

Thursday 5 December 2024

# Business Bulletin

*Iris Ghnothaichean*

Revised at 11:50am



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Today's Business

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-15758, today's business will be as follows:

### 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 — S6M-15411 Paul Sweeney: Publication of the Marie Curie Report, Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024

**2:00 pm** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**2:00 pm** Portfolio Questions  
Education and Skills

**followed by** Scottish Government Debate:  
Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces  
Community in Scotland

**followed by** Scottish Government Debate:  
Empowering Young People's Voices in  
Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

**followed by** Scottish Languages Bill:  
Financial Resolution

**followed by** Business Motions

**followed by** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5:00 pm** Decision Time

### Committee Meetings

**9:00am** Public Audit Committee

**9:30am** Constitution, Europe, External Affairs  
and Culture Committee

**9:30am** Social Justice and Social Security  
Committee

## Meeting of the Parliament

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-15758, today's business will be as follows:

### 11:40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

### 11:40 am General Questions

- 1. Stuart McMillan:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on its plans to introduce regulation for pet groomers, animal boarders and dog walkers, in light of the results of the public consultation from earlier this year that showed a high level of support for such measures. ([S6O-04073](#))
- 2. Mark Ruskell:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on how it will ensure that all appropriate roads have a safer speed limit of 20mph by 2025. ([S6O-04074](#))
- 3. Richard Leonard:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to maintain and grow supported businesses. ([S6O-04075](#))
- 4. Colin Smyth:** To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to Public Health Scotland's recent NHS dental monitoring report, which indicates that almost 40% of adults in Dumfries and Galloway are not registered with an NHS dentist. ([S6O-04076](#))
- 5. Douglas Lumsden:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it plans to update planning guidance for battery energy storage systems. ([S6O-04077](#))
- 6. Claire Baker:** To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to improve rail services for passengers in the Mid Scotland and Fife region. ([S6O-04078](#))
- 7. Jackie Dunbar:** To ask the Scottish Government how it is supporting NHS Grampian with its winter preparedness. ([S6O-04079](#))
- 8. Sarah Boyack:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on what steps it is taking to increase access to diabetes tech for patients in NHS Lothian. ([S6O-04080](#))

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

- 1. Russell Findlay:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-03593](#))
- 2. Anas Sarwar:** Question to be taken in Chamber. ([S6F-03594](#))
- 3. Alex Cole-Hamilton:** To ask the First Minister when the Cabinet will next meet. ([S6F-03599](#))
- 4. Marie McNair:** To ask the First Minister what assessment the Scottish Government has made of the reported concerns of not-for-profit social care providers regarding the impact of increased employer national insurance contributions on the sector in Scotland. ([S6F-03615](#))
- 5. Sharon Dowey:** To ask the First Minister what the Scottish Government's position is regarding any potential risk to the environment of excessive removal of peat during excavation projects. ([S6F-03603](#))
- 6. Audrey Nicoll:** To ask the First Minister what progress is being made with the Scottish Government's efforts to establish the country as a world leader in the green hydrogen sector. ([S6F-03607](#))

## followed by Members' Business Debate on the subject of—

**[S6M-15411](#) Paul Sweeney: Publication of the Marie Curie Report, Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024**—That the Parliament welcomes the publication of the Marie Curie report, *Dying in Poverty in Scotland 2024*; understands that the report is taken from research carried out by Marie Curie and Loughborough University; notes that the report has found that one in four working age people and one in six pension age people in Scotland face poverty at the end of life; understands that terminal illness exacerbates existing inequality; notes the report's findings that symptoms of terminal illness can result in higher energy costs, costs for housing adaptations and force people to leave the labour market and rely on social security support; considers that these challenges are not confined to the dying person, but also affect family and unpaid carers who, it believes, are too often left to carry out the bulk of caring duties due to what it sees as inadequate support; notes the belief that more must be done to target support to those who are facing dying, death and bereavement, and further notes the calls for governments to consider the report and work with Marie Curie to prevent people in Scotland, including those in the Glasgow region, from dying in poverty.

## 2:00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**[S6M-15758](#) Jamie Hepburn on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Revision to Business Programme**—That the Parliament agrees to the following revision to the programme of business for Thursday 5 December 2024—

after

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Empowering Young People's Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

insert

*followed by* Financial Resolution: Scottish Languages Bill

## 2:00 pm Portfolio Questions

### Education and Skills

1. **Evelyn Tweed:** [Withdrawn] ([S6O-04081](#))

2. **Michelle Thomson:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it can provide an update regarding its consideration of whether to legislate to prescribe the number of learning hours. ([S6O-04082](#))

3. **Kevin Stewart:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to ensure that college courses are being tailored to meet the needs of industries involved in energy efficiency, carbon reduction and the just transition. ([S6O-04083](#))

4. **Brian Whittle:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to ensure that students are supported throughout their educational journey with career advice that aligns with the future economic need for specific roles and skills. ([S6O-04084](#))

5. **Christine Grahame:** To ask the Scottish Government, in relation to the provision of support for children with additional support needs, what assessment it has made of any impact of the reported

delays to ADHD assessments for children on their education.

