

# Parliamentary Bureau – Designation of a Bill at Stage 1

## Visitor Levy (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill

### Introduction

1. The Visitor Levy (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill was introduced in the Parliament on 6 January 2026 by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, Shona Robison MSP and supported by Minister for Public Finance, Ivan McKee MSP.

### Discussion

2. The Bill makes various changes to the [Visitor Levy \(Scotland\) Act 2024](#), which provided local authorities with a discretionary power to impose a levy in respect of persons staying in certain types of accommodation overnight. It allows local authorities to charge the levy as a fixed amount and makes other changes to the operation of the levy.
3. The Bill falls within the remit of the following committees—

#### *Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee*

The remit of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee includes the consideration of matters within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government. The Bill has been introduced by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government and relates to the power for local authorities to introduce a visitor levy. The remit of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee is therefore engaged.

#### *Economy and Fair Work Committee*

The remit of the Economy and Fair Work includes the consideration of matters within the responsibility of the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy. The Minister for Business and Employment, who supports the Deputy First Minister, is responsible for tourism and hospitality. The Bill relates to the tourism economy and may affect hospitality businesses providing overnight accommodation. As such, the remit of the Economy and Fair Work Committee is engaged.

4. It is understood that the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee is best placed to be designated as the lead committee in respect of this Bill. It was also designated as the lead committee in respect of the Bill for the 2024 Act. Lack of formal designation does not, of course, prevent any other committee from considering the Bill if it subsequently decides to do so.

### Recommendation

5. The Bureau is invited to consider recommending to the Parliament by motion that it agrees, under Rule 9.6.1, that the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee be designated as lead committee.

6. A draft motion can be found below.

Draft Parliamentary Bureau motion on the Visitor Levy (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill:

**Designation of Lead Committee** – That the Parliament agrees that the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Visitor Levy (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1.

Parliamentary Business Team

January 2026