

Devolved Powers

The Scottish Parliament has law-making powers over many issues which affect our lives.

Here are some of them:

- Education
- Housing
- Agriculture and Forestry
- Fishing
- Local Government
- Health and Social Care
- Tax and Borrowing powers
- Law and Order
- Police and Fire services
- Environment
- Tourism and Culture
- Sport and the Arts
- Transport
- Some Welfare benefits

In 2012 and 2016, more powers were transferred to the Scottish Parliament through updates to the Scotland Act by the UK Parliament. For example, the Scottish Parliament can now make laws about the **drink drive limit** and the **national speed limit** of roads. There are powers to raise various taxes, including **Scottish rate of income tax**. Some **welfare payments** are now devolved.





The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Reserved Powers

Only the UK Parliament can pass laws on reserved powers.

Some of the powers which are reserved to Westminster are:

- Foreign affairs
- Defence
- National security
- The Constitution
- Welfare
- Immigration
- Broadcasting
- Energy – electricity, gas, coal, oil and nuclear
- Economic policy for the UK

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