([S6O-04085](#))

**6. John Mason:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to raise awareness of apprenticeship opportunities and promote them as an attractive career path for young people. ([S6O-04086](#))

**7. Foysol Choudhury:** To ask the Scottish Government how it is working to ensure that pupils have access to practical science activities as part of the curriculum. ([S6O-04087](#))

**8. Maggie Chapman:** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the University of Dundee, in light of recent reports regarding its financial situation, senior management resignations and its failure to recruit enough Scottish students. ([S6O-04088](#))

### **followed by Scottish Government Debate: Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces Community in Scotland**

**[S6M-15734](#) Graeme Dey: Support for the Veterans and Armed Forces Community in Scotland**—That the Parliament recognises and acknowledges the importance of Scotland's veterans and Armed Forces community and greatly values the significant contribution that it continues to make to society; further recognises that the contribution of veterans and their families continues and grows as they move back into the communities that they served, with their experiences positively enriching society and providing a valuable talent pool for employers, and agrees that the Scottish Government, cognisant of the important ongoing work of the Scottish Veterans Commissioner, should continue to work with partners across the public, private and third sectors to ensure that the veterans and Armed Forces community receives the best possible support and access to services.

### **followed by Scottish Government Debate: Empowering Young People's Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls**

**[S6M-15735](#) Kaukab Stewart: Empowering Young People's Voices in Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls**—That the Parliament recognises the international 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign 2024; further recognises the vital contribution that the sector has made this year to tackle violence against women and girls, in particular the role that it has played in supporting children and young people who have experienced violence, abuse and exploitation; welcomes this year's debate at the Scottish Youth Parliament, which challenged politicians to ensure that the youth voice is central to action to address gender-based violence; recognises the importance of working with young people to ensure that their experience and expertise are harnessed to build a future that is equally safe; further recognises and champions the importance of education as an early and ongoing strand of prevention; condemns misogyny and all forms of violence against women and girls, and acknowledges the significant harm that they cause to individuals and wider society.

### **followed by Scottish Languages Bill: Financial Resolution**

**[S6M-15752](#) Shona Robison: Scottish Languages Bill: Financial Resolution**—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Scottish Languages Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3A of the Parliament's Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

## followed by Business Motions

## followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

### **[S6M-15753](#) Jamie Hepburn on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Establishment of a Committee**—That the Parliament shall establish a committee of the Parliament as follows:

Name of Committee: SPCB Supported Bodies Landscape Review Committee

Remit: To consider, review and report on the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) supported bodies landscape in accordance with the Parliament's resolution of 31 October 2024 and develop a clear strategic framework to underpin and provide coherence and structure to the SPCB supported bodies landscape by the end of June 2025, including—

- (a) creating effective accountability and scrutiny mechanisms;
- (b) formalising strengthened criteria for creating new supported bodies; and
- (c) identifying and addressing any barriers to sharing services and offices.

Duration: Until 30 September 2025.

Number of members: 5.

Convenership: The Convener will be a member of the Scottish National Party.

Membership: Murdo Fraser, Richard Leonard, Ben Macpherson, Ash Regan, Lorna Slater.

## 5:00 pm Decision Time

## Committee Meetings

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

### Public Audit Committee 31st Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:00 am in T1.60-CR4 The Clerk Maxwell Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take agenda items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Fiscal sustainability and reform in Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Stephen Boyle, Auditor General for Scotland;  
Carole Grant, Audit Director, Fiona Diggle, Audit Manager, and Richard Robinson, Senior Manager, Audit Scotland.
3. **Fiscal sustainability and reform in Scotland:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard at agenda item 2 and take further evidence from—  
Stephen Boyle, Auditor General for Scotland;  
Carole Grant, Audit Director, Fiona Diggle, Audit Manager, and Richard Robinson, Senior Manager, Audit Scotland.
4. **Fiscal sustainability and reform in Scotland:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard at agenda items two and three and agree any further action it wishes to take.

### Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee 27th Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in TG.40-CR1 The Burns Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 3 in private.
2. **Review of the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement Inquiry: Part 2:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Vivienne Mackinnon, Director of Veterinary Partnerships, SRUC School of Veterinary Medicine, and Junior Vice President, Scottish Branch, British Veterinary Association;  
Dr Joseph Maguire, Associate Professor, School of Computing Science, University of Glasgow, and Co-Chair of the BCS (the Chartered Institute for IT) Scottish Computing Education Committee;  
Ben Addy, Managing Director, Moxon Architects, and member of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland.
3. **Evidence Session:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.

### Social Justice and Social Security Committee 33rd Meeting, 2024

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T4.40-CR2 The Fairfax Somerville Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Post-legislative scrutiny of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Ann McKenzie, Unit Head, Tackling Child Poverty Policy Unit, and Andrew Fraser, Child Poverty Briefing and Strategy Team Leader, Scottish Government.

3. **Post-legislative scrutiny of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard under item 3.
4. **Financial aspects of leaving an abusive relationship:** The Committee will consider its approach to the inquiry.

## Contacts for Further Information

All telephone numbers 0131 348 XXXX

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

Committee web sites at:

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees>

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