Parliamentary Bureau – Committee request to meet at the same time as the Parliament

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Introduction

1. The Parliamentary Bureau is invited to consider a request from the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee to meet at the same time as plenary proceedings on Thursday 12 June between 1.00pm and 3.30pm.

Background to request

2. The Scottish Parliament (Constituencies and Regions) Order 2025 was laid before the Parliament on 22 May and falls to the Committee to consider. As part of its consideration the Committee intends to hear from Boundaries Scotland in advance of taking evidence from the Minister for Parliamentary Business, and considering the relevant motion, at its meeting on Thursday 26 June. Due to the availability of the Chair and Deputy Chair of Boundaries Scotland, as well as the Committee's existing work programme (concluding Stage 1 consideration of the Scottish Parliament (Recall and Removal of Members) Bill) it has not been possible to find a suitable date within the Committee's normal meeting slot to hear from Boundaries Scotland.

Timings proposed for meeting

3. The timings above would mean that the Committee would meet during Members' Business, Portfolio Questions and any business immediately following Portfolio Questions.

Current committee membership

4. The current membership of the committee is as follows:

   - Martin Whitefield (Convener)
   - Ruth Maguire (Deputy Convener)
   - Emma Roddick
   - Sue Webber
   - Annie Wells.

5. Rona Mackay has been participating as the Scottish National Party substitute for Ruth Maguire and would do so for this meeting.

Decision

6. The Bureau is invited to decide whether to recommend to the Parliament that the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee be given permission to meet at the same time as the Parliament between 1.00pm and 3.30pm on Thursday 12 June 2025.

7. A draft motion is set out in the Annex.

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee clerking team
May 2025

Annex: Draft Bureau motion

S6M-####: Committee Meeting Times—That the Parliament agrees, under Rule 12.3.3B of Standing Orders, that the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee can meet, if necessary, at the same time as a meeting of the Parliament between 1.00pm and 3.30pm on Thursday 12 June 2025.