

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service



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Dear Mr Balfour

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION S6W-42629

The Cabinet Secretary in her response to the above PQ indicated that it related to operational matters within the responsibility of the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service corporate body. I am now writing in response to the matter raised.

S6W-42629 asks: *Scottish Government how many (a) adult and (b) child disability payment tribunals the Social Security Scotland tribunal system has heard in the calendar year 2025; how many have been held (i) in person, (ii) online, (iii) by telephone and (iv) by correspondence, and what information it can provide regarding how many cases are completed in an average (A) morning, (B) afternoon, (C) all day and (D) multiple day session.*

The table below provides the number of Tribunals heard in the calendar year 2025 (1 January 2025 - 18 December 2025 (date of request)).

Application Type	Number of Tribunals Heard
Adult Disability Payment	4606
Child Disability Payment	491

The table below provides a breakdown of the hearing modality of the Tribunals heard in the calendar year 2025(1 January 2025 - 18 December 2025).

It should be noted that the hearing modality is a user choice unless the case defaults to a paper case under The First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Social Security Chamber (Procedure) Regulations 2018, section 23.

	In Person	Teleconference	Video Conference	Hybrid	Paper Case
Number of Hearings	954	2047	638	21	1437

Please note that 'by correspondence' is assumed as a paper case and Hybrid hearings are a combination of both an in-person and digital means (teleconference or video conference). It

should also be noted that that no hearings have lasted two consecutive days or more. We have therefore interpreted 'multiple day session' as referring to adjourned cases where there has been a hearing on a specified date and then adjourned to a subsequent hearing/hearings on later dates.

The table below provides a breakdown of the number of cases completed (Decided) in the calendar year (1 January 2025 - 18 December 2025).

	Morning	Afternoon	All Day	Multiple day session
Number of cases	1787	1656	0	1843

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre and published on the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service website.

Yours sincerely



Malcolm Graham
Chief Executive