Parliamentary Bureau – Designation of a Bill at Stage 1

UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill

Introduction

1. The UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill was introduced in the Parliament on 12 March 2025 by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic, Kate Forbes MSP.

Discussion

2. The Bill prohibits certain commercial activities from taking place in relation to the UEFA European Football Championship that is to be held, in part, in Glasgow; namely, the unauthorised sale of Championship tickets in excess of face value or with a view to making a profit, unauthorised street trading and unauthorised advertising within an event zone at a prohibited time during the Championship period. It creates criminal offences for ticket touting, and for unauthorised street trading and advertising, and related enforcement powers.

3. The Bill falls within the remit of the following committees—

   Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee
   The remit of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee includes matters within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture. Responsibility for policy and delivery relating to Major Events was within that Cabinet Secretary's portfolio until mid-2024, when it was transferred to the portfolio of the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic.

   The Bureau has previously agreed that committee remits will continue with the same subject matter responsibilities for the remainder of the session. Despite the change in portfolios, the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee continues to hold responsibility for Major Events and related matters, and accordingly the Committee's remit is engaged.

   Economy and Fair Work Committee
   The remit of the Economy and Fair Work Committee includes matters within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic, with the exception of Gaelic. Accordingly, the Committee's remit is engaged.

   Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee
   The remit of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee includes matters local government and planning falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government. The Bill places duties and powers on Glasgow City Council, and as such the Committee's remit is engaged.

   Criminal Justice Committee
   The remit of the Criminal Justice Committee includes matters relating to criminal justice falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and

Home Affairs. The Bill creates offences for ticket touting, unauthorised street trading and unauthorised advertising. Accordingly, the remit of this Committee is engaged.

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
The remit of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, which includes sport. The Bill makes provision in relation to a sporting event, and as such the Committee's remit is engaged.

4. It is understood that the Culture, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee has the main interest in this Bill.

5. We are not aware of any interest of any other committee in being formally designated as a secondary committee. Lack of formal designation does not, of course, prevent the committee from considering the Bill if it subsequently decides to do so.

Recommendation

6. The Bureau is invited to consider recommending to the Parliament by motion that it agrees, under Rule 9.6.1, that the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee be designated as lead committee.

7. A draft motion can be found below.

Draft Parliamentary Bureau motion on the UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill:

Designation of Lead Committee – That the Parliament agrees that the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1.

Parliamentary Business Team
March 2025