



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## **Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 30 October 2025 at 9.00am**

### **Present:**

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

### **Apologies:**

- Christine Grahame MSP
- Michelle Hegarty, Deputy Chief Executive

### **In attendance:**

- David McGill
- Peter Walker, Hazel Renton
- Susan Mansfield, Gael Scott
- Sigrid Robinson, David Hershaw
- Lynsey Hamill
- Becky Thomson, Stephen Wright
- Alan Durward
- Kerry Twyman
- Eric MacLeod
- Mark Brough
- Allan Campbell
- Lisa Creamer
- Lynn Russell, Head of Secretariat

### **Previous minutes**

1. The SPCB agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2025.

## **Matters arising**

2. The SPCB received a short factual update on the employment conditions for contractor staff working on the parliamentary estate.
3. The following papers were dealt with by correspondence since the meeting on 9 October 2025—
  - Paper 53: The SPCB approved a public exhibition and installation from the National Theatre of Scotland titled “Caring Scotland” in the Parliament’s Main Hall in August 2026, as part of the Major Events and Exhibitions Programme 2026-27.
  - Paper 54: The SPCB approved a contingency request from the Standards Commission for Scotland.
  - Paper 58: The SPCB noted the draft Strategic Plan for the period 1 December 2025 to 30 November 2029 received from the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner.
4. The SPCB also noted an update from Pauline McNeill MSP, Chair of Trustees, on the timeline for the 2025 Triennial Valuation of the Scottish Parliamentary Pension Scheme Fund.

## **Reimbursement of Members’ Expenses Scheme – Travel Application: Paper 55**

5. The SPCB agreed that the travel and overnight costs associated with a proposed visit to Washington, USA, for the annual Pan Am Flight 103 Memorial Service could be met from the Members’ Expenses Scheme.

## **Futures Forum review: Paper 56**

6. The SPCB discussed the outcome of phase 2 of the review of futures thinking in the Scottish Parliament and agreed to proceed to phase 3.

## **Election Programme 2026**

7. The SPCB noted an update on the planning and preparation for the Scottish parliamentary elections in May 2026. The SPCB discussed and provided feedback on the proposed approach to the registration and induction for Members.
8. The SPCB will continue to receive updates on the Election Programme during the remainder of the parliamentary session.

## **Protest policy review: Paper 57**

9. In October 2024, the SPCB commissioned a review of all SPCB policies applicable to Members as part of the Code of Conduct, in advance of Session 7. The protest policy is the first policy to be reviewed as part of this work.
10. The SPCB discussed the minor revisions proposed to the protest policy. Subject to some small drafting changes, the SPCB approved the revised policy. It also agreed some minor additions to the Visitor Behaviour Policy, as it relates to protest on the Parliament estate.

## **Childcare at Holyrood**

11. At its meeting on 22 May 2025, the SPCB commissioned officials to investigate options for providing childcare at Holyrood, within its specific remit, to ensure it can support elected members with caring responsibilities.
12. The SPCB discussed the findings of this work and requested further information from officials, which will be considered at a future meeting.

## **Any other business**

13. The SPCB was advised that the technical issues relating to the voting system because of a significant Microsoft outage on 29 October 2025 had now been resolved and that the Parliamentary Bureau would propose the re-scheduling of parliamentary business.
14. The SPCB noted that business continuity planning would continue to consider approaches to maintaining parliamentary business in cases of IT failure.

## **Date of next meeting**

15. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for 13 November 2025.

### **SPCB Secretariat**

October 2025