



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 11 June 2026 at 9.30am

Present:

- Kenneth Gibson MSP (chair)
- Maggie Chapman MSP
- Jackie Dunbar MSP
- Liam McArthur MSP
- Stephen Kerr MSP
- Graham Simpson MSP

Apologies

- Pauline McNeill MSP

In attendance:

- David McGill, Clerk/Chief Executive
- Michelle Hegarty, Deputy Chief Executive
- Lynsey Hamill, Director of Operations and Digital
- Lorna Hunter, Director of People, Communications and Inclusion
- Callum Thomson, Director of Parliamentary Business
- Kerry Twyman, Director of Finance and Resilience
- Mairi Pearson, Head of Travel and Expenses
- Letitia Longworth-Campbell, Solicitor Team Leader
- Allan Campbell, Head of Operations
- Eric MacLeod, Senior Communications Manager
- Joanna Purves, Administrator
- Lynn Russell, Head of Secretariat

Item 1: Matters arising

1. The SPCB noted decisions taken by the previous SPCB during the pre-election recess and dissolution period, as outlined in Paper 38, in line with its statutory duties.
2. The SPCB discussed a memorandum from the Head of Travel and Expenses, issued by correspondence, on New minimum standards for Members' local offices, introduced as part of the new Members' Expenses Scheme that was agreed by the SPCB at the end of Session 6 and approved by Parliament on 19

March 2026. Following discussion, the SPCB agreed that communications should be issued to all Members setting out the requirements for local offices.

Action: Kerry, Mairi

3. The SPCB agreed the following item by correspondence:

- Paper 42: Reimbursement of Members' Expenses Scheme - New HMRC Approved Mileage Rate. The SPCB approved the application of the new HMRC mileage rate from 6 April 2026. It also agreed to keep the new additional mileage payment for those Members who travel more than 11,000 miles, as set out in the Members' Expenses Scheme, and to meet the additional costs to backdate the few claims that would be entitled to more monies if the rate was backdated in line with HMRC practice.

4. The SPCB also noted the following matters by correspondence:

- a memorandum from the Head of Officeholder Services on the recruitment process for a new Electoral Commissioner for Scotland, as the current Commissioner's term ends on 31 December 2026
- a memorandum from the Head of Resilience advising on planned building closures required to support delivery of fire safety improvement works at Holyrood.

Item 2: SPCB legacy report and key issues for Session 7 – Paper 39

5. The SPCB discussed the Session 6 SPCB's legacy report with the Senior Executive Team, including key issues and priorities for Session 7.

Item 3: Portfolio allocation and Advisory Audit Board membership – Paper 40

6. The SPCB agreed portfolio arrangements and that Maggie Chapman MSP would serve on the Advisory Audit Board, with Jackie Dunbar MSP acting as substitute.

Item 4: Member-sponsored events: guidance update – Paper 41

7. The SPCB noted and agreed updates to the current Guidance and the management and delivery of Member-sponsored events following changes to the parliamentary week.

Item 5: SPICe Data on MSPs – Collation & Publication, Session 7

8. The SPCB discussed the circumstances leading to the publication of MSP diversity data and the steps taken in response. It further considered options for, and shared views on, the approach to be adopted for Session 7.

Any other business

9. The SPCB agreed that a reminder of its Media policy for filming at Holyrood should be issued to all Members to ensure clarity on the rules governing filming on the parliamentary estate.

Action: Eric

Date of next meeting

10. The next meeting of the SPCB is scheduled for 25 June 2026.

SPCB Secretariat

June 2026