



OFFICIAL REPORT
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

Meeting of the Parliament

Monday 8 December 2025

Session 6



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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Monday 8 December 2025

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Scottish Parliament

Monday 8 December 2025

[The Presiding Officer opened the meeting at 09:00]

Time for Reflection

The Presiding Officer (Alison Johnstone):

The first item of business this afternoon is time for reflection, and our time for reflection leader today is the Rev John Smith, a Church of Scotland minister.

The Rev John Smith (Church of Scotland):

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Business Motion

09:04

The Presiding Officer (Alison Johnstone):

The next item of business is consideration of a business motion. I call Graeme Dey to move the motion.

Motion moved,

That the Parliament agrees—

(a) the following programme of business—

Tuesday 2 December 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions

followed by Ministerial Statement: Commonwealth Games - Glasgow 2026

followed by Scottish Government Debate: All Together: Uniting Local and National Efforts, Across Sectors to End Violence Against Women and Girls

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 3 December 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, and Parliamentary Business; Justice and Home Affairs

followed by Scottish Labour Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 4 December 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Education and Skills

followed by Education, Children and Young People Committee Debate: Widening Access to Higher Education

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 9 December 2025

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions

followed by Committee Business

followed by Scottish Government Business

followed by Committee Announcements

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 10 December 2025

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions: Deputy First Minister Responsibilities, Economy and Gaelic; Finance and Local Government

followed by Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.10 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 11 December 2025

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

followed by Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Portfolio Questions: Climate Action and Energy, and Transport

followed by Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee Debate: British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015 Inquiry

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

(b) that, for the purposes of Portfolio Questions in the week beginning 1 December 2025, in rule 13.7.3, after the word "except" the words "to the extent to which the Presiding Officer considers that the questions are on the same or similar subject matter or" are inserted.—[*Graeme Dey*]

Motion agreed to.

Child Poverty

The Deputy Presiding Officer (Liam McArthur): The next item of business is a debate on child poverty.

09:10

The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville): The Official Report is a written record of what was said in public meetings of the Scottish Parliament and in committee meetings.

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I move,

That the Parliament agrees that the Non-Domestic Rates (Liability for Unoccupied Properties) (Scotland) Bill be treated as an Emergency Bill.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call Murdo Fraser.

09:15

Murdo Fraser (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con): The Official Report is a written record of what was said in public meetings of the Scottish Parliament and in committee meetings.

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09:16

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Lab): The Official Report is a written record of what was said in public meetings of the Scottish Parliament and in committee meetings.

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09:17

The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice: The Official Report is a written record of what was said in public meetings of the Scottish Parliament and in committee meetings.

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Bail and Release from Custody (Scotland) Bill

The Presiding Officer (Alison Johnstone): The next item of business is stage 3 proceedings on the above bill.

Section 1—Provisions

The Presiding Officer: The first group is about something.

Pauline McNeill (Glasgow) (Lab): The Official Report is a written record of what was said in public meetings of the Scottish Parliament and in committee meetings.

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I move amendment 1.

Amendment 1 agreed to.

After section 1

Amendment 2 moved—[Pauline McNeill]—and agreed to.

Amendment 3 moved—[Pauline McNeill].

The Presiding Officer: The question is, that amendment 3 be agreed to. Are we agreed?

Members: No.

The Presiding Officer: There will be a division.

Meeting closed at 09:30

This is the final edition of the Official Report of this meeting. It is part of the Scottish Parliament Official Report archive and has been sent for legal deposit.

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