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Foreword by the Presiding Officer

As I look back on this session’s second year, I believe the Parliament has grown in strength and maturity as we respond to fresh challenges and the changing nature of devolution.

The UK’s decision to leave the EU continued to dominate the Parliament’s agenda and has been the main topic of our debates, statements, motions and questions. The EU Continuity Bill placed unparalleled demands on members and staff, on our committees and on the Chamber, and it was hugely encouraging to see Parliament rise to the occasion.

Putting the Parliament in the best position to meet the needs of the people we serve was at the forefront of my mind when I created the Commission on Parliamentary Reform, and I was delighted to welcome its report this year. My hope is for the reform process to create a more modern, agile Parliament, and those who follow our proceedings will know that urgent questions alone have brought more immediacy and topicality to our agenda, allowing Parliament to discuss the big issues of the day.

Parliament is certainly as busy as it has ever been. 17 Bills have been introduced this year. Committees are meeting more often, Chamber is sitting for longer, and more motions and questions are being lodged. We continue to warmly welcome all visitors, and events and tour numbers are also on the up.

I hope this report gives you a flavour of our work this year and shows new ways for you to get involved, from catching up with research blogs and parliamentary podcasts, to new photography tours.

Rt Hon Ken Macintosh MSP

Facal-toisich bhon Oifigear Riaghlaidh

A’ coimhead air ais air dàrna bliadhna an t-seisein sa, saolidh mi gu bheil a’ Phàrlamaid air a bhith a’ fás ann an neart agus inbheachd agus sinn a’ cur aghaidh ri dùbhslain ùra agus atharraidhean ann an tiomnadh cumhachd.

Am-bliadhna, a-rithist, bha aire na Pàrlamaid gu mòr air gnôthaichean co-cheangailte ri co-chùnadh na RA gu an t-Aonadh Eòrpa fhàgail, agus b’ e sin priomh chuspair ar deasbadan, aithrisean, gluasadán agus ceistean. Chuir Bile Leantaineachd an AE uallach gun samhail air buill agus luchd-obrach, air ar comataidheadh agus air an t-Seòmar, agus bha e na hfiotor bhrosnachadh fàcinn mar a sheas a’ Phàrlamaid ris an dùbhslain.

B’ e dèanamh cinnceach gum biodh a’ Phàrlamaid anns an t-suidheachadh a b’ fheàrr gu feumalachd nan daoine a tha sinn a’ fhirfealadh a chloicheadh a’ chuìs bu mhòtha a bh’ air m’ aire nuair a chuir mi an Coimsìan Ath-leasachadh Pàrlamaideach air bhonn, agus bha mi a’ air leth tolichte an aithisg aige fhàcinn am-bliadhna.

Tha mi an dòchas gu cruthach am pròiseas ath-leasachadh Pàrlamaid a tha nas ur-nodha, sùbailte, agus bidh fios aig an fhéadhainn le seillean air an gnôthaichean againg gu bheit na ceistean ùginn air an obair againn a dhèanamh nas bunantaiche ri cúisean laithreach, a’ leigile leis a’ Phàrlamaid ceistean mòra ann an latha a dheasbad.

Rt Hon Ken Macintosh MSP
Parliamentary business
Gnothaichean pàrlamaideach

The Chamber
Business in the Chamber is a central part of the Scottish Parliament's work, hosting important and topical debates on a wide range of political issues, policy proposals and legislation. Parliamentary business also includes the questioning of the First Minister and other Scottish ministers, statements by cabinet secretaries and ministers, scrutiny of legislation, debates on motions by non-government parties and debates on motions by individual members.

During the parliamentary year, four new Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) were sworn in. Three MSPs resigned to campaign for seats in the UK Parliament and were replaced by three new MSPs from the regional list system; one regional member resigned and was subsequently re-elected as a constituency member.

Events outside Scotland have continued to influence business in the Chamber.

An Seòmar
Tha gnothach an t-Seòmhair na phàirt mhòr de dh’obair Pàrlamaid na h-Alba, a' cumail dheasbadan cudromach agus láthreach air raon farsaing de chùisean poilitigeach, molaidhean poileasaideh agus reachdas. Tha gnothach na Pàrlamaid cuideachd a’ toirt a-steach ceasnachadh a’ Prìomh Mhinisteir agus ministearan Albaiche eile, aithrisean le rùairean caibinnil agus ministearan, sgrùdadh reachdais, deasbadan air gluasadan le pàrtdhean neo-riaghaltais agus deasbadan air gluasadan le buill fa leth.

Rè na bliadhna pàrlamaidich, chaidh ceithrear Buill Pàrlamaid na h-Alba (BPA) ùra a thoirt a-steach. Leig triùr BPA dhìubh an dreuchd gusiomair dh’fhéarradh airson sìostamann an am Pàrlamaid na RA agus chaidh triùr BPA ùra a chur nan àite bhon t-sìostam-liosta roinneil; leig aon bhail roinnse dheth a dhreuchd agus chaidh ath-thaghadh às dèidh sin mar bhail sgìre-pàrlamaid.

Tha tachartasan taobh a-muigh na h-Alba fhathast a’ toirt buaidh air gnothaichean anns an t-Seòmar.
The parties reflected on events from around the UK, with opportunities for members to extend sympathy from the Scottish Parliament to all caught up in the terror attacks at a concert in Manchester and on Westminster Bridge. Business in the Chamber continued to be dominated by Brexit, with questions on the issue featuring at Portfolio Questions, First Minister’s Questions (FMQs) and in debates. The UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill also passed through the Parliament under a shortened timeframe.

The Presiding Officer’s Commission on Parliamentary Reform reported in June 2017. Some of the Commission’s recommendations have already been incorporated in Chamber procedure. At FMQs, party leaders no longer ask a ‘diary question’ before turning to their substantive questions, and the leaders’ questions are no longer published in advance.

The urgent questions procedure has also been revamped to create more opportunities for such questions to be asked in the Chamber. Recommendations relating to other matters, such as question times and the management of business, will be considered this coming year.

Other new procedures this year included: the first use of the rules relating to the attacks in Westminster and Manchester, a series of cyber attacks and recommendations by Police Scotland on safety at Holyrood.

Issues addressed by the SPCB this year included:

- agreeing security-related actions in response to the attacks in Westminster and Manchester, a series of cyber attacks and recommendations by Police Scotland on safety at Holyrood
- taking steps to address sexual harassment and sexist behaviour at Holyrood and in the local offices of MSPs
- publishing its Gender Pay Gap Reports for 2016 and 2017 and its Diversity Monitoring Report 2017
- considering recommendations by the Commission on Parliamentary Reform where they fall within the remit of the SPCB (primarily relating to diversity and engagement)
- approving strategy documents on energy, procurement, and public engagement

The Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

The Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) considers and makes decisions on a wide range of issues relating to supporting MSPs and the work of the Parliament. It is made up of five members, elected to the role by the Parliament, plus the Presiding Officer, who is the Chair.

