

Tuesday 28 January 2025

Business Bulletin

Iris Ghnothaichean

Revised at 1:05pm



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Royal Assent

The Judicial Factors (Scotland) Act 2025 received Royal Assent on 27 January 2025.

Today's Business

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-16264, today's business will be as follows:

Meeting of the Parliament

2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Mirrin Kirkpatrick and Sarah-Jane McKeown, Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions

followed by Ministerial Statement: Response to Storm Éowyn

followed by Urgent Question: Ash Regan: To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the reported details of abuse that came to light during sentencing at Glasgow High Court yesterday, what its position is on whether child safeguarding in Scotland has failed.

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5:10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business — S6M-16143 Clare Adamson: Brexit Harm to Scotland, Five Years Since the UK Left the EU

Committee Meetings

9:15am Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

9:15am Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

9:30am Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

9:30am Finance and Public Administration Committee

9:30am Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

10:00am Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

Meeting of the Parliament

Subject to the Parliament's agreement of S6M-16264, today's business will be as follows:

2:00 pm Time for Reflection: Mirrin Kirkpatrick and Sarah-Jane McKeown, Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

[S6M-16264](#) 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 Tuesday 28 January 2025—

after

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

insert

followed by Ministerial Statement: Response to Storm Éowyn

followed by Topical Questions

1. Murdo Fraser: To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to reduce the number of unauthorised absences from schools. ([S6T-02302](#))

followed by Ministerial Statement: Response to Storm Éowyn

followed by Urgent Question: Ash Regan: To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the reported details of abuse that came to light during sentencing at Glasgow High Court yesterday, what its position is on whether child safeguarding in Scotland has failed.

followed by Scottish Government Debate: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget

[S6M-16237](#) Neil Gray: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget—That the Parliament welcomes the investment in Scotland's public services through the draft Scottish Budget 2025-26; notes that £21.7 billion for health and social care investment and over £15 billion in funding for local authorities is being provided; calls on the UK Government to fully fund the additional cost of its increase in employer national insurance contributions, noting the significant impacts on public services, including social care, if it does not fund it in full; notes the importance of the public service reform programme to drive future financial sustainability, and celebrates the key role that the Scottish public service workforce plays in delivering these services across Scotland.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

[S6M-16237.2](#) Craig Hoy: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget—As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through

the Scottish Budget), leave out from “welcomes” to end and insert “notes that the performance of public services has declined despite significant funding increases and the hard work of those on the frontline; believes that this decline is due to a failure of leadership from the Scottish National Party administration; is concerned by the significant rise in senior-level civil servants and the failure to deliver meaningful public sector reform; acknowledges that, despite the decline in public services’ performance, rises in Scottish income tax will see the public pay £1.7 billion more in taxation in 2025-26, and calls on the Scottish Government to start delivering value for money for taxpayers by cutting income tax to 19% for those earning up to £43,662, providing full non-domestic rates relief for pubs and businesses across Scotland and increasing the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax zero-rate threshold to £250,000, to reduce the cost of buying a home.”

S6M-16237.3 Michael Marra: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget—As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget), leave out from “calls” to end and insert “understands that the additional investment in Scotland’s public services has been made possible by the UK Government’s Autumn Budget, which delivered record funding for the Scottish Government and provided an additional £5.2 billion; believes that the future of Scotland’s public services can only be guaranteed through measures to improve fiscal sustainability through public service reform and regrets the lack of progress being made by the Scottish Government in this area; recognises the role that workers in Scotland’s public sector play in delivering vital services and regrets that the workforce and public are being failed by years of Scottish National Party mismanagement, which has created major challenges across the public sector in Scotland and left one in six people in Scotland on NHS waiting lists, and calls for the Scottish Government to take meaningful action to reform public services so that they work for users and staff across Scotland.”

S6M-16237.4 Gillian Mackay: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget—As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget), leave out from "notes the importance" to "sustainability" and insert "further calls on the UK Government to fully fund the increase in employer national insurance contributions in commissioned services and arm's-length external organisations; notes the importance of the public service reform programme to drive future financial sustainability; further notes the success of the four-day week pilot trialled by South of Scotland Enterprise, and calls on the Scottish Government to expand the four-day working week within the public sector workforce".

S6M-16237.1 Alex Cole-Hamilton: Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget—As an amendment to motion S6M-16237 in the name of Neil Gray (Investing in Public Services Through the Scottish Budget), insert at end “; notes that Scottish Liberal Democrat priorities have been reflected in the first draft of the Budget through the inclusion of the reinstatement of a winter heating payment for pensioners, extra funding for social care, additional funding for local healthcare to make it easier to see a GP or NHS dentist, funding for new specialist support across the country for people with long COVID, chronic fatigue syndrome and other similar conditions, the right for family carers to earn more without having support withdrawn, business rates relief for the hospitality sector, funding to build more affordable homes, enhanced support for local authorities operating ferry services, and the resumption of the work required to replace the Belford Hospital in NHS Highland and the Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion in NHS Lothian; calls for further investment in drug and neonatal services, hospices, support for the young people with complex and additional needs attending Corseford College, and colleges, so that they can deliver the skills that the economy and public services need, and further calls for local authorities to receive a fair share of the money for additional employer national insurance contributions when it is received by the Scottish Government.

