



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 11 September 2025 at 9.00am

Present:

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

In attendance:

- David McGill
- Michelle Hegarty
- Callum Thomson
- Becky Thomson
- Helen Birrell
- Andrew Munro
- Mairi Pearson
- Lynsey Hamill
- Alan Durward
- Stewart Mackay
- Euan Muirhead
- Eric MacLeod
- Mark Brough
- Allan Campbell
- Lisa Creamer
- Lynn Russell, Head of Secretariat

Previous minutes

1. The SPCB agreed the minutes of the meetings held on 19 June and 2 September 2025.

Matters arising

2. The SPCB received an update on the actions the Parliament has taken in response to the ongoing criminal investigation into a Member. It also received an update on the independent review of complaints.
3. The following items were dealt with by correspondence since the meeting on 19 June 2025—
 - Paper 36: The SPCB approved recommendations from the Senior Executive Team regarding a Member's access to Holyrood and participation in parliamentary business.
 - Paper 37: The SPCB noted the Lobbying Register's seventh Annual Report.
 - Paper 41: The SPCB approved the travel outlined in the paper as parliamentary in nature, therefore exempting it from registration.
 - The SPCB agreed a response to the SPCB Supported Bodies Landscape Review Committee's report.
 - The SPCB also noted—
 - correspondence from the Minister for Parliamentary Business to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, copied to the SPCB, regarding the Scottish Government's intention to lay regulations in autumn 2025 on the practice of dual mandates for MSPs.
 - The Gaelic Language Plan Annual Report 2023-24.
 - Plans to unveil a new photographic portrait of His Majesty The King on Friday 26 September.
 - An update from the Clerk/Chief Executive regarding a modification to the Parliament's Education Service.

Local office security request: Paper 38

4. The SPCB approved a Member's request for funding to cover security improvement works.

Members' Expenses Scheme review

5. The SPCB considered the recommendations arising from a review of the Members' Expenses Scheme at its meeting on 19 June 2025 and asked that further work was undertaken by officials.
6. The SPCB further considered the recommendations, along with the outcome of the additional work, and asked that further information was provided.
7. The SPCB also considered the recommendations following a review of the Party Leaders' Allowance Scheme and the Financial Assistance for Non-Government Political Parties and asked for further information in relation to the Party Leaders' Allowance Scheme.
8. The SPCB noted that a formal paper would be considered at a future meeting.

Members parliamentary-funded communications – complaints: Paper 39

9. The SPCB considered the findings of investigations into complaints received regarding the content of several Members' websites funded by Parliament resources.
10. The SPCB agreed with the recommended action for each complaint, as set out in the paper.

Catering and Pest Control Services: Paper 40

11. The SPCB noted an update from officials on the approach to the Catering and Pest Control Contract re-let project.

Any other business

12. The SPCB agreed to fly the flags at half-mast on 16 September 2025 for the funeral of HRH The Duchess of Kent.

Date of next meeting

13. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for 25 September 2025.

SPCB Secretariat
September 2025