Issues addressed by the SPCB this year included:

- agreeing security-related actions in response to the attacks in Westminster and Manchester, a series of cyber attacks and recommendations by Police Scotland on safety at Holyrood
- publishing its Gender Pay Gap Reports for 2016 and 2017 and its Diversity Monitoring Report 2017

Buidheann Chorporra Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Bhid Buidheann Chorporra Pàrlamaid na h-Alba (SPCB) a’ beachdachadh is a’ co-dhùnadh air raon farsaing de chúisean a bhuineas ri tac an t-Spìth do BPA agus obair na Pàrlamaid. Tha e air a dhéanamh suas de chòig buill, air an taghadh don dreuchd leis a’ Phàrlamaid, agus cuideachd an t-Oifigeur Riaghlaidh, a tha na Chathraiche.

Am measg chúisean a chaidh a dhasabead is le isp normald bha a’ Chomisean Ath-leasachadh Pàrlamaideach aig an Oifigeur Riaghlaidh aithsigh a-mach san Ogmhios 2017. Tha cuid de mholaidean a’ Chomisein air an gabhail a-stearach do mhdoth-obrach an t-Sèomair mar sin a bhith. Aig FMQs, chun eil ceannardan pàrdaidh a’ faingeanaidh ceist ‘leabhar-latha’ tullideach mus tòisich iad air na ceistean susbainteachaca, agus chan eil ceistean nan ceannardan a air am foilleachadh ro làimh.

Chaidh am modh-obrach air ceistean eiginneach ath-leasachadh aig an chomisean gu b’ bhiodh air cheistean mar sin a bhith air am faingeanaidh san t-Sèomar. Thèid beachdachadh air molaidhean a’ buntainn ri cúisean eile, leithid amannan cheistean agus riaghladh gnothaich, air a’ bhliadhna ro thornann.

Am measg mhodh-obrach úra eile am-bliadhna bha a’ chèid chleachadh, anns an t-Seòmar san Ogmhios, de na riaghlaithean air riatanas airson mòr-chuid iomarcaich (supermajority). Fo na riaghlaithean seo, mus tèid deasbad am bu chóir gabhail ri glasasad, feumaidh an t-Oifigeur Riaghlaidh a-nis co-dhùnadh a bheil, na bheachd-sa, ùlachdadh sam bith sa bhile ag atharraichd an t-sìostam taghaidh agus còir-bhòtaidh airson taghaidhean pàrlamaideach na h-Alba (a tha ga cheannamh na chuspair dionta). Ma tha, dh’fhéumadh an glasasad gu gabhail ris a’ bhile taic bho mhòr-chuid iomarcaich de bhull, is e sin, mòr-chuid de dha thrian, no 86 ball.
The Parliamentary Bureau

Membership of the Parliamentary Bureau comprises the Presiding Officer, who chairs the meetings, along with one representative from each of the political parties represented in the Parliament (currently five parties).

Agendas for meetings of the Parliament are proposed by the Parliamentary Bureau in a business motion which, once approved, forms a rolling programme of business for the coming fortnight.

Biuro na Pàrlamaid

Tha ballrachd Biuro na Pàrlamaid air a deànamh suas leis an Oifigeur Riaghlaidh, a bhios sa chathair aig na coinneamhan, agus aon rìochdair bhon a h-ùile pàrlaideach a tha ga rìochdachadh sa Phàrlamaid (còig pàrlaidhean aig an àm se). Tha clàr-gnothaich na Pàrlamaid ga mholadh le Biuro na Pàrlamaid air gluasad-gnothaich a chruthaicheas, aon uair is gu bheilear air aonta a chur ris, clàr-gnothaich leantainneach airson an ath chola-deug.

Debates

Debating time in the Chamber is allocated to political parties on the basis of the proportion of seats that they hold. In the past year, the Scottish National Party-led Scottish Government, with the largest proportion of debating time, led debates on a wide range of issues, including:

- a fairer Scotland for disabled people
- achieving a cyber-resilient Scotland
- action to tackle the impact of single-use plastics on land and in our seas
- delivering race equality
- Glasgow 2018 European Championships
- human trafficking and exploitation
- Scotland’s economy, opportunities for growth
- tackling social isolation and loneliness
- Year of Young People

Seventeen half days were allocated to debate non-government business in the Chamber during this parliamentary year. Debates on a range of topics took place, including:

- ferry services (fares and funding)
- freedom of information requests
- general practice (health)
- investment in public services

Deasbadan

Tha ùine deasbaid san t-Seòmar ga riachadh eadar na pàrlaidehean politicigeach a réir co-roinn nan suidheachan aca. Rè na bliadhna a chaidh seachad, bha Riaghaltas na h-Alba, fo stiùr Pàrlaidh Nàiseanta na h-Alba (SNP), aig an robh an roinn as motha de dheasbadan, aig ceann dheasbadan air raon farsaing de chuspairean, a’ gabhail a-steach:

- Alba nas cothromaiche do dhaoine cocraramach
- Alba air a dhion bhò ionnsaighchean saidbhear
- déileagadh ri buaidh plastaga aon-chleachdadh air muir is tir
- a’ toirt co-ionannachd cinnidh gu buil
- Farpais Èòrpach Ghlaschu 2018
- malairt agus dubh-shaothranachadh dhaoine
- Eaconamaidh na h-Alba, cothroman airson fàs
- a’ déileagadh ri iomallachd sòisealta agus aonranachd
- Bliadhna h-Òigrithd

Chaidh 17 leth-latha a shònrachadh airson deasbadan neo-riaghailean anns an t-Seòmar sa biadhna phàrlamaideach seo. Bha deasbadan ann air farsaingeachd de chuspairean, a’ gabhail a-steach:

- seirbheisean aiseig (faraidhean agus maoinmachadh)
- iarrtasan saorsa fiosrachaidh
- dotairean teaghlaich (slàinte)
- tasgadh ann an seirbheisean poblach
Committee debates
Committees can request debating time in the Chamber to bring issues to the attention of a wider audience. Committee debates this year have included:

- air quality
- destitution and asylum
- a petition on improving youth football in Scotland

Ministerial statements
Ministerial statements are an important part of the Parliament’s work. They are made by the First Minister and her ministerial colleagues to inform the Parliament of urgent matters or to make announcements on policy. Ministerial statements have been made on a number of topics, including:

- the British Sign Language National Plan
- diet and obesity strategy
- European Union negotiations and Scotland’s future

Deasbadan comataidh
Faodaidh comataidhean ùine deasbaid iarraidh san t-Seòmar gus cúisean a thoirt gu aire luchd-eisteachd nas farsainge. Am measg dheasbadan comataidh am-bliadhna bha:

