



# The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Parliamentary Year 4, No. 76, Session 6

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 4 February 2025

Note: (DT) signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

- 1. Time for Reflection:** Senga Ishaq, Humanist Society Scotland, led Time for Reflection.
- 2. Topical Questions:** Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.
- 3. Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill:** The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government (Shona Robison) moved S6M-16299—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Budget (Scotland) (No. 4) Bill.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 74 (including 4 proxy votes), Against 30, Abstentions 21).

- 4. Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 3 as noted above.
- 5. The Lockerbie Bombing, A Father's Search for Justice:** The Parliament debated S6M-16005 in the name of Christine Grahame—That the Parliament notes the publication of Dr Jim Swire's book, *The Lockerbie Bombing, A Father's Search for Justice*, which has been serialised on television; recognises what it sees as Dr Swire's painful but steady commitment to uncovering the facts behind the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, which, shortly after 7.00 pm on 21 December 1988, was destroyed by a bomb over the town of Lockerbie, killing all 243 passengers, 16 crew and 11 Lockerbie residents, a total of 270 fatalities, including his much loved daughter, Flora; understands that Dr Swire, with many others, considers that the

conviction of Abdelbaset al-Megrahi, under Scots law at Camp Zeist, is insecure; believes that the failure of subsequent Scottish courts to allow any appeal, despite two referrals by the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission, on the grounds that there may have been a miscarriage of justice, gives concern; notes the view that, until there is a full and independent inquiry and full disclosure at a UK level into all aspects of this, the worst terrorist attack in the UK, the integrity of the conviction, and indeed Scots law, will remain in question, and commends Dr Jim Swire for never giving up on his search for the truth and for those responsible for the murder of his daughter and the other 269 people whose lives were so cruelly ended.

The meeting closed at 5.30 pm.

**David McGill**  
Clerk of the Parliament  
4 February 2025

**Appendix**  
**(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)**

**Committee Reports**

The following report was published on 31 January 2025—

Social Justice and Social Security Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session 6):  
Post-legislative scrutiny of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 (SP Paper  
733)

The following reports were published on 4 February 2025—

Education, Children and Young People Committee, 1st Report, 2025 (Session  
6): Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill - Stage 1 (SP  
Paper 734)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 10th Report, 2025 (Session  
6): Subordinate Legislation Considered by the Delegated Powers and Law  
Reform Committee on 4 February 2025 (SP Paper 735)

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, 2nd Report, 2025 (Session 6):  
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee Report on the Legislative Consent  
Memorandum and supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the  
Great British Energy Bill (SP Paper 736)

**Subordinate Legislation**

**Affirmative Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 4 February 2025 and is  
subject to the affirmative procedure—

Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025 [draft]  
laid under paragraph 2(3) of schedule 12 of the Local Government Finance  
Act 1992

**Negative Instruments**

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 3 February 2025 and  
are subject to the negative procedure—

Council Tax Reduction (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025  
(SSI 2025/24)  
laid under section 113(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Fees for Scheme Membership and Disclosure Applications (Scotland) Regulations  
2025 (SSI 2025/25)  
laid under section 100 of the Protection of Vulnerable (Groups) (Scotland) Act  
2007 and section 91 of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

Level 1 and Level 2 Disclosure Review Application (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/26)

laid under section 91 of the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020

### **Laid Only Instruments**

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 3 February 2025 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020 (Commencement No. 5, Saving and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/27 (C.4))

laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

### **Other Documents**

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on 4 February 2025 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

**The Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2025 – Report by the Scottish Ministers (SG/2025/26)** laid under paragraph 2(3) of schedule 12 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

**Scottish Local Government Finance Statistics 2023-24 (SG/2025/8)** laid under Section 118 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

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