

PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

**COMMISSIONER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND –
NEW COMMISSIONER**

Purpose

1. This paper invites the Parliamentary Bureau to timetable a motion inviting the Parliament to nominate an individual to His Majesty for appointment as the next Children’s Commissioner. The current Commissioner, Bruce Adamson demits office on 17 May 2023.

Timing

2. Time in the business programme is sought for a debate on this appointment ideally week beginning 24 April 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Background

3. Under the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003, the Commissioner is an individual appointed by His Majesty on the nomination of the Scottish Parliament.
4. Standing Orders Rule 3.11 provides for the nomination of individuals for appointment by His Majesty. The Rules provide that when a vacancy is due to arise, a cross-party selection panel, chaired by the Presiding Officer, will be established for the purpose of recommending a person for nomination by the Parliament to His Majesty for appointment.
5. The cross-party selection panel sat on Monday 27 March 2023. It was chaired by the Presiding Officer and the members were Bob Doris MSP, Kaukab Stewart MSP, Sue Webber MSP and Martin Whitfield MSP.

Conclusion

6. The motion seeking the Parliament’s agreement to the nomination will be lodged by Sue Webber MSP.
7. The Bureau is invited to agree to the motion being laid for debate during the week beginning 24 April 2023 and if this is not possible, as soon as possible thereafter.

**Parliamentary Business Team
April 2023**