- càileachd èadhair
- bochdainn agus tèarmann
- athchuinge mu bhith a’ leasachadh ball-coise ògíridh ann an Alba

Aithrisean Ministreil
Tha aithrisean le ministearan nam pàirt chudromach de dh’obair na Pàrlamaid agus bidh am Prìomh Mhinistear agus na ministearan aice a’ lèbhreideadh aithrisean gus innse don Phàrlamaid mu chùisean ògímn no co-dhùnàidhean air poleasaich. Chaith aithrisean Mhinistearan a dhèanamh air grunn chuspairean, leithid:

- Plana Nàiseanta Cànan Soidhnidh Bhreatain
- ro-inleachd dòigh-ithe agus reamhrachd
- còmhraidhean air an Aonaidh Eòrpaich agus Alba san am rì teachd
- ro-inleachd saidheans, teicneolais, inleadaireachd agus matamataig (STEM)
- socharaine tearainneachd shòisealta

Members’ business
Members of the Scottish Parliament can, through members’ business debates, highlight issues of interest to them which might not otherwise be debated. These debates normally take place at each meeting of the Parliament and examples of such debates held during the past year include:

- 25th anniversary of the Borders Talking Newspaper
- congratulations to the Which? campaign to call time on nuisance calls in Scotland
- heritage and environmental conservation charities’ support for outdoor learning
- Homes First campaign
- maintenance of tenement communal property
- Respect for Shopworkers Week
- supporting Scotland’s athletes in the Island Games

Gnothaichean Bhall
Faodaidh Buill fa leth aire a thogail mu chùisean ’s a bheil úidh aca, ach nach fhaigheadh ùine deasbaid ann an dòigh sam bith eile, tro dheasbadan gnothaichean bhall. Bhid iad seo a’ bachairt, mar as tric, aig gach coinneamh den Phàrlamaid agus nam measaig am-bliadhna bha:

- 25 bliadhna bho bhòsich Pàipear-nàidheachd Labhairteach nan Crìochan
- meala-nàidheachd air iomairt Which? gus slad a chur a chuir air gairmean-fòin buaireanta ann an Alba
- taic bhuidhnean carthannais dualchais agus árainneachd airson iomnachadh a-muigh
- iomairt Ciad Dachannan
- cumail suas seilbh choitcheann an teanamaint
- Seachdain spèis do luchd-obrach nam bùtheann
- a’ toirt taic do lùth-chleasaichean na h-Alba ann an Geamannan nan Eilean
Time for reflection
The first item of business in the Chamber each week is time for reflection, which gives people of different faiths and beliefs the chance to share their thoughts with the Parliament. Representatives from a range of religious groups and faiths, and individuals of no faith, who have taken part this year include:

• Imam Mohammad Sohail Ashfaque, Blackhall Mosque, Edinburgh
• Reverend John Duncan MBE, minister of St Athernase Church of Scotland, Leuchars, and a former army chaplain
• Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald, formerly head of the pontifical council on interreligious dialogue and papal nuncio in Egypt
• Dr Sean Morrissey, Bahá'í Community of Scotland
• Rabbi Mark L Solomon, Senior Lecturer in Talmud, Rabbinics and Jewish philosophy, Leo Baeck College, and member of the Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community
• Hannah Rose Thomas, artist and humanitarian worker, and creative director for art projects with refugees to commemorate World Refugee Day

Motions
MSPs use parliamentary motions for a number of purposes – to highlight an issue or event, to generate support for a cause, to acknowledge or congratulate an achievement or to stimulate debate on a subject. Other members are invited to formally support such motions.

While the vast majority of motions are not intended for debate, a number are, including motions for members’ business debates, Government and other party debates, and in relation to legislation.

All motions, whether for debate or not, can be amended by any member.

Motions lodged during the year and not intended for debate were on a broad range of subjects, including:

• the centenary of Passchendaele
• eating disorders awareness in Scotland
• HIV Scotland Positive Persons’ Forum 2017
• Scotland’s largest solar farm
• Social Bite

Gluasadan
Bidh na Buill a’ cleachdadh gluasad an pàrlamaideach air caochladh adhbachan — gus aire a thogail mu cheist no tachartas, gus taic a chur ri cùis air choireigin, gus uurram a nochdadh no meal-an-naidhreachadh a thoirit seachad, no gus deasbaidh air cuspair a bhrosnachadh. B'thean a fiathachadh Bhàill eile gus taic thoirmeil a thoirit do na gluasad an seo.

Ged nach eil dùil ri deasbad an fhior mhòr-chuid de na gluasad, tha ri cuid, a’ gabhail a-steach gluasadán ann an deasbadan ghnothachean bhàll, deasbadan Riaghailtais agus deasbadan phàrtaidhean eile agus na bhunieas do reachdas.

Faodaidh ball sam bith atharrachadh-gluasad a mholaigh, ge b’e a bheil e ri dheasbad no nach eil.

Bha na gluasadán a chaidh a chur a-steach rè na bliadhna air raon farasgaidh de chuspairean, leithid:

• cuimhneachan ceud bliadhna air Passchendaele
• aire mu ghalairean-lithe ann an Alba
• Fòrum Positive Persons 2017 aig HIV Alba
• An tuathanas grèine as motha an Alba
• Social Bite
Parliamentary questions

Parliamentary questions, whether written or oral, are used by MSPs as a means of seeking factual and statistical information from the Scottish Government or the SPCB. MSPs have weekly opportunities to ask oral questions of the First Minister and her ministerial colleagues.

First Minister’s Questions (FMQs) normally take place on a Thursday and are selected by the Presiding Officer. Members also have an opportunity during FMQs to ask questions of a local or urgent nature. 228 FMQs were asked in the last year.

Topical Questions are normally the first item of parliamentary business each Tuesday after time for reflection and provide members with an opportunity to ask questions of ministers on current issues that are of concern to their constituents. Questions are selected by the Presiding Officer. 64 such questions were asked in the last year.

Urgent questions were introduced in September 2017 as a means for MSPs to raise current issues of immediate concern. Ten urgent questions had been selected by the Presiding Officer and taken in the Chamber by 11 May 2018. Topics included:

- combustible cladding on buildings
- the European Union and the single market
- merger of the British Transport Police in Scotland and Police Scotland
- travel disruption due to adverse weather

Ministers are also questioned by MSPs at Portfolio Questions on Wednesdays and General Questions on Thursdays. Members are randomly selected in a ballot for both.

6,450 written questions were submitted by members in the last year. Each question receives a written answer from the Scottish Government or SPCB and is published on the Parliament’s website.

Ceistean pàrlamaideach

Bidh BPA a’ cleachadh cheistean pàrlamaideach, ann an labhairt no sgrìobhadh, airson fiosrachd agus staitistearachd fhàgaimh bhò Rìoghaltas na h-Alba no Buidheann Chorporra na Pàrlamaid. Gheibh BPA cothrom gach seachadh ceistean fhàgaimhdon Phríomh Minister agus na ministearain aice, anns an t-Seòmar.