followed by **Committee Announcements**

followed by **Business Motions**

followed by **Parliamentary Bureau Motions**

5:10 pm Decision Time

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

[S6M-16143](#) Clare Adamson: Brexit Harm to Scotland, Five Years Since the UK Left the EU— That the Parliament notes that January 2025 marks five years since the UK left the EU; recognises that people in Scotland voted to remain within the EU and that there was a majority vote for remain in every one of Scotland's local authority areas, and considers that, despite this, Scotland was removed from the EU against the democratic wishes of the people of Scotland; believes that Brexit has caused, and continues to cause, substantial harm to the Scottish and UK economies; acknowledges reports that there is an estimated loss of £2.3 billion every year in public revenues for Scotland as a result of Brexit; notes with concern that the Office for Budget Responsibility has reportedly estimated that Brexit will reduce the overall trade intensity of the UK economy by 15% in the long term; understands that a recent study from the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics found that goods exports from the UK dropped by £27 billion in 2022 alone as a result of Brexit; further understands that the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply revealed problems with supply chains and trade routes, exacerbated by Brexit, which could see imports cost between 5% and 20% more, fuelling a new cost of living crisis; considers that Brexit continues to pose significant barriers to people coming to live and work in Scotland, including in vital public services; believes that Brexit is impacting young people's right to live, work and study in 27 European nations, and denying future generations a wealth of economic, social and cultural opportunities, and notes the belief that Scotland should rejoin the EU to rebuild strong ties with fellow Europeans and to ensure that businesses, students and workers in Scotland, including in the Motherwell and Wishaw constituency, can benefit from access to the world's largest single market and the rich cultural, social and economic benefits that membership of the EU brings.

Committee Meetings

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

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee 3rd Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:15 am in TG.60-CR3 The Fleming Room

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—
[Bread and Flour Amendment \(Scotland\) Regulations 2024](#)
2. **Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—
Laura Buchan, Policy and Engagement, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service;
Steve Johnson, Assistant Chief Constable, Police Scotland;
Andy Shanks, Head of the Scottish Fatalities Investigation Unit, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service;
and then from—
Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, Nicki Crossan, Assisted Dying Shadow Bill Team Leader, Ailsa Garland, Principal Legal Officer, Neil Ritchie, Palliative Care Unit Head, and Jo Swanson, Healthcare Quality and Improvement Divisional Head, Scottish Government.
3. **Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier under agenda item 2.

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee 4th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:15 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. **Land Reform (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—
Laura Hamlet, Chief Executive, Coigach Community Development Company;
Andrew Howard, Managing Director, Moray Estates;
Tim Kirkwood, Chief Executive, Wildland;
Megan MacInnes, Local Development Manager, Applecross Community Company;
Dannie Onn, Director and Chair, Colonsay Community Development Company;
Dennis Overton, Chair, Ardtornish Estate.
3. **Land Reform (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard under agenda item 2.
4. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee 3rd Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T1.60-CR4 The Clerk Maxwell Room

1. **Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the Bill at Stage 2 (Day 2).

2. **Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 (in private):** The Committee will consider its approach to the scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Budget 2025-26.

Finance and Public Administration Committee 4th Meeting, 2025

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

1. **Budget Scrutiny 2025-26 (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.
2. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider its work programme.

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee 3rd Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 9:30 am in T4.60-CR6 The Livingstone Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
2. **Housing (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on rent control measures to inform its forthcoming consideration of Stage 2 amendments from—
Lyndsay Clelland, Policy Officer, Age Scotland;
Dan Wilson Craw, Deputy Chief Executive, Generation Rent;
Aoife Deery, Senior Social Justice Policy Officer, Citizens Advice Scotland;
Ruth Gilbert, Representative, Living Rent;
Natasha McGourt, Tenants Panel member;
Nikita Mickevics, Tenants Panel member;
Sai Shraddha S. Viswanathan, President, National Union of Students Scotland;
and then from—
Robin Blacklock, Managing Director, Dowbrae Limited;
John Blackwood, Chief Executive, Scottish Association of Landlords;
Dr John Boyle, Director of Research and Strategy, Rettie;
Cedric Bucher, Chief Executive, Hearthstone Investments;
Donryn Dewar, Landlords Panel member;
Timothy Douglas, Head of Policy and Campaigns, PropertyMark;
Dr Farhad Farnood, Landlords Panel member;
Cameron Gillies, Press and Public Affairs Manager, Scottish Land and Estates.
3. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—
[Local Government Pension Scheme \(Remediable Service\) \(Scotland\) \(Miscellaneous Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#)
4. **Housing (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee 4th Meeting, 2025

The Committee will meet at 10:00 am in T1.40-CR5 The Smith Room

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take items 5, 6 and 7 in private.
2. **Instruments subject to affirmative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Disclosure \(Scotland\) Act 2020 \(Incidental, Supplementary and Consequential Provision\) Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/Draft)

3. **Instruments subject to negative procedure:** The Committee will consider the following—
[Building \(Fees\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025](#) (SSI 2025/6)
4. **Framework legislation and Henry VIII powers:** The Committee will take evidence from—
Jamie Hepburn, Minister for Parliamentary Business, Alison Coull, Deputy Director, SGLD, Rural Affairs Division, Fraser Gough, Parliamentary Counsel Office, and Steven MacGregor, Head of Parliament and Legislation Unit, Scottish Government.
5. **Tobacco and Vapes Bill (UK Parliament legislation):** The Committee will consider the powers to make subordinate legislation within devolved competence conferred on Scottish Ministers and UK Ministers in the Bill.
6. **Quarterly report:** The Committee will consider a draft report for the parliamentary quarter from 16 September to 1 December 2024.
7. **Framework legislation and Henry VIII powers:** The Committee will consider the evidence it heard earlier in the meeting.

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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