

SPICe Fact Sheet

Duilleagan Fiosrachaidh SPICe

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Guide to recommended citations for Scottish Parliament publications

This Fact Sheet provides a list of recommended citations for Scottish Parliament publications. It is arranged alphabetically by name of publication. These citations apply to both electronic and print versions of documents.

Bills

Citation format

SP Bill number title [printing] session (year)

Examples

- SP Bill 37 Licensing (Scotland) Bill [as introduced] Session 2 (2005)
- SP Bill 37-EN Licensing (Scotland) Bill [explanatory notes (and other accompanying documents)] Session 2 (2005)
- SP Bill 37-PM Licensing (Scotland) Bill [policy memorandum] Session 2 (2005)
- SP Bill 37A Licensing (Scotland) Bill [as amended at Stage 2] Session 2 (2005)
- SP Bill 37-ML1 Licensing (Scotland) Bill [1st marshalled list of amendments for Stage 2] Session 2 (2005)

Business bulletin

From Session 5 (May 2016) the Business Bulletin became a web-based publication, individual sections have titles rather than letters and issues are no longer numbered.

Citation format

- SP BB number date Section letter
- SP BB number date Section title

- SP BB date Section title

Examples

- SP BB no. 95/2002 11 June 2002 Section D
- SP BB no. 143/2005 6 October 2005 Motions
- SP BB 6 October 2016 Motions

Committee abbreviations

This is a cumulative list of all Scottish Parliament committees since 1999.

Current committees are marked with an asterisk (*).

Committee Name	Abbreviation
Ad Hoc Standards	AHS
Audit	AU
Airdrie-Bathgate Railway and Linked Improvements Bill	AB
Baird Trust Reorganisation Bill	BAIRD
Burrell Collection (Lending and Borrowing) (Scotland) Bill	BC
City of Edinburgh Council (Portobello Park) Bill	EPP
City of Edinburgh Council (Leith Links and Surplus Fire Fund) Bill	LLI
Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill	CC
Committee on the Scottish Government Handling of Harassment Complaints*	SGHCC
Communities	COM
COVID-19	CVD
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations	CTEERC
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs*	CTEEA
Delegated Powers and Law Reform*	DPLR
Devolution (Further Powers)	DFP
Economy, Energy and Tourism	EET
Economy, Energy and Fair Work*	EEFW
Economy, Jobs and Fair Work	EJFW
Edinburgh Airport Rail Link Bill	EARL
Edinburgh Bakers' Widows' Fund Bill	EBW
Edinburgh Tram (Line One) Bill	ED1
Edinburgh Tram (Line Two) Bill	ED2
Education	ED
Education and Culture	EC
Education and Skills*	ES
Education, Culture and Sport	ED
Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture	ELLC
End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill	ELA
Enterprise and Culture	EC
Enterprise and Lifelong Learning	EL

Environment and Rural Development	ERD
Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform*	ECCLR
Equal Opportunities	EO
Equalities and Human Rights*	EHRiC
European	EU
European and External Relations	EU
Finance	FI
Finance and Constitution*	FCC
Forth Crossing Bill	FCB
Glasgow Airport Rail Link Bill	GARL
Health	HC
Health and Community Care	HE
Health and Sport*	HS
Hutchesons' Hospital Transfer and Dissolution (Scotland) Bill	HH
Infrastructure and Capital Investment	ICI
Interests of Members of the Scottish Parliament (Amendment) Bill	IM
Interests of Members of the Scottish Parliament Bill	MI
Justice*	J
Justice and Home Affairs	JH
Justice 1	J1
Justice 2	J2
Justice Sub-Committee on Policing*	JSP
Local Government	LG
Local Government and Communities*	LGC
Local Government and Regeneration	LGR
Local Government and Transport	LGT
National Galleries of Scotland Bill	NG
National Trust for Scotland (Governance etc.) Bill	NTS
Pentland Hills Regional Park Boundary Bill	PPB
Pow of Inchafray Drainage Commission (Drainage) Bill	POI
Procedures	PR
Public Audit	PA
Public Audit and Post-legislative Scrutiny*	PAPLS
Public Petitions	PE
Public Petitions*	PPC
Referendum (Scotland) Bill	REF
Review of SPCB Supported Bodies	RSSB
Robin Rigg Offshore Wind Farm (Navigation and Fishing) (Scotland) Bill	RR
Rural Affairs	RA
Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment	RACCE
Rural Affairs and Environment	RAE
Rural Development	RD
Rural Economy and Connectivity*	REC
Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Bill	SF
Scotland Bill	SCO
Scottish Parliamentary Pensions Bill	SPPB
Scottish Parliamentary Pension Scheme	SPPS
Scottish Parliamentary Standards Commissioner Bill	SC