Bidh Ceistean don Phríomh Minister (FMQs) a’ tachairt gach Diardaoin agus ’s e an t-Oifigeach Riaghlaidh a bhios a’ tadhadh nan ceistean. Gheibh builidh cothrom cuideachd aig an ãm seo ceistean fhàgaimhdon air cuisean èiginn agus cuisean Iomadaidh. Chaidh 228 ceistean Phríomh Minister fhàgaimhdon tron bhliadhna.

Mar as tric ’s e na Ceistean Tràthail a’ chiaid ghnôthach pàrlamaideach gach Dimair às dèidh ãm chuasaichd ãgas bheir iad cothrom do bhulaidh ceistean a chur air ministearan air cuisean tràthail a bhùineos do mhùinntir na sgìre aca. Is e an t-Oifigeach Riaghlaidh a thaghas dè na ceistean a thèid fhàgaimhdon. Chaidh 64 ceistean den leithd fhàgaimhdon tron bhliadhna.

Chaidh Ceistean Èiginneach a thoirt a-steach ann an t-Sultain 2017 airson cothrom a thoirt do BPA cuisean làitheil a thogail a dh’fhéadais deligeadh riutha sa bhadh. Bha an t-Oifigeach Riaghlaidh air 10 ceistean èiginneach a thagadh airson fàgaimhdon anns an t-Seòmar gu ruige 11 Cèitein 2018. Am measg nan cuspaiirean bha:

- còmhdaich so-iosgalaidh air togalaichean
- an t-Aonadh Èorpach agus a’ mhargaidh shingilte
- aonadh Poileas Còmhdaich Braithreatinn ann an Alba le Poileas Alba
- duilheadasan siubhal air sgàth droch thidhe

Bidh ministearan air an ceasnaichd le BPA cuideachd aig Ceistean Portfòlio gach Dìidiain agus Ceistean Coitcheann gach Diardaoin. Thathais a’ tadhadh cò gheibh cothrom ceasnaichd le buileat airson na dhà. Chaidh 6,450 ceistean siubhthi a chur a-steach le builidh ri na bladhna. Gheibh a h-ùile ceist freagairt sgrìobhadh bhò Riaghaltas na h-Alba no bhon SPCB agus thèid fhòillseachadh air lârach-lìn na Pàrlamaid.

Parliamentary questions by subject Ceistean pàrlamaideach a rèir cuspair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture, tourism and external affairs</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment, climate change and land reform</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and the constitution</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice and the Law Officers</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic and social development</td>
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<td>Education and skills</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural economy and connectivity</td>
<td>23%</td>
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<td>Health and sport</td>
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Lobbying Register

The Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016 was brought fully into force on 12 March 2018. From that date, any organisation which engages in face-to-face lobbying of MSPs, Scottish Government ministers, special advisers or the permanent secretary is required by law to record details on a new lobbying register administered by the Parliament’s lobbying register team. Some exemptions may apply; information on these can be found in the Lobbying Register Guidance.

After thorough testing by stakeholders during a familiarisation period, from October 2017 until February 2018, the register, which is hosted at www.lobbying.scot, went live on 12 March. In the first week of operation, 357 organisations registered an account. Information about specific instances of lobbying, which will build up over time, can be viewed by anyone simply by searching the register online.

Legislation

Draft laws (known as bills while they are being considered by the Parliament) can take several months to complete their three-stage progress through the Parliament. When a bill is passed, it normally takes around one month for it to receive Royal Assent and to then become an Act of the Scottish Parliament.

Most bills introduced in this second parliamentary year of the session – as in most years – were introduced by the Scottish Government. One member’s bill and one private bill were also introduced.

Information on the procedures for considering different types of bill can be found on the Parliament’s Bills webpages.

Clár-coiteachaidh

Thàinig an Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016 an làn-èifeachd air 12 Màrt 2018. Bhon latha sin, tha an lagh ga chur mar fhìachaibh air buidheann sam bith a ni coiteachadh aghaidh-ri-aghaidh air BPA, ministearan Riaghaltas na h-Alba, comhairlichean speisealta no an rùnairse seasmhach, fiosrachadh mu dheidhinn a chlárachd an clàr coiteachaidh ùr a thaga ruil le sgíoba clàr coiteachaidh na Pàrlamaid. Dh’fhathodh gur bi beagan shaoraichdean ann; gheibhneach fiosrachadh mu dheidhinn sin anns an Stiùireadh a’ Chlár-coiteachaidh.

Às dèidh do luchd-leasa lán dheuchainn a dhéanamh air rè às ghnàthachaichd, bhon Dàmhair 2017 gus an Gearran 2018, chaithd an clàr, a thag a chumail aig www.lobbying.scot, beò air 12 Màrt. Anns a’ chiaid seachdain obrachaidh, chlărach 357 buidheann cunntas. Faodaigh duine sam bith fiosrachadh air coiteachadh sònraichte, a thèid am meud thar ùine, thicinn le rannsachadh air-loidhne.

Reachdas

Faodaigh dreachd laghan (is e bilean a th’ ora fhad ’s a tha a’ Phàrlamaid a’ beachdachadh orra) a bhith grunn mhiosan air an t-slighe tro na tri irean sa Phàrlamaid. Nuair a tha thàhas air gabhail ri bile, bidh e a’ toirt mu mhois mus faigh e Aonta Rioghlai airson a dhol na Achd Pàrlamaid na h-Alba.

Rè na dàrna bliadhna pàrlamaidich seo den t-seisean, b’ e Riaghaltas na h-Alba – mar as abhaist – a thug a-steach a’ mhòr-chuid de bhilean. Thugadh a-steach cuideachd aon bhile buill agus aon bhile priobhaideach.

Gheibhneach fiosrachadh air na pròiseasan airson beachdachadh air diofar seòrsa bile air duillegan-lìn Bhilean na Pàrlamaid.
**Bills introduced**

A total of 17 bills were introduced in the Parliament between 12 May 2017 and 11 May 2018. The bills are listed opposite in order of date of introduction, broken down by bill type.

Seven of these bills were passed during the parliamentary year, as well as a further 10 bills which had been introduced in the previous year. The remaining bills are continuing their parliamentary passage.

**Bilean a chaidh a thoirt a-steach**

Chaidh 17 bilean a thoirt a-steach sa Phàrlamaid eadar 12 Cèitean 2017 agus 11 Cèitean 2018. Tha na bilean air an liostadh seo thall a rèir a chinne-latha a chaidh an toirt a-steach agus a rèir de seòrsa bile a bh’ anna.

