

# Parliamentary Bureau – Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland

## Inaugural 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 inaugural Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland.

### Timing

2. Time in the business programme is sought for a debate on this appointment; ideally during the week beginning 12 May 2025.

### Background

3. Under the Patient Safety Commissioner for Scotland Act 2023, 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 24 March 2025. It was chaired by the Presiding Officer and the members were Colin Beattie MSP, Emma Harper MSP, Gillian Mackay MSP, Paul Sweeney MSP and Brian Whittle MSP.

### Conclusion

6. The motion seeking the Parliament's agreement to the nomination will be lodged by Paul Sweeney MSP.
7. The Bureau is invited to agree to the motion being debated during week beginning 12 May 2025 and if this is not possible, as soon as possible thereafter.

Parliamentary Business Team  
May 2025