MINUTE OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY CORPORATE BODY (SPCB) MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 MAY 2017 AT 09.00AM, IN Q1.03 QH

Present: Ken Macintosh MSP (Chair) Gordon MacDonald MSP
Jackson Carlaw MSP Andy Wightman MSP
Liam McArthur MSP

Apologies: David Stewart MSP

In attendance: Paul Grice
Ken Hughes
David McGill
Judith Morrison
Derek Croll
Becky Thomson
Tracey White
Billy McLaren
Douglas Wands
Janice Crerar
Callum Thomson
Roy Devon
Eric Macleod
Jennifer Bell
Huw Williams
Graeme Donoghue
Judith Proudfoot, Secretary

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The SPCB agreed the minute of the previous meeting held on 20 April 2017.

MATTERS ARISING

Issues by correspondence

2. The SPCB noted that the following items had been considered by correspondence since the previous meeting:

2.1 SPCB(2017)paper 40 – the SPCB agreed the nomination of Bill Bowman MSP as a member of the Scottish Commission for Public Audit. The vacancy arose following the resignation of John Lamont. A motion would be put to Parliament.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT

3. The Chief Executive presented his Report. In addition to the items covered, he advised the SPCB of the launch of the Parliament’s 2017 Modern Apprenticeship Programme. Open to young people aged from 16 to 24, applications opened on 15 May and were due to close on 4 June.

4. The SPCB noted the Report.


5. The SPCB noted additional information provided in relation to this application and confirmed it was content to approve the request.

UPGRADE OF SECURITY MEASURES AT LOCAL OFFICE – SPCB(2017)Paper 41

6. The SPCB agreed an application for the cost of implementing recommended security measures at a local office to be met from the central security budget.

UPGRADE OF SECURITY MEASURES AT LOCAL OFFICE – SPCB(2017)Paper 42

7. The SPCB agreed an application for the cost of implementing recommended security measures at a local office to be met from the central security budget.

SECURITY VIDEO – oral

8. The SPCB viewed a video which was recommended by Police Scotland for distribution to all Members, their staff and parliamentary staff. While the content was generic and considered primarily common sense, the SPCB agreed that it should be circulated along with a covering note to put the content in context.

USE OF PARLIAMENTARY RESOURCES – SPCB(2017)Paper 43

9. The SPCB discussed the use of copyright material on social media by MSPs and their staff, political parties and others, specifically during election periods.

10. The SPCB confirmed that it was content with the Policy and the process for managing complaints. The SPCB also agreed that the Presiding Officer write to party leaders in relation to the Media Policy and the use of parliamentary material for party political purposes.
11. The SPCB noted a further update on progress with planning for the implementation of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. Key areas of work included: development of the online Register; creation of new Standing Order rules; preparation of draft parliamentary guidance; and communication with stakeholders.

12. The SPCB agreed that briefing sessions for MSPs should be arranged later in the year through party group meetings.

**PO COMMISSION AND PARLIAMENTARY CAPACITY – oral**

13. The SPCB noted an update on discussions taking place within the Conveners Group and Business Bureau on the implications for parliamentary capacity of both brexit and the possible recommendations from the PO Commission’s Report, due to be received in June.


14. The SPCB considered an application by the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Scotland for contingency funding for the procurement of a new case management system.

15. The SPCB acknowledged the need to procure a new system but sought further assurances in relation to the solution proposed in the business case. The application would be considered at a future meeting following independent specialist review.


16. The SPCB agreed an exhibition to take place in the Main Hall later in June. Details would be announced in due course.


17. The SPCB agreed an event to take place in the Debating Chamber in May 2018. Details would be announced in due course.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

18. The next SPCB meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday 1 June 2017.

SPCB secretariat
May 2017