Ghabhadh ri seachd de na bilean seo anns a’ bhliadhna phàrlamaideach, agus chaidh gabhail ri 10 a chaidh a thoirt a-steach rì na bliadhna roimhe sin. Tha na bilean a th’ air fhagail fhathast air an slighe tron Phàrlamaid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Type</th>
<th>Bill Title</th>
<th>Date of Introduction</th>
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<tr>
<td>Government bills</td>
<td>Civil Litigation (Expenses and Group Proceedings) (Scotland) Bill</td>
<td>01.06.17</td>
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<td>Islands (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Children and Young People (Information Sharing) (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Social Security (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Housing (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Historical Sexual Offences (Pardons and Disregards) (Scotland) Bill</td>
<td>06.11.17</td>
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<td>Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (Relief from Additional Amount) (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Planning (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Scottish Crown Estate Bill</td>
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<td>Budget (Scotland) (No.2) Bill</td>
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<td>Prescription (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Management of Offenders (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<td>Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Bill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member’s bill</td>
<td>Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) (Scotland) Bill</td>
<td>21.06.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private bill</td>
<td>Writers to the Signet Dependants’ Annuity Fund Amendment (Scotland) Bill</td>
<td>18.05.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Acts
The 14 bills which received Royal Assent to become Acts of the Scottish Parliament between 12 May 2017 and 11 May 2018 are listed opposite in the order in which they received Royal Assent. These Acts originated as Government bills, unless otherwise indicated.

Achdan
Tha na 14 bilean a fhuair Aonta Rìoghail a dhol nan Achdan Pàrlamaid na h-Alba eadar 12 Cèitean 2017 agus 11 Cèitean 2018 air an liosta seo thall anns an ordugh a fhuair iad Aonta Rioghail. Thòisich na h-Achdan seo mar bilean Riaghaltais mura h-eil an caochladh ga innse.

Air Departure Tax (Scotland) Act 2017
Limitation (Childhood Abuse) (Scotland) Act 2017
Railway Policing (Scotland) Act 2017
Contract (Third Party Rights) (Scotland) Act 2017
Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017
Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Act 2017 (Member’s)
Edinburgh Bakers’ Widows’ Fund Act 2018 (Private)
Writers to the Signet Dependents’ Annuity Fund Amendment (Scotland) Act 2018 (Private)
Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (Scotland) Act 2018
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018
Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018
Budget (Scotland) Act 2018
Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) (Scotland) Act 2018 (Member’s)
Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018

Achd Cìs Fàgail air Plèana (Alba) 2017
Achd Criochn-ama (Droch Dhiol Cloinne) (Alba) 2017
Achd Poileas Rathadan-iarainn (Alba) 2017
Achd Cùmhnaid (Còirichean Treas Phàrtaidh) (Alba) 2017
Achd Bochdann Clòinnta (Alba) 2017
Achd Chriosa Sàbhailteachd air Gòmhadh Sgoile (Alba) 2017 (Buill)
Achd Maoin Bhanntreichean Bhèicearan Dhùn Èideann 2018 (Prìobhaideach)
Achd Luchd-eisimeil Maoin Bladhnaichais Sgriobhadhairean an t-Seula (Alba) 2018 (Prìobhaideach)
Achd Bheathaichean Fiadhaich ann an Siorcasan Sìubhail (Alba) 2018
Achd Droch Dhiol san Dachaig (Alba) 2018
Rìochdachadh nan Gnèithean air Phùird Phoblach (Alba) 2018
Achd Buidseit (Alba) 2018
Achd Gìulann Oilbeumach aig Ball-coise agus Conaltradh Bagairteach (Ais-ghairm) (Alba 2018 (Buill)
Achd Coilltearachd is Riaghladh Fearainn (Alba) 2018
Committees
Comataidhean

Committees play a central part in the work of the Parliament – taking evidence from a range of witnesses, scrutinising legislation and carrying out inquiries.

The Parliament has different kinds of committee. There are seven mandatory and eight subject committees, and it can also establish committees or sub-committees to consider particular issues or pieces of legislation. Of the three such committees established in the previous parliamentary year, the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing and the Pow of Incharray Drainage Commission (Scotland) Bill Committee, which was established on 14 June 2017 to consider the private bill of the title, existed only until the bill was passed on 14 December 2017.

Lynn Welsh, Coimsean Co-ionannachd Daonna Alba, agus i a’ toirt seachad fianais

Tha comataidhean aig cridhe obair na Pàrlamaid – a’ gabhail fianais bho raon farsaing de luchd-fianais, a’ sgrúdadh reachdas agus a’ dèanamh rannsachadh.

Tha diofar sheòrsaichean comataidh aig a’ Phàrlamaid. Tha seachd comataidhean éigneachail agus ochd comataidhean cuspair ann, agus faodar comataidhean no fo-comataidhean a stèidheadhachd cuideachd gus beadh a ghabhail air ceistean no piosan reachdas. A-mach às na trì comataidhean den leithid a chaidh a stèidheadhachd sa bhliadhanna phàrlamaideach mu dheireadh; bha Fo-comataidh Ceartais air Obair Pollis agus Comataidh Bile Coimsean Dréanaidh Pholl Afreann (Alba) fhathast an gnìomh air 11 Cèitean 2018. Chaidh Comataidh Bile Maoin Bhantrairchean Bhèificean Dhùn Èideann a thoirt gu crich air 21 Samhain 2017, nuair a ghabhadh ris a’ bhile phriobhaideach den ainm sin. Cha do mhair Comataidh Atharrachadh Bile Luchd-eisimeil Maoin Biladhnaicais Sgrìobhadairean an t-Seula (Alba), a chaidh a stèidheadhachd air 14 Og-mhios 2017 airson beachdachadh air a’ bhile phriobhadhach den ainm sin, ach gus an deach gabhail ris a’ bhile air 14 Dùbhlachd 2017.

Lynn Welsh, Equality and Human Rights Commission in Scotland, giving evidence

Lynn Welsh, Coimisean Co-ionannachd is Còraichean Daonna Alba, agus i a’ toirt seachad fianais
Claire Shanks, British Lung Foundation, giving evidence

For more information about a committee, click on its name in the list opposite. Each mandatory and subject committee publishes its own annual report, and you will also find links to these opposite.

Airson barrachd fiosrachaidh mu chomataidh, briog air a h-aimn san liosta seo thall. Biod gach comataidh éigneachail agus comataidh cuspair a’ fòillseachadh a h-airteasgh bliadhnaí féin agus gheibh thu ceanglaichean rìitha an seo cuideachd.
The Commission on Parliamentary Reform presented its findings to the Presiding Officer on 20 June 2017. The Commission made 75 recommendations. They included:

- changes to how parliamentary questions are asked and how business in the Chamber is managed
- improving how the Scottish Parliament engages with people to get them more involved with its work
- supporting MSPs to develop their roles as parliamentarians
- increasing the diversity of those invited to speak to committees

Most of the recommendations are being considered by various committees and bodies of the Parliament. To make sure all this work is co-ordinated, a Presiding Officer’s Advisory Group (POAG) was established to oversee the consideration and implementation of the Commission’s recommendations. Its members are Kenneth Gibson MSP (SNP), Jackson Carlaw MSP (Conservatives), Johann Lamont MSP (Labour), Alison Johnstone MSP (Greens) and Liam McArthur MSP (Liberal Democrats).

The POAG will publish a report towards the end of 2018, setting out the progress made.

Coimisean air Ath-leasachadh Pàrlamaideach

Nochd an Coimisean air Ath-leasachadh Pàrlamaideach toradh a rannsachaidh don Oifigeir Riaghlaidh air 20 Òg-mhios 2017. Rinn an Coimisean 75 molaidhean. Nam measg bha:

- atharrachaidhean air mar a thathar a’ faighneachd cheistean pàrlamaideach agus mar a tha gnothaich san t-Seòmar air a riaghladh
- leasachadh mar a bhios Pàrlamaid na h-Alba a’ com-pàirteachadh le daoine gus cothrom a thoirt dhaibh barrachd gnothaich a ghabhail ri a h-obair
- a’ toirt taic do BhPA gus an dreuchdan a leasachadh mar luchd-pàrlaimid
- meudachadh air iomadaichd nan daoine a gheibh cuireadh gus buidhinn ri comataidh hean

Tha a’ mhòr-chuid de na molaidhean gam beachdachadh le diofar chomataidh hean agus buidhean Pàrlaimid. Gus déanadh cinteach gu bheil an obair seo a cho-ordanachadh, chaidh Buidheann Comhairleeachaidh an Oifigeir Riaghlaidh (POAG) a stèidheadhach gus súil a chumail air beachdachadh air molaidhean a’ Chomisein agus an cur an sàs. Is e na buill a th’ air, Coineach Sibhon BPA (SNP), Jackson Carlaw BPA (Tòraidhean), Johann Lamont BPA (Làbarach), Alison Johnstone BPA (Uaine) agus Liam MacArtair BPA (Libearalaich Dheamocratach).

Foilsichidh am POAG aithisg ro dheireadh 2018, a’ mhineachadh an adhartais a chaidh a dheanamh.
International engagement
Com-pàirteachadh eadar-nàiseanta

The International Relations Office (IRO) facilitated more than 100 inward parliamentary visits, ranging from courtesy calls with the Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officers to discussions at parliamentarian and official levels. These allowed for an exchange of knowledge and experiences and enhanced the Parliament’s profile and reputation internationally.

The Presiding Officer, the Rt Hon Ken Macintosh MSP, undertook two outward visits this year: to the Bavarian State Parliament in July 2017; and to New York, the National Assembly of Québec and Washington DC in April 2018.

Across these visits, he held discussions on parliamentary reform, sexual harassment, the role of committees and the work of the Scottish Futures Forum.

The Presiding Officer met a number of Speakers visiting Holyrood including:

- André Antoine, from the Parliament of Wallonia
- Muhterem Aras MdL, from the Parliament of Baden-Württemberg
- Dave Levac MPP, from the Legislative Assembly of Ontario
- Dr Darryl Plecas MLA, from the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
- Asad Qaiser MPA, from the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Work continued with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) to strengthen parliamentary relationships. This involved work with several legislatures:

- with Kenya, on orientation for new members
- with Botswana, on human resources support
- with Bahrain, on strategic planning
- with Macedonia, on financial scrutiny/oversight by parliament and on civic engagement

In November 2017, Deputy Presiding Officer Christine Grahame MSP opened a WFD seminar in the Parliament on post-legislative scrutiny and gender analysis.

Chuaidh an Oifis Dhàimhean Eadar-nàiseanta còrr is 100 turas pàrlamaideach a thiginn do Phàrlamaid na h-Alba thar na bliadhna, bho ghairemean furain leis an Oifigear Riaghlaidh agus Leas-oifigearan Riaghlaidh gu cùmhradh chean aig ireann luchd-pàrlamaideach is oifigeach. Thug seo cothrom airson fiosrachadh is eòlas a cho-roinn, thog e aire mu dheidhinn na Pàrlamaid agus mheudaich e a clú air fedadh an t-saoghal.


Air na tursan sin, bha cùmhradheathean aige air ath-leasachadh pàrlamaideach, sàrachadh feisell, obair chomataidean agus obair Fòram Alba air Thòiseach.

Chònnich an t-Oifigear Riaghlaidh cuideachd ri grunn Luchd-labhairt a rinne tadhal air Taigh an Ròid. Nam measg bha:

- André Antoine, bho Phàrlamaid Wallonia
- Muhterem Aras MdL, bho Phàrlamaid Baden-Württemberg
- Dave Levac MPP, bho Seanadh Reachdail Ontario
- Dr Darryl Plecas MLA, bho Seanadh Reachdail British Columbia
- Asad Qaiser MPA, bho Seanadh Roinneil Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Chùm sinn oirnn ag obair le Fonndas Deamocrasaidh Westminster (WFD) airson dàimh Hein phàrlamaideach a nearrachadh. Bha seo a’ gabhail a-steach obair le grunn reachdadaireachdan:

- le Kenya, air in trì rìghdadh do bhuil ùra
- le Botswana, air taic do dh’obair-sgiobadh
- le Bahrain, air dealbhadh ro-innleachdail
- le Macedonia, air sgùrdadh/os-sealladh ionnhasail le pàrlamaid agus air com-pàirteachadh cathairr

San t-Samhain 2017 dh’thosgas aig Leas-oifigear Riaghlaidh Cairstiona Ghreumach BPA seiminear WFD ains a Phàrlamaid air sgùrdadh iar-reachdail agus anailis gnè.
The Parliament also continued its engagement with the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which has completed a series of study visits to Holyrood to discuss operational and procedural issues on how parliaments work.

Both Deputy Presiding Officers met with a range of visiting delegations. Christine Grahame MSP met with the Ambassador of Georgia, while Linda Fabiani MSP met with the Estonian Ambassador and a delegation led by a member of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China.

Continuing membership of the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly (BIPA) provided MSPs with an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual interest with colleagues from parliaments and assemblies of the British Isles. The Scottish delegation, led by Linda Fabiani MSP, attended the 54th and 55th BIPA plenary conferences in Kilkenny and Liverpool. MSPs also attended BIPA subject committees in Jersey and Brussels, and hosted a meeting in Edinburgh.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Scotland Branch remained active, with MSPs participating in a range of CPA conferences, including the inaugural Parliamentarians with Disabilities Conference and a modern slavery workshop.

Jon Davies, Chief Executive of the CPA, met the Presiding Officer and MSPs to discuss its work. The Parliament also supported shadowing opportunities for senior parliamentary staff from New Zealand, Tasmania and Fiji.

Marking the long-standing ties between Scotland and Malawi, a highlight of the year was the address to MSPs in the Chamber on 26 April 2018 by the President of the Republic of Malawi, His Excellency Professor Peter Mutharika.

Details of international visits can be found in the IRO section on the Parliament’s website.

Lean a’ Phàrlamaid cuideachd ag obair cómhla ri Seannad Roinnleal Riachdais Naillhe, a tha air sleuth de thursan sgrúdaidh a dhéanamh gu Taigh an Ròid gu cúisean a dheasbad air na dòighneas-obrach agus pròiseas an bhios aig Pàrlamaidean.

Choinnich an dà Leas-oifigear Riaghlaidh ri grunn riocadh ard air seanadh Roinneil Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a tha air sreath de thursan sgrùdaidh a dhéanamh gu Taigh an Ròid gu cúisean a dheasbad air na dòighneas-obrach agus pròiseas an bhios aig Pàrlamaidean.

Choinnich Jon Davies, Ard-oifigear an CPA, ris an Oifigear Riocaidhais agus ri BIPA gu cuideachd air obair aig Pàrlamaideach air 26 April 2018 by the President of the Republic of Malawi, His Excellency Professor Peter Mutharika.

Details of international visits can be found in the IRO section on the Parliament’s website.
Engaging with the people of Scotland remains a key priority for the Parliament. In another productive year, successful programmes have been developed and innovations have expanded opportunities for people of all ages to find out about their Parliament and make their views known.

During 2017-18, the Parliament’s Outreach Services have continued expanding how they meet the joint aims of being relevant to the curriculum and supporting parliamentary engagement. This is delivered through a busy and varied programme of educational activities.

Tha co-obrachadh le muinntir na h-Alba fhathast na phriomhchasa aig a’ Phàrlamaid. Ann am bliadhna ghnìomhach eile, chaidh prògraman soirbheachd a chruthachadh agus tha inleachdas air cothroman a leudachadh do dhaoinne de gach aois gus faighinn a-mach mun a’ Phàrlamaid aca agus gus am beachdan a chur an càill.

Ann an 2017-18, tha Seirbheisean Ruigsinn na Pàrlamaid air leantainn air adhart a’ leudachadh mar a choileanas iad amasan co-cheangalte air a bhith a’ buntainn ris a’ churraisealam agus a’ toirt taic do chom-pàirteachas pàrlamaideach. Tha seo air a líbhrieachadh tro prògram trang agus measgaichte de ghnìomhan foghlaim.
The Parliament is committing to building the capacity of people of all ages to take part in parliamentary scrutiny. For example, in 2018, the Parliament entered a new partnership with YWCA’s Young Women Lead project. Thirty-eight women aged between 15 and 30, from across Scotland, formed their own unique parliamentary committee, chaired by Deputy Presiding Officer Linda Fabiani MSP. The group has worked together to set its own agenda and is taking forward an inquiry into sexual harassment in education.

Building on the work of the past two years, staff have continued to support engagement efforts, bringing lived experience into the scrutiny process. During 2018, the use of digital consultation tools has expanded to include a forum where members of the public can comment on each other’s views. This has helped the committees to understand better whether concerns about a particular bill are shared by others and gauge which parts of the bill people agree with or disagree with.

While moving engagement online can help overcome some geographical or time barriers, the Parliament has also continued to engage directly with people across Scotland. To help the people of Aberdeen understand the Scottish budget and the scrutiny work undertaken by the Finance and Constitution Committee, for example, Parliament staff ran education sessions for local people, charities and schools. Of those who then came along to the committee’s meeting in Aberdeen on 15 January 2018, more than a quarter had attended these sessions.

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The Public Information team has also been taking forward the recommendation from the Commission on Parliamentary Reform to make information about the Parliament more accessible to people across Scotland. Work to develop contacts in each parliamentary region is continuing, but a range of leaflets and posters showing local MSPs have already been placed in the local offices of more than 70 members and in 245 libraries.

The Parliament has continued to deliver on its commitment to engage with the people of Scotland, whichever language they use. Following a public online survey in Gaelic and English between 21 September and 2 November 2017, the SPCB agreed its third Gaelic Language Plan, which will run from April 2018 to March 2023.

The new plan has three aims: using Gaelic where appropriate to reach out to communities across Scotland and facilitating their interactions with the Parliament in Gaelic; supporting MSPs and staff in developing confidence around using Gaelic in their work; and integrating Gaelic into the Scottish Parliament’s thinking.

Work has also begun on the Parliament’s first British Sign Language (BSL) Plan, which is required under the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015. This plan, which will set out how the Parliament intends to build on the services and facilities it already provides for BSL users, will be published in October 2018.

Events and exhibitions continue to provide engagement opportunities between the Scottish Parliament, MSPs and the public. Member-sponsored events and exhibitions continue to be popular, with nearly 400 events and more than 70 exhibitions held over the past year.

Major events in the annual programme included Euroquiz 2017; the Donald Dewar Memorial Debate; the Great Get Together, inspired by the memory of Jo Cox MP; the St Andrew’s Day Debate; and International Women’s Day. In addition, the Presiding Officer hosted the Scottish Youth Parliament’s 64th sitting, which brought more than 130 Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) to the Chamber to discuss young people’s rights.

The Parliament hosted the public exhibition The Prestonpans Tapestry and curated a display by contemporary artist Calum Colvin from his Jacobites by Name series. Once again, the Parliament was the only Scottish venue for the World Press Photo 2017 exhibition. It also curated the Scottish Press Photography Awards and Teenage Instamatics photography displays.
An updated version of the *Harry Benson: Seeing America* exhibition, which the Parliament had exhibited in 2016, was designed for loan to the National Trust for Scotland for their Aberdeenshire Drum Castle site. The Maureen Hodge *Fields of Endeavour: Territory II* textile, which was specially commissioned by the Parliament, was loaned to the *Daughters of Penelope* exhibition of women textile artists at the Dovecot Gallery in Edinburgh.

The 13th Festival of Politics took place in October for the first time and was themed around ‘Rebellion and Revolution’. Almost 4,000 people attended 30 panel discussions over the three days of the Festival. Speakers covered a range of topics, from gender equality to youth mental health, the Russian Revolution and the importance of investigative journalism.

Highlights included the Presiding Officer’s interviews with politicians the Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP and the Rt Hon Ken Clarke MP, broadcaster Evan Davis talking about fake news, and writer/activist George Monbiot talking about political engagement.

The Main Hall was transformed into the Festival Café Bar and hosted a variety of musical acts and performances, together with a photographic exhibition charting punk rock in Edinburgh. A partnership with Young Scot produced the Revolution Reporters who reported on various Festival panels.

Chaidh dreach ùr de thaisbeanadh *Harry Benson: Seeing America*, a chaidh a thaisbeanadh sa Phàrlamaid ann an 2016, a dheasachadh airson a thoir air isasad do dh’Urras Nàiseanta na h-Alba airson Caisteal Druim ann an Siorrachd Obair Dheathain. Chaidh obair-clòtha Maureen Hodge *Fields of Endeavour: Territory II*, a chaidh a choimiseanadh gu sònraichte leis a’ Phàrlamaid, a thoir air isasad do thaisbeanadh de luchd-ealain bhoireann ag obair le clò, *Daughters of Penelope*, aig Gailearaidh Dovecot ann an Dùn Èideann.

Chaidh an 13mh Fèis Poilitigs a chumail anns an Dàmhair airson a’ chaid uair agus b’ e an cuspair ‘Ar-a-mach agus Réabhlaid’. Bha faigsi air 4,000 neach a’ frithealadh 30 cómhradh panail thairis air tri latha na Fèise. Bha luchd-labhairt a’ bruidhinn air raon chuspairean, bho cho-ionnanachd gnè gu slàinte inntinn ògiridh, Ar-a-mach na Rùis agus cho cudromach ‘s a tha naidheachdas rannsachail.

Am measg nam prìomh thachartasan bha agallamhan an Offigel Riaghlaidh le luchd-poiligits Harriet Harman BP agus Ken Clarke BP, craoladair Evan Davis a’ bruidhinn mu naidheachdan fuadaoin, agus an sgrìobhadhaidh neach-iomairt Seòras Monbiot a’ bruidhinn mu dheidhinn com-pàirteachas poiliticeach.

Chaidh a’ Phriomh Thalla atharrachadh gu Bár Cafaidh na Fèise agus eir e fàilte air cochladh gnìomhan ciúil agus taibhseadhean, cho math ri taibhseadadh dhealbhadh marr punc ann an Dùn Èideann. Tro chom-pàirteachas le Young Scot chruthaichd sgìoba ‘Aithrisichean Ar-a-mach’ a thug cumntas air diofar phanailean na Fèise.
Guided tours of the Scottish Parliament remained very busy throughout the year, with additional tours being scheduled to cope with demand. Ten-minute talks have also enjoyed continued success, with large numbers joining these free, short introductions to the Scottish Parliament, which are available Monday to Saturday.

In April 2018, Visitor Services launched a sixth tour type. The new photography tour allows visitors to learn about the work of MSPs and how the building is used while taking stunning photographs of the architecture. Joining the other speciality tours and the ever-popular Parliament tour, the photography tour was fully booked for the quarter within days of being launched.

The Parliament shop introduced a number of new ranges in 2017-18, including exclusive designs inspired by the Parliament bees.

The public appetite for information about the Parliament is also reflected in the enquiries received. Questions covered a wide range of topics, including the budget process, how to follow the progress of bills, the UK Parliament election in June 2017 and arrangements for attending FMQs.

The Parliament has continued to develop information resources in a range of formats to help people understand what it does and who their MSPs are. Two new leaflets – ‘Your Representatives’ and ‘Who Does What’ – explain the roles of the different elected representatives of people in Scotland, while two new series of animations have also been launched. ‘Powers’ (in the ‘There shall be a Scottish Parliament’ series) provides a very basic introduction to some key policy areas on which the Parliament can make laws, while the first in the more in-depth ‘Your Guide’ series outlines the legislative consent process. New titles will be added to both series in the coming year.
For those interested in learning more about topical issues, SPICe Spotlight, the new blog by the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) has been offering regular posts since January 2018 on subjects ranging from Brexit and economic statistics to land reform and affordable housing.

The Parliament has also been innovating on its social media platforms, making better use of video and audio content. Facebook Live has been used to broadcast FMQs, various committee meetings and events such as Festival of Politics sessions. These have had a reach of 1.8 million and have generated more than 30,000 comments. The debate is often lively!

Instagram has continued to showcase a more personal side to the Scottish Parliament, introducing the audience to its activities and highlighting the variety of work that goes on behind the scenes. Instagram Stories have proved to be a popular way of showcasing a wide range and depth of content. Stories this year have included committees on fact-finding missions, behind the scenes at a Burns Supper and an introduction to Nevada the hawk.

A podcast service was launched at the beginning of 2018, and podcasts have already been downloaded almost 3,500 times. Each FMQs podcast has about 130 downloads. More bespoke content has also been developed, including interviews on topical subjects with MSPs and researchers, and on content such as the Continuity Bill and committee reports.

Dhaibhsan aig a bhailte ùidh ann a bhith ag iomnachadh barrachd mu chuísean an latha, tha SPICe Spotlight, am blog ùr bho Ionad Fiosrachadh Pàrlamaid na h-Alba (SPICe) air a bhith a’ tabhann naidheachd cùiseanach bhon Fhaoileach 2018 air cuspair eadar Brexit agus stattisgit eacnamaich gu ath-leasachadh fearainn agus taigheadas aig prìs ruigeinneach.

Tha a’ Phàrlamaid cuideachd air a bhith ùr-ghnàthach air na meadhanan söisealta aice, a’ dèanamh feum nas fhéarr de bhidio agus stuth claisneachd. Chaidh Facebook Live a chleachadh airson FMQs, dìòfar choineamhan comataidh agus tachartasan leithid sheiseanachan San Fhèis Pholitige a chraoladh. Tha ruigeinneachd aca seo de 1.8 millean agus tha iad air còrr is 30,000 beachd a tharaing, Tha an deasbad tric gu math boithial.

Tha Instagram air leantainn air adhart a’ taisbeanadh taobh nas pearsanta de Phàrlamaid na h-Alba, a’ toirt an luchd-èisteachd a-steach do na gniomhan aice agus a’ nochadh na h-obrach nach faic muintir a’ phoibail mar a tric. Tha Sgeulachdán Instagram air a bhith math mar dhòigh air a bhith a’ taisbeanadh raon farsaing de chuspair eairgus doimhneachd susbaint. Tha sgeulachdán am-bliadhna air gabhail a-steach comataidhean air ionairtean lorg fiosrachaidh, air cuid chuísean aig Suipear Burnsagus a’ cur eòlas air an t-seabhag Nevada.

Chaidh seirbheis pod-chraolaidh a chuir air bhog aig toiseach 2018, agus chaidh pod-chraolaidhean a luchdachadh sìos mu thràth cha mhor 3,500 turas. Tha timcheall air 130 luchdachadh air gach pod-chraolaidh FMQs. Chaidh susbaint nas sònraichte a chruthachadh cuideachd, a’ gabhail a-steach agallamhan air cuspair ean lèithreach le BPA agus luchd-rannsachaidh, agus air susbaint leithid a’ Bhile Leantainneachd agus aithisgean comataidh.
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