



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

# Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Tuesday 21 November 2023 at 9.00am

## Present:

- Christine Grahame MSP (chair)
- Claire Baker MSP
- Jackson Carlaw MSP
- Maggie Chapman MSP

## Apologies:

- Alison Johnstone MSP

## In attendance:

- David McGill
- Michelle Hegarty
- Judith Morrison
- Kenny Htet-Khin
- Linda Peters
- Huw Williams
- Mark Brough
- Lisa Creamer
- Judith Proudfoot, Secretary

## Discussion

1. The SPCB met to discuss the correspondence received from Michael Matheson MSP and to consider the new information that had come to light during his statement to the Parliament on Thursday 16 November 2023. The SPCB noted that this information had not been known when it met on 14 November.
2. The key issues discussed were:

- 2.1 The SPCB noted that there was no existing mechanism or process for a Member to self-refer.
  - 2.2 The issues raised by Mr Matheson's statement touched on several SPCB policies as well as the Reimbursement of Members' Expenses Scheme. The SPCB would need to consider all of these in the round and would not be limited by the 'self-referral'.
  - 2.3 The SPCB would require time to carefully consider and agree the scope of any investigation it may decide to undertake to ensure the integrity of the Parliament's systems and processes.
  - 2.4 Officials were asked to provide further advice on an appropriate process for progressing these matters, and the route for investigation of the different aspects, for discussion at its scheduled meeting on 23 November.
3. The SPCB agreed to issue a brief statement later in the day, with a further statement issuing after discussions on Thursday.

**SPCB Secretariat**  
November 2023