Social Inclusion, Housing and Voluntary Sector	HS
Social Justice	SJ
Social Security	SC
Social Security*	SSC
Standards	ST
Solicitors in the Supreme Courts of Scotland (Amendment) Bill Committee	SSCS
Standards and Public Appointments	ST
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments*	SPPA
Stirling-Alloa-Kincardine Railway and Linked Improvements Bill	SAK
Subordinate Legislation	SL
Transport and the Environment	TE
Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change	TIC
Ure Elder Fund Transfer and Dissolution Bill	URE
Waverley Railway (Scotland) Bill	WAV
Welfare Reform	WR
William Simpson's Home (Transfer of Property etc.) (Scotland) Bill	WSH
Writers to the Signet Dependants' Annuity Fund Amendment (Scotland) Bill	WSD

Minutes of Committees

Citation format

SP M committee abbreviation date paragraph

Examples

- SP M LG 28 November 2000 para 2
- SP M ERD 5 October 2005 para 3

Minutes of proceedings

Citation format

SP MOP volume number session date paragraph

Examples

SP MOP vol 3 no 39 session 1 3 December 2001 para 5

SP MOP vol 3 no 25 session 2 6 October 2005 para 1

Motions and amendments to motions

Citation format

Session M-number

Session M-number.number of amendment

Examples

S1M-123
S1M-123.1
S2M-3377
S2M-3377.2

News releases

Citation format

Title SP news release number date

Example

Scottish Parliament Building wins Stirling Prize SP news release 094/2005 15 October 2005.

News releases from Committees

Citation format

Title SP committee abbreviation news release number date

Examples

Danish Ambassador to brief MSPs on European Union Presidency SP EU news release 006/2002 20 June 2002.

Environment and Rural Development Committee calls for a review of the needs of 'accessible' rural areas SP ERD news release 009/2005 13 October 2005

Official Report: Meeting of the Parliament

The Official Report of the Meetings of the Parliament (plenary sittings) is produced for each meeting. Until Easter 2001 volume and part numbers were used, but these are not used in the citation.

Citation format

SP OR date, column number(s)

Examples

SP OR 15 June 2000, col 362-364

SP OR 6 October 2005, col 19803-19805

Official Report: Committees

Citation format

SP OR committee abbreviation date, column number(s)

Examples

SP OR SJ 4 April 2001, col 1949-1951

SP OR HC 3 October 2005, col 2261-2279

Official Report: Written Answers

Written Answers are available on the Parliament's website daily. Until Easter 2001 volumes and part numbers were used, but these are not used in the citation.

Citation format

SP WA date, parliamentary question number

Examples

SP WA 8 January 2001, S1W-11828

SP WA 3 May 2005, S2W-16145

Parliamentary questions: First Ministers questions (FMQ)

Citation format

Session F-number

Examples

S1F-123

S2F-1032

Parliamentary questions: oral parliamentary questions (OPQ)

Citation format

Session O-number

Examples

S1O-123

S2O-6940

Parliamentary questions: written parliamentary questions (WPQ)

Citation format

Session W-number

Examples

S1W-123

S2W-98798

Public Petitions

There is no distinction for session number.

Citation format

PEnumber

Examples

PE61

PE886

Scottish Parliament papers

These are reports, often from individual committees, which are numbered sequentially as SP Paper 1 etc.

Citation format

Author (if applicable) report number, year, title (SPP number) paragraph

Examples

Audit Committee 6th report, 2000, The New Scottish Parliament Building (SPP 227) para 27

Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body 2nd report, 2005, Report on the Prioritisation of the Non-Executive Bills Unit's Workload (SPP 434) para 12

SPICe publications

Series name and abbreviation

Series name	Abbreviation
IPRN Briefing	IPRN
Research Note (until 31 December 2001)	RN
Research Paper (until 31 December 2001)	RP
SPICe Briefing	SB
Subject Map. Comparative Series	SM CS
Subject Map. Devolved Area Series	SM DA
Subject Map. Scottish Parliament Series	SM SP

Citation format

Title, series number, date, page

Examples

By-Elections September 2005: Glasgow Cathcart (Scottish Parliament) and Livingston (UK Parliament), SB 05/54, 4 October 2005, p 7

The Proposed Treaty Establishing a Constitution for Europe, IPRN 03/01, 7 November 2003, p 36

Members' Business by Subject and Party: Session 2, FS3-07, 10 October 2005, p 8

What's Happening in the Scottish Parliament (WHISP)

What's Happening in the Scottish Parliament was published weekly during sitting time from 15 May 1999 to 3 July 2004.

Citation format

WHISP issue number, date, page

Example

WHISP 74, 7 April 2001, p 8

About SPICe

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