



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Stephen Kerr MSP
Convener of the CPG on Credit Unions
(by email)

13 February 2026

Dear Convener,

Cross-Party Group on Credit Unions Complaint

At its meeting on Thursday 12 February 2026, the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee discussed a complaint received in relation to the Cross-Party Group on Credit Unions.

As you are aware from my letter of 2 February, the complaint relates to a meeting on 10 December 2025 and raised queries as to whether the CPG has complied with the requirement of the Code of Conduct for MSPs in relation to advance notification of CPG meetings being provided and the meeting being open to all registered members of the Group.

The Committee considered both the information provided by the complainer and the explanation you provided in relation to the nature of the meeting in your letter of 3 February 2026. The Committee has accepted your explanation that the meeting on 10 December was not intended to be a meeting of the CPG and that there has not been a breach of the requirements of the Code in this instance.

However, the Committee also considered that the description of the meeting in the email invitation, which referred to the CPG's title, meant that there was a lack of clarity about the meeting and that it was reasonable for the complainer to question the nature of the meeting. The Committee would therefore remind you that clarity in relation to CPG activities is essential in making sure that questions do not arise in relation to compliance with the Code and for stakeholders who may fall within the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016 to have certainty as to whether their engagement with MSPs might fall to be registered if it does not meet the exemption in respect of CPGs set out in that Act.

I have also written to the complainer to confirm the Committee's decision and to provide a copy of your response of 3 February 2026. The Committee has also agreed that it will publish both this letter, our letter to the complainer and your response.

Yours sincerely



Martin Whitfield MSP Convener

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee