



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**BUSINESS BULLETIN No. 84/2015**

**Today's Business**

**Wednesday 20 May 2015**

## Summary of Today's Business

### Meetings of Committees

9.15 am	Finance Committee	the Robert Burns Room (CR1)
10.00 am	Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee	the James Clerk Maxwell Room (CR4)
10.00 am	Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee	the Adam Smith Room (CR5)
10.00 am	Local Government and Regeneration Committee	the Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)

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### Meeting of the Parliament

2.00 pm	Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by	Portfolio Question Time
	Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights
	Fair Work, Skills and Training
followed by	Scottish Labour Party Debate: The Future of Scotland's Economy
followed by	Business Motions
followed by	Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm	Decision Time
followed by	Members' Business – S4M-12348 Paul Martin: Protecting Rent-tied Pub Tenants in Scotland

**For full details of today's business, see Section A.**

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## **Business Bulletin: Wednesday 20 May 2015**

### **Section A – Today's Business**

#### **Meetings of Committees**

**All meetings take place in the Scottish Parliament, unless otherwise specified. Contact details for Committee Clerks are provided at the end of the Bulletin.**

#### **Finance Committee 15th Meeting, 2015**

The Committee will meet at 9.15 am in the Robert Burns Room (CR1)

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Part 2 Extension) Order 2015 [draft] from—  
John Swinney, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy, Alison Douglas, Head of Public Service Reform, and Victoria Bruce, Head of Public Bodies Unit, Scottish Government.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** John Swinney (Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy) to move—S4M-13108—That the Finance Committee recommends that the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Part 2 Extension) Order 2015 [draft] be approved.
3. **Scotland's Fiscal Framework:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Professor Ronald MacDonald, University of Glasgow;  
Professor Michael Keating, Director, Centre on Constitutional Change;  
Professor John A. Beath, Royal Society of Edinburgh;  
Professor David Bell, University of Stirling.

#### **Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee 13th Meeting, 2015**

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in the James Clerk Maxwell Room (CR4)

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 5 in private. The Committee will also decide whether to review evidence heard at future meetings, in connection with the Security of Supply inquiry, in private.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether its consideration of a draft annual report should be taken in private at its next meeting.
3. **Security of Supply - witness expenses:** The Committee will be invited to delegate to the Convener responsibility for arranging for the SPCB to pay, under Rule 12.4.3, any expenses of witnesses in the inquiry.
4. **Security of Supply:** The Committee will take evidence, in round table format, from—

Professor Ian Arbon, Senior Partner of Engineered Solutions and spokesperson for Energy and Environment in Scotland, Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE);

Professor Keith Bell, Professor of Smart Grid Technologies and Co-Director of the UK Energy Research Centre, University of Strathclyde;

Brian Galloway, Energy Policy Director, Scottish Power;

Professor Gareth Harrison, University of Edinburgh and the Young Academy of Scotland;

Professor Colin McInnes, James Watt Chair, Professor of Engineering, School of Engineering, University of Glasgow;

Dr Edward Owens, School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Environment, Heriot-Watt University;

Michael Rieley, Senior Policy Manager, Grid and Markets, Scottish Renewables;

Lawrence Slade, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Energy UK;

Dr Alan Walker, Head of Policy, The Royal Academy of Engineering.

5. **Security of Supply** The Committee will review the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

### **Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee 11th Meeting, 2015**

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in the Adam Smith Room (CR5)

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether its consideration of its Stage 1 Report on the Harbours (Scotland) Bill as well as its report on its into freight transport in Scotland should be taken in private at future meetings.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Enhanced Enforcement Areas Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 2015 [draft] from—  
Margaret Burgess, Minister for Housing and Welfare, Linda Leslie, Housing Strategy Team Leader, and Jacqueline Pantony, Principal Legal Officer, Scottish Government.
3. **Subordinate legislation:** Margaret Burgess (Minister for Housing and Welfare) to move—S4M-13157—That the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee recommends that the Enhanced Enforcement Areas Scheme (Scotland) regulations 2015 [draft] be approved.
4. **Access to Scotland's major urban railway stations:** The Committee will take evidence from—  
Anne MacLean, Convener, and Hussein Patwa, Member, Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland;  
Jolin Warren, Head of Research, Transform Scotland;  
Robert Samson, Passenger Manager, Transport Focus.

**Local Government and Regeneration Committee  
15th Meeting, 2015**

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in the Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)

1. **Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider the Bill at Stage 2 (Day 2).

