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Liam Kerr (North East Scotland) (Con):** I, Matthew Liam Philip Kerr, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Stephen Kerr (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con):** I, Stephen Charles Kerr, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Thomas Kerr (Glasgow) (Reform):** I, Thomas Kerr, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Kayleigh Kinross-O'Neill (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Green):** Before I begin my affirmation, I would like to state that the people of Scotland are sovereign.

I, Kayleigh Kinross-O'Neill, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Wierzę w suwerenność narodu szkockiego.

Ja, Keyleigh Kinross-O'Neill, uroczęście, szczerze i zgodnie z prawdą oświadczam i ślubuję, że zgodnie z prawem, będę wierna i lojalna Jego Królewskiej Mości Królowi Karolowi, jego dziedzicom i następcom.

**David Kirkwood (South Scotland) (Reform):** I, David Kirkwood, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Simita Kumar (Edinburgh South Western) (SNP):** I, Simita Kumar, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

Main, Simita Kumar, shapath leti hoon ki main, kanoon ke anusar, Mahamahim Raja Charles, unke uttaradhikariyon aur unke vanshon ke prati nishthavan aur sacchi wafadari nibhaungi, Ishwar meri sahayata kare.

**Jamie Langan (South Scotland) (Reform):** I, Jamie Alexander Langan, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Kristopher Leask (Highlands and Islands) (Green):** I, Kristopher Leask, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**David Linden (Glasgow Baillieston and Shettleston) (SNP):** I, David Linden, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Tha mise Daibhidh Linden, Gu sòlaimte is firinneach a' cur an cèill agus ag innse gum bi mi dìleas agus fìor umhail do A Mhòrachd An Rìgh Teàrlach, a oighreachan agus a thànaistean, a rèir an lagh.

**Amanda Lindsay (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Reform):** I, Mandy Lindsay, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Joe Long (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Lab):** I, Joseph Jude Long, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Douglas Lumsden (North East Scotland) (Con):** I, Douglas Lumsden, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Morven-May MacCallum (Highlands and Islands) (LD):** I, Morven-May MacCallum, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Julie MacDougall (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Reform):** I, Julie MacDougall, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Fulton MacGregor (Coatbridge and Chryston) (SNP):** I, Fulton James MacGregor, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

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11:11

*Meeting suspended.*

11:31

*On resuming—*

**The Presiding Officer:** We resume members' oaths and affirmations.

**Donald MacKinnon (Na h-Eileanan an Iar) (Lab):** I, Donald MacKinnon, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

Tha mise Dòmhnall MacFhionghain, a' mionnachadh gum bi mi dileas agus fìor umhail do A Mhòrachd An Rìgh Teàrlach, a oighreachan agus a thànaistean, a rèir an lagh, mar sin cuidich mi a Dhè.

**Ben Macpherson (Edinburgh North Eastern and Leith) (SNP):** In order to represent my constituents and serve the common good and the people of Scotland, I, Ben Macpherson, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Q Manivannan (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Green):** I make the affirmation for the people of Scotland and their care, my bonnie, bonnie home.

I, Q Manivannan, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Michael Marra (North East Scotland) (Lab):** I, Michael Marra, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Gillian Martin (Aberdeenshire East) (SNP):** My allegiance is to the people of Scotland, who are sovereign.

I, Gillian Anne Martin, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Duncan Massey (North East Scotland) (Reform):** I, Duncan Massey, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Màiri McAllan (Clydesdale) (SNP):** I, Màiri Louise McAllan, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Liam McArthur (Orkney Islands) (LD):** I, Liam Scott McArthur, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Helen McDade (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Reform):** I, Helen McDade, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Cara McKee (West Scotland) (Green):** I, Cara McKee, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Ivan McKee (Glasgow Easterhouse and Springburn) (SNP):** I, Ivan McKee, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Paul McLennan (East Lothian Coast and Lammermuirs) (SNP):** I, Paul Stewart McLennan, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Stuart McMillan (Inverclyde) (SNP):** I, Stuart McMillan, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Marie McNair (Clydebank and Milngavie) (SNP):** I, Marie Alexandra McNair, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Pauline McNeill (Glasgow) (Lab):** I, Pauline Mary McNeill, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

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**Lloyd Melville (Angus South) (SNP):** I, Lloyd Alexander Melville, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Colm Merrick (Glasgow Anniesland) (SNP):** I, Colm Merrick, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Jack Middleton (Aberdeen Central) (SNP):** I declare that my first loyalty will always be to the people of Scotland.

I, Jack Middleton, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Jenni Minto (Argyll and Bute) (SNP):** I, Jenni Minto, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Laura Mitchell (Moray) (SNP):** I, Laura Mitchell, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

I, Laura Mitchell, gie my depone, solemnly and sincerely, aat I wull be faithful and leal tae His Majesty King Charles III, his heirs and ony fa come aifter him, accordin tae the laa.

**Carol Mochan (South Scotland) (Lab):** I believe that the people of this country should be citizens, not subjects, and my first allegiance is to them.

