



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Graham Simpson MSP
Member of the Scottish Parliament for Central Scotland and Lothians West

18 June 2026

Jenni Minto MSP
Convener - Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Dear Jenni

Firstly, may I congratulate you on your appointment as Convener of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

I am writing soon after the SPPA Committee's establishment to ensure the Committee gives early consideration to pursuing a committee bill on a recall process for MSPs. During Stage 3 scrutiny of my Scottish Parliament (Recall of Members) Bill, in setting out the Scottish Government's reasons for opposing the passage of the Bill, the then Minister for Parliamentary Business indicated that in the next session a potential route for legislating could be a committee bill.

Should the Government continue to consider that legislating on recall is not a matter for them, a point that I contested during the Bill's scrutiny since the UK and Welsh Acts were introduced by the respective governments, then I would like to request that your Committee considers prioritising a committee bill on recall.

I appreciate that your Committee will also be considering implementing any changes made to the standards regime resulting from the review commissioned by the SPCB by Rosemary Agnew. I would very much hope that, in tandem with this work, your Committee can agree that a committee bill on recall is a priority when establishing your early work programme.

I appreciate another route to progress this matter would be to repeat the members' bill process. However as there is established cross party support for the principle of recall, demonstrated during the scrutiny Parliament as a whole undertook on my Bill and then also reflected in most election manifestos, I am keen to pursue a cross-party approach from the outset.

In addition to writing to you I will continue to scrutinise the Scottish Government on its position, seeking a commitment that it will legislate as soon as is practicable given cross-party support for such legislation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Graham', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Graham Simpson MSP
Central Scotland Region