## Meeting of the Parliament

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Portfolio Question Time

### Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights

**1. Bob Doris:** To ask the Scottish Government what representations it will make to the UK Government to oppose the reported additional £12 billion in benefit reductions. (S4O-04334)

**2. Sarah Boyack:** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the City of Edinburgh Council regarding its proposed local development plan. (S4O-04335)

**3. Nigel Don:** To ask the Scottish Government what the impact will be on young people in Scotland of the UK Government's proposal to end housing benefit for people under 21. (S4O-04336)

**4. Christian Allard:** [Not Lodged]

**5. Jackson Carlaw:** To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to devolve powers to local communities. (S4O-04338)

**6. Malcolm Chisholm:** To ask the Scottish Government what representations it has made to the UK Government concerning the Human Rights Act. (S4O-04339)

**7. Jackie Baillie:** To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the impact on disabled people in Scotland of the Department for Work and Pensions' proposal to cap the Access to Work scheme. (S4O-04340)

**8. Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to reduce child poverty in West Scotland. (S4O-04341)

**9. Clare Adamson:** To ask the Scottish Government what impact a further £12 billion reduction in social security spending across the UK will have on poverty in Scotland. (S4O-04342)

**10. Colin Beattie:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the work of the Commission on Local Tax Reform. (S4O-04343)

### Fair Work, Skills and Training

**1. Cameron Buchanan:** To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to increase the number of apprenticeships in woodwork. (S4O-04344)

**2. Alex Fergusson:** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to address skills shortages in key industries of economic growth. (S4O-04345)

**3. Claire Baker:** To ask the Scottish Government what measures it is taking under the Fair Work, Skills and Training portfolio to support the Fife economy. (S4O-04346)

**4. Iain Gray:** To ask the Scottish Government what support it will provide for East Lothian Council to increase employment opportunities for young people. (S4O-04347)

**5. Graeme Dey:** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the Department for Work and Pensions report, *Equality analysis for the future of Access to Work*. (S4O-04348)

**6. Jayne Baxter:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to identify the skills that will be needed by the future workforce. (S4O-04349)

**7. Roderick Campbell:** To ask the Scottish Government how it can assist former members of the armed services in training for a new career. (S4O-04350)

**8. Neil Bibby:** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to meet skills needs in West Scotland. (S4O-04351)

**9. Jim Eadie:** To ask the Scottish Government how many young people have completed a modern apprenticeship since the scheme was introduced. (S4O-04352)

**10. Rob Gibson:** To ask the Scottish Government how it is encouraging more women to take up engineering roles in the renewable energy sector. (S4O-04353)

*followed by* Scottish Labour Party Debate: The Future of Scotland's Economy

**S4M-13203 Jackie Baillie: The Future of Scotland's Economy**—That the Parliament believes that tackling Scotland's attainment gap is crucial to future economic performance, in recognition of OECD research demonstrating that inequality has caused a cumulated loss in GDP of 8.5% over 25 years; notes with concern new analysis by Dr Jim Scott of the University of Edinburgh showing that the number of candidates gaining levels 3 to 5 qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF), the replacement for standard grades, dropped by 20% between 2012-13 and 2013-14; notes that standards in literacy and numeracy in Scottish schools have fallen since 2012, with 75% of S2 pupils from the most disadvantaged backgrounds not having the numeracy skills that they should; further notes with concern that spending on education and training fell in Scotland between 2009-10 and 2013-14 whereas it rose across the rest of the UK; notes with concern the subsequent fall in both funding and students in Scotland's colleges; believes that a renewed focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects is required from the Scottish Government; recognises the recent establishment of the Scottish Attainment Challenge; welcomes

clarification from the First Minister that attainment advisers will indeed be placed in every local authority; further recognises that more must be done to address the attainment gap; welcomes proposals by Scottish Labour to tackle this with a further £25 million per year programme of investment, totalling £125 million over a five-year parliamentary session, including doubling the number of teaching assistants and 10 new literacy teachers in each of the associated primary schools of the 20 high schools facing the greatest challenges, in addition to the Scottish Government's plans and paid for through a 50p top rate of tax; calls on the Office of the Chief Economic Adviser in the Scottish Government to undertake a distributional impact assessment of the attainment gap in Scotland's schools, and believes that education is both key to addressing the scandal of inequality in Scottish society and a crucial investment in the future of Scotland's economy.

