

Written submission by Anonymous
13 March 2024

Consultation on Elected Conveners 2024

Would you be in favour of introducing the election of Committee Conveners by the Parliament?

I have no particular view.

What do you consider would be the advantages or disadvantages of the election of Conveners?

Advantages – well known good practice that is transparent and democratic. In theory ensures the best person for the job is elected. I assume only people who wish to be a convener would be nominated, thereby avoiding people being pressurised into a role they do not wish to have.

Disadvantages – additional administration, time consuming, could become divisive within a political group. What happen if no-one wants the role?

Would election of convenors extend to Deputy Convenors?

It is proposed that nomination should take place once the Parliament has agreed the party to which convenership of each committee should be allocated.

Should members of any party be able to nominate a Member for election as a Committee convener or should that be limited to Members of the party to which the Convenership has been allocated?

Should be limited to the political party with the convenorship.

Nominations for the Presiding Officer, deputy Presiding Officers and members of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body require a nomination to be seconded by another Member.

Should the same threshold of support apply to nominations for election as Committee conveners?

Yes

Should there be an opportunity for candidates to provide a short statement (oral or written) in support of their election?

Absolutely but again this is an additional administrative task and I am not clear how this would work in practice.