

What's Happening at Holyrood? Anderson Strathern Parliamentary Bulletin Monday 28 May 2007

This weekly Parliamentary Bulletin, detailing business at the Scottish Parliament, is composed of 3 sections: [Bills in progress](#), [Chamber Business](#) and [Committee Business](#)

The text highlighted in red signifies the developments that have taken place since the last Parliamentary Bulletin on 21 May 2007.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ministerial appointments

Alex Salmond MSP, leader of the SNP, was selected as the Parliament's nominee as First Minister on Wednesday 16 May 2007. In the final round of voting Alex Salmond received 49 votes, and Labour leader Jack McConnell MSP received 46 votes, with 33 abstentions.

On Thursday 17 May 2007, the Parliament agreed First Minister Alex Salmond MSP's proposals for ministerial appointments:

Cabinet Secretaries

Health and Wellbeing - Nicola Sturgeon MSP
Finance and Sustainable Growth – John Swinney MSP
Justice - Kenny MacAskill MSP
Education and Lifelong Learning - Fiona Hyslop MSP
Rural Affairs and the Environment - Richard Lochhead MSP

Ministers

Parliamentary Business - Bruce Crawford MSP
Europe, External Affairs and Culture - Linda Fabiani MSP
Enterprise, Energy and Tourism - Jim Mather MSP
Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change - Stewart Stevenson MSP
Schools and Skills - Maureen Watt MSP
Children and Early Years - Adam Ingram MSP
Public Health - Shona Robison MSP
Communities and Sport - Stewart Maxwell MSP
Community Safety - Fergus Ewing MSP
Environment - Mike Russell MSP

Full details of the new Scottish Cabinet and ministerial responsibilities are available [here](#).

Scottish Executive priorities

The new Scottish Government's strategic priorities were outlined in a policy speech to Parliament by First Minister Alex Salmond MSP on 23 May 2007. These include the creation of an independent Council of Economic Advisors, an increased focus on renewable energy and the abolition of tolls on the Forth and Tay road bridges. The full text of the speech can be viewed [here](#).

Scottish Parliament Corporate Body

On Thursday 24 May 2007, the Scottish Parliament elected four MSPs to serve on the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB). The Corporate Body considers and makes decisions on a wide range of issues to do with the running of the Parliament and is chaired by the Presiding Officer, Alex Fergusson MSP. The four MSPs elected are Alex Johnstone (Conservative MSP for North East Scotland), Tom McCabe (Labour MSP for Hamilton South), Tricia Marwick (SNP MSP for Central Fife) and Mike Pringle (Liberal Democrat MSP for Edinburgh South).

BILLS IN PROGRESS

Key: (Ex) = Executive Bill; (M) = Member's Bill; (C) = Committee Bill; (P) = Private Bill.

There are currently no Bills proceeding through the Scottish Parliament.

CHAMBER BUSINESS**Wednesday 30 May 2007**

2.30 pm Time for Reflection – Pastor Paul Coventry, Stranraer Baptist Church

followed by Executive Debate: Wealthier and Fairer

followed by Business Motion

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

Thursday 31 May 2007

9.15 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Executive Business (*Subject to the Parliament's agreement on Wednesday 30 May, this Executive business will be a subject debate on the Rural Development Programme.*)

11.40 am General Question Time

12.00 noon First Minister's Question Time

2.15 pm Ministerial Statement: UK Energy White Paper and Scotland

followed by Executive Debate: Transport

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time



COMMITTEE BUSINESS

There is no Committee Business in the Parliament this week. New committees will be formed in the coming weeks on a motion of the Parliamentary Bureau.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any queries in respect of the information in this Parliamentary Bulletin or require advice on the parliamentary process or legislative drafting, please contact: [Fiona Killen](#) on 0131 625 7296, [Sinead Riach](#) on 0131 270 7772 or [Alison Presly](#) on 0131 625 8156.