The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 8 October 2026 at 9.30am

Present:

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

In attendance:

- David McGill, Clerk/Chief Executive
- Michelle Hegarty, Deputy Chief Executive
- Gavin King, Group Head of Legislation and Parliamentary Operations
- Roz Thomson, Principal Clerk
- Alison Fraser, Solicitor
- Lynsey Hamill, Director of Operations and Digital
- Becky Thomson, Head of Security
- Alan Balharrie, Head of Digital Services
- Kerry Twyman, Director of Finance and Resilience
- Tommy Lynch, Head of Resilience
- David Hershaw, Project Manager
- Pauline McIntyre, Senior Clerk
- Victoria MacDonald, Solicitor to the Parliament
- Allan Campbell, Head of Operations
- Eric MacLeod, Senior Communications Manager
- Lynn Russell, Principal Private Secretary
- Lisa Creamer, Office Manager

Item 1: Previous meeting

1. The SPCB agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2026.

Item 2: Matters arising

2. The SPCB considered the following items by correspondence:

Paper 72: Officeholders – Contingency Request: Scottish Human Rights Commission. The SPCB agreed a request for contingency funding from the SHRC for staffing.

Paper 73: Officeholders – Contingency Request: Standards Commission for Scotland (SCS) support. The SPCB considered a request for contingency funding from the SCS. The SPCB agreed to approve funding for part of the request and to further write to the SCS.

Paper 74: Officeholders – Electoral Management Board (EMB) draft Strategic Plan. The SPCB agreed to approve the EMB's Strategic Plan.

Paper 75: Session 7 Strategic Plan. The SPCB agreed to approve the Session 7 Strategic Plan.

Item 3: Chief Executive's Report

3. The SPCB considered the Chief Executive's Report which highlighted activities across the Parliament from July to September 2026 and includes Quarter 1 Finance, Performance and Workforce Data reports [April – June 2026].

4. The SPCB discussed a number of items referred to in the report. This included the Session 7 pattern of parliamentary business, updates on cyber security and the progress of various projects. The SPCB welcomed the excellent programme of development for Members' staff, particularly caseworkers.

5. Following discussion, the SPCB noted the report.

Item 4: Members' Bills – Initial briefing for the SPCB

6. The SPCB considered a briefing on the Members' bills process and provided feedback. The SPCB discussed recent changes aimed to improve the process and agreed to return to future discussions in due course.

Item 5: Security overview

7. The SPCB received a general briefing on security and cyber security matters as part of its ongoing induction.

Item 6: Major Projects: Paper 71

8. The SPCB endorsed in principle the approach to making improvements to fire safety matters and agreed to consider a full business case in due course.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the SPCB is scheduled for 5 November 2026.

SPCB Secretariat
October 2026