



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Joe FitzPatrick MSP
Convener
Equalities, Human Rights and Civil
Justice Committee

The Scottish Parliament
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By e-mail

30 January 2023

Dear Joe,

**Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union and
the European Commission Work Programme for 2023**

Given the Scottish Government's policy commitment to maintain alignment with EU law where appropriate, it is important that the Scottish Parliament and its committees continue to engage with the EU policy and legislative process, and have a broad understanding of legislative and policy developments at an EU level.

The Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee therefore agreed to take evidence from the ambassador to the United Kingdom of the member state which holds the six-month rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union.

In commissioning an EU alignment tracker—which I have written to you about previously—the Committee also agreed for SPICe to provide assessments of the Council of the European Union Presidency Priorities, and on the European Commission Work Programme.

On 19 January, we held an evidence session with Her Excellency Mikaela Kumlin Granit, Ambassador of Sweden to the United Kingdom, on the priorities of the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, which runs from January to June 2023. The [Official Report](#) of that evidence session is now available.

At our meeting on 19 January, the Committee agreed to write to relevant subject committees to highlight the evidence we heard, and to bring to your attention the recent SPICe briefings on—

- [The Priorities of the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union](#)
- [The European Commission Work Programme for 2023](#).

I hope you will find this useful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Adamson". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'C' being particularly large and stylized.

Clare Adamson MSP
Convener of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee