Parliamentary Bureau – Approval of Scottish Statutory Instruments

Scottish Affirmative Instruments

Burial (Management) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

1. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Jamie Hepburn on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Burial (Management) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

2. To make provision for the management and maintenance of burial grounds in Scotland, applicable to all burial authorities (both local authority and non-local authority).

Burial and Cremation (Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

3. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Jamie Hepburn on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Burial and Cremation (Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

- 4. To introduce a framework for the implementation of a statutory inspection regime for burial authorities, cremation authorities and funeral directors ("relevant bodies") in Scotland. The Regulations provide powers of inspection and enforcement. Relevant bodies will be held to account for compliance, through statutory inspection, with statutory requirements and standards which are set out in the legislation and Code of Practice specified in the instrument. There will also be an appeals process for relevant bodies should they disagree with any enforcement action taken by an Inspector.
- 5. The Scottish Ministers will also have the power to prepare, maintain and publish a register of known burial authorities, cremation authorities and funeral directors (including a list of their premises) which are subject to inspection. The Scottish Ministers will have the power to make inspection reports and enforcement action publicly available to promote ongoing improvements in standards and to increase the confidence that the public can have in the sector.

Consideration by committee

6. At its meeting on 10 December 2024 the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee agreed to recommend that both Instruments be approved. The Committee's report was published on 18 December 2024.

Decision

- 7. Business Managers are invited to note that the above motions will be lodged.
- 8. Business Managers should reserve their position if their party intends to speak against or oppose the motions.

Parliamentary Business Team December 2024