I, Carol Ann Mochan, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Laura Moodie (South Scotland) (Green):** My affirmation is to the sovereign people of Scotland, whose interests I will always serve before those of the monarchy.

I, Laura Moodie, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Kate Nevens (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Green):** I make this affirmation to the sovereign people of Scotland and pledge that, in all my actions, the interests of the Scottish people shall be paramount over and above those of the monarchy.

I, Kate Nevens, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Kirsten Oswald (Eastwood) (SNP):** I, Kirsten Frances Oswald, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Willie Rennie (Fife North East) (LD):** I, William Cowan Rennie, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Emma Roddick (Inverness and Nairn) (SNP):** I make this affirmation under protest in order to sit in this Parliament, where my allegiance will be to the people of Inverness and Nairn.

I, Emma Roddick, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Tha mise, Emma Roddick, gu sòlaimte is firinneach a' cur an cèill agus ag innse gum bi mi dìleas agus fìor umhail do A Mhòrachd An Rìgh Teàrlach, a oighreachan agus a thànaistean, a rèir an lagh.

**Angela Ross (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Reform):** I, Angela Ross, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Mark Ruskell (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Green):** In my heart, my allegiance is to the people of Scotland.

I, Mark Ruskell, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Katherine Sangster (Edinburgh and Lothians East) (Lab):** I, Katherine Blackstock Sangster, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

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**Kim Schmulian (Glasgow) (Reform):** I, Kim Schmulian, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Graham Simpson (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Reform):** I, Graham Simpson, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Mark Simpson (North East Scotland) (Reform):** I, Mark Simpson, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Lorna Slater (Edinburgh Central) (Green):** My first allegiance is to the people of Scotland, who are sovereign.

I, Lorna Jane Slater, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Alyn Smith (Stirling) (SNP):** I, Alyn Edward Smith, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**David Smith (West Scotland) (Reform):** I, David Haydn Smith, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Shirley-Anne Somerville (Dunfermline) (SNP):** I, Shirley-Anne Somerville, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Pauline Stafford (Bathgate) (SNP):** I pledge my allegiance to the people of Scotland, who are sovereign.

I, Pauline Stafford, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Collette Stevenson (East Kilbride) (SNP):** I, Collette Stevenson, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Paul Sweeney (Glasgow) (Lab):** I, Paul John Sweeney, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Alison Thewliss (Glasgow Central) (SNP):** I, Alison Thewliss, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Tha mise Alison Thewliss, gu sòlaimte is firinneach a' cur an cèill agus ag innse gum bi mi dìleas agus fìor umhail do A Mhòrachd An Rìgh Teàrlach, a oighreachan agus a thànaistean, a rèir an lagh.

**Maree Todd (Highlands and Islands) (SNP):** I, Maree Todd, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

Tha mise Maree Todd, gu sòlaimte is firinneach a' cur an cèill agus ag innse gum bi mi dìleas agus fìor umhail do A Mhòrachd An Rìgh Teàrlach, a oighreachan agus a thànaistean, a rèir an lagh.

**David Torrance (Kirkcaldy) (SNP):** I, David Herd Torrance, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Jenny Young (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Lab):** I, Jenny Young, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.

**Stephen Gethins (Dundee City East) (SNP):** I, Stephen Patrick Gethins, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

**Kate Campbell (Edinburgh Eastern, Musselburgh and Tranent) (SNP):** My first allegiance is to the people of Scotland, who are sovereign.

I, Kate Rosa Campbell, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law.

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**The Presiding Officer:** I wish to inform members that nominations for the position of Presiding Officer will open at 12.30 pm. Nomination forms can be collected from the parliamentary business team, which is situated in T1.03. Completed nomination forms should be returned to the parliamentary business team no later than 1.30 pm this afternoon. Nomination forms will be valid only if they detail the name of the candidate, the member who is nominating the candidate and the member who is seconding that nomination. When submitting nomination papers, candidates or their representatives may wish to provide the name of any member who will act as a scrutineer on behalf of the candidate.

Parliament will reconvene at 1.30 pm, when I will announce the nominations that have been received for the position of Presiding Officer. I will then suspend proceedings for a further period of one hour, and we will reconvene at 2.30 pm for the election.

Nominations for Deputy Presiding Officers may be submitted only following the election of the Presiding Officer. The period during which nominations may be submitted will be announced by the new Presiding Officer, and the sitting will be adjourned for that purpose.

I suspend the meeting until 1.30 pm.

12:14

*Meeting suspended.*

13:32

*On resuming—*

## **Presiding Officer**

**The Presiding Officer (Alison Johnstone):** The first meeting of the seventh session of the Parliament is resumed. I have received four valid nominations for the position of Presiding Officer. I shall now announce the nominations and ask all candidates, as their names are announced, to make themselves known to the chamber. In alphabetical order, the nominees are Kenneth Gibson, Clare Haughey, Liam McArthur and Stuart McMillan.

13:32

*Meeting suspended.*

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