The Presiding Officer has selected the following amendments

**S4M-13203.3 Angela Constance: The Future of Scotland's Economy**—As an amendment to motion S4M-13203 in the name of Jackie Baillie (The Future of Scotland's Economy), leave out from first "believes" to end and insert "agrees that reducing inequality, including the attainment gap, is not only important in itself, but is vital to create the conditions to deliver sustainable economic growth over the long term; welcomes the successful implementation of the curriculum for excellence (CfE); notes that, under CfE, pupils generally study a wider range of subjects in S3 than previously, before focussing on a smaller number of subjects for formal qualifications in S4; recognises that this approach is designed to ensure that pupils maximise their achievement by the time they leave school and commands the support of teachers, educationalists and the Parliament; condemns attempts to portray this change in the pattern of exams taken as a reduction in attainment; welcomes the reduction in the attainment gap noted by the OECD's Pisa study; agrees that more needs to be done to raise attainment and close the attainment gap; supports the recent launch of the Scottish Attainment Challenge, backed by the £100 million Attainment Scotland Fund, the ongoing work with the Raising Attainment for All programme and the Access to Education Fund and specific work on literacy and numeracy, and calls on all parties to reaffirm their support for CfE."



**S4M-13203.1 Mary Scanlon: The Future of Scotland's Economy**—As an amendment to motion S4M-13203 in the name of Jackie Baillie (The Future of Scotland's Economy), leave out from “welcomes clarification” to end and insert “, and is concerned about the high percentage of secondary schools that have reduced the number of certificate subjects available in S4, which, in turn, has reduced the total number of presentations, including in English and Maths, and which, by definition, means that there are fewer pupils who are properly schooled in the literacy and numeracy skills required in the world of work.”

**S4M-13203.2 Willie Rennie: The Future of Scotland's Economy**—As an amendment to motion S4M-13203 in the name of Jackie Baillie (The Future of Scotland's Economy), leave out from “welcomes proposals” to end and insert “recognises research that shows that investment in the first three years of a child's life is the most influential in changing an individual's life chances; believes that quality early years education is crucial to closing the attainment gap; further believes that targeted funding for school-aged pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds should be explored in Scotland as a means to give disadvantaged pupils a better chance of reaching their potential; considers that education is the best means to create a strong economy with sustainable jobs, and is concerned that the unemployment level in Scotland is bucking the trend seen across the UK by increasing in the last quarter.”

*followed by*

Business Motions

**S4M-13227 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion**—That the Parliament agrees, for the purposes of its consideration of the Scottish Elections (Reduction of Voting Age) Bill, under Rule 9.6.3A of the Standing Orders, that the Parliament shall consider the general principles of the Bill on the fourth sitting day after publication of the lead committee report.

**S4M-13212 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion**—That the Parliament agrees the following programme of business—

Tuesday 26 May 2015

2.00 pm                      Time for Reflection

*followed by*                      Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by*                      Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Equity and Excellence in Education

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 27 May 2015

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Portfolio Question Time  
Finance, Constitution and Economy

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 28 May 2015

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

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Scottish Elections (Reduction of Voting Age) Bill

*followed by* Business Motions

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 2 June 2015

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Topical Questions (if selected)

*followed by* Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Business Motions  
*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions  
5.00 pm Decision Time  
*followed by* Members' Business

Wednesday 3 June 2015

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions  
*followed by* Portfolio Question Time  
Rural Affairs, Food and Environment;  
Justice and the Law Officers  
*followed by* Scottish Government Business  
*followed by* Business Motions  
*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions  
5.00 pm Decision Time  
*followed by* Members' Business

Thursday 4 June 2015

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  
*followed by* Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Questions  
*followed by* Scottish Government Business  
*followed by* Business Motions  
*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions  
5.00 pm Decision Time

**S4M-13213 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion**—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Community Justice (Scotland) Bill at stage 1 be completed by 20 November 2015.

**S4M-13214 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion**—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the British Sign Language (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 5 June 2015.

**S4M-13215 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion**—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 9 October 2015.

**S4M-13216 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Business Motion**—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Bill at stage 2 be completed by 26 June 2015.

*followed by*

Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**S4M-13218 Joe FitzPatrick on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Approval of SSI**—That the Parliament agrees that the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (Cash Searches: Constables in Scotland: Code of Practice) Order 2015 [draft] be approved.

5.00 pm

Decision Time

*followed by*

Members' Business

Debate on the subject of—

**S4M-12348 Paul Martin: Protecting Rent-tied Pub Tenants in Scotland**—That the Parliament notes calls for a statutory code of practice for pub companies to be implemented in Scotland; understands that members of the UK Parliament recently amended the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill to introduce a code of practice designed to govern the relationship between pub companies and their tenants in England and Wales; notes the view that Scotland should have an adjudicator to protect hard-working licensees, including in Glasgow Provan, and that this would allow licensees to offer a wider selection of beers and promote market competition, and recognises that a Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) survey found that 99% of rent-tied pub tenants in Scotland would support such a move.



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