



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Katy Clark MSP

8 October 2026

Dear Katy,

Thank you for your letter of 24 September and for your good wishes for me in my role as Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Convener. I too look forward to working with you on matters of common interest in this Session.

I'm fully in agreement that public-facing bodies in Scotland should promote a culture of open and transparent information-sharing and have the resources to deliver that, backed up by effective Freedom of Information laws at the public's disposal. I'm sure all Committee Members will be committed to carrying out a robust scrutiny role in relation to FOI in this Session, including assessing the case for reform and advocating for it where necessary.

Your letter asked for some indication of the Committee's intentions in relation to FOI and specifically whether it may be considering a Committee Bill. The Committee has not so far taken a position on this matter. I do note that we will be having our first public evidence session on FOI on 5 November, when we will hear from the Scottish Information Commissioner about his most recent annual report and his current priorities and challenges. We will take stock of any possible next steps on FOI scrutiny after that evidence session.

In case you have not seen it, for information I also refer you to an initial exchange of correspondence with the Scottish Government on their plans, including legislative plans, for FOI in this Session:

[letter to the Minister for parliamentary business dated 3 September 2026](#) and [letter-from-the-minister-for-parliamentary-business-dated-22-september-2026.pdf](#)

I hope this response is of some help.

Yours sincerely,

Jenni Minto MSP
Convener