



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 31 March 2020 at 2pm, via video conference

Present:

- Ken Macintosh MSP (Chair)
- David Stewart MSP
- Ruth Davidson MSP
- Andy Wightman MSP
- Liam McArthur MSP

Apologies:

- Sandra White MSP

In attendance:

- David McGill
- Michelle Hegarty
- Lynsey Hamill
- Judith Morrison
- Tommy Lynch
- Linda Peters
- Joanne McNaughton
- Huw Williams
- Graeme Donoghue
- Judith Proudfoot, Secretary

Previous minutes

1. The SPCB agreed the minutes of the meeting held 19 March 2020.

Matters arising

2. The following items had been dealt with by correspondence since the previous meeting:
 - 2.1 Changes to the Members' Expenses Scheme – a motion by the Corporate Body to amend the Scheme was passed by the Parliament on Wednesday 24 March 2020.

- 2.2 SPCB(2020)Paper 17: Events and Exhibitions – the SPCB agreed to a proposal from the Edwin Morgan Trust to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Edwin Morgan in the Scottish Parliament.
- 2.3 SPCB(2020)Paper 18: Events and Exhibitions – the SPCB noted an update on the key successes and legacy from the 20th Anniversary Programme of events and activities that took place throughout 2019.

Covid-19 briefing

3. The SPCB received an update on actions taken to date and those planned both for the coming days and looking further ahead to post Easter recess. Some of the issues discussed included:
 - a general update with regards to the arrangements in place to facilitate Chamber business on Wednesday to pass emergency legislation;
 - the measures being developed to facilitate remote participation in parliamentary business, particularly by Broadcasting and IT;
 - arrangements to ensure the Parliament's various contractors were able to reinstate services as and when required; and
 - the work undertaken by parliamentary staff to support the SPCB in meeting current restrictions.
4. The SPCB placed on record its thanks and appreciation to all the Parliament's staff and contractors for the work undertaken to support Members and their staff, and to facilitate parliamentary business during these difficult times.

Date of next meeting

5. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for Thursday 30 April 2020 although this would be kept under review.