Parliamentary Bureau –Appointment of Officeholder

Member of the Standards Commission for Scotland

Introduction

1. This paper invites the Parliamentary Bureau to timetable a motion inviting the Parliament to agree to the appointment of Malcolm Bell as a member of the Standards Commission for Scotland.

Background

2. An open recruitment exercise was undertaken by the SPCB and interviews were held on 13 January 2025. Pre-appointment checks on the candidate have now been completed.

3. Under the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000, members of the Standards Commission are appointed by the SPCB with the agreement of the Parliament. Standing Orders Rule 3A.1(1b) applies where the agreement of the Parliament has to be sought.

4. Once the selection panel has decided on an individual, any member of the panel may lodge a motion seeking the agreement of the Parliament to the nomination.

5. Rule 3A.1.3 further provides that any debate on a motion on the nomination is restricted to 30 minutes with each speaker being restricted to no more than 5 minutes.

6. Claire Baker MSP will lodge the Motion.

Conclusion

7. The Parliamentary Bureau is invited to agree to a motion being timetabled for debate during the week commencing 24 February 2025 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Parliamentary Business Team
February 2025