

SPICe Fact Sheet

Duilleagan Fiosrachaidh SPICe

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.

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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	Abbr
Ad Hoc Standards Committee	AHS
Airdrie-Bathgate Railway and Linked Improvements Bill Committee	AB
Audit Committee	AU
Baird Trust Reorganisation Bill Committee	BAIRD
Burrell Collection (Lending and Borrowing) (Scotland) Bill Committee	BC
Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee	CPPP
City of Edinburgh Council (Leith Links and Surplus Fire Fund) Bill Committee	LLI

City of Edinburgh Council (Portobello Park) Bill Committee	EPP
Climate Action Committee*	CA
Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill Committee	CC
Committee on the Scottish Government Handling of Harassment Complaints	SGHHC
Communities Committee	COM
Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee	CEEAC
COVID-19 Committee	CVD
COVID-19 Recovery Committee	CVDR
Criminal Justice Committee	CJ
Criminal Justice Committee (Session 7) *	CJC
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee	CTEEA
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee	CTEERC
Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee*	DPLR
Devolution (Further Powers) Committee	DFP
Economy and Fair Work Committee	EFW
Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee	EEFW
Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee	EET
Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee	EJFW
Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee*	ETE
Edinburgh Airport Rail Link Bill Committee	EARL
Edinburgh Bakers' Widows' Fund Bill Committee	EBW
Edinburgh Tram (Line One) Bill Committee	ED1
Edinburgh Tram (Line Two) Bill Committee	ED2
Education and Culture Committee	EC
Education and Gaelic Committee*	EG
Education and Skills Committee	ES
Education Committee	ED
Education, Children and Young People Committee	ECYP
Education, Culture and Sport Committee	ED
Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee	ELLC
End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill Committee	ELA
Enterprise and Culture Committee	EC
Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Committee	EL
Environment and Rural Development Committee	ERD
Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee	ECCLR
Equal Opportunities Committee	EO
Equalities and Human Rights Committee	EHRiC
Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee*	EHRCJ
Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee*	EEAC
European and External Relations Committee (Session 4)	EU
European and External Relations Committee (Session 5)	EERC
European Committee	EU
Finance and Constitution Committee	FCC
Finance and Public Administration Committee	FPA
Finance and Public Administration Committee (Session 7)*	FPAC

Finance Committee	FI
Forth Crossing Bill Committee	FCB
Glasgow Airport Rail Link Bill Committee	GARL
Health and Community Care Committee	HE
Health and Sport Committee	HS
Health Committee	HC
Health, Care and Sport Committee*	HCS
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee	HSCS
Hutchesons' Hospital Transfer and Dissolution (Scotland) Bill Committee	HH
Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee	ICI
Interests of Members of the Scottish Parliament (Amendment) Bill Committee	IM
Interests of Members of the Scottish Parliament Bill Committee	MI
Justice 1 Committee	J1
Justice 2 Committee	J2
Justice 2 Sub-Committee	J2SC
Justice and Home Affairs Committee	JH
Justice Committee	J
Justice Sub-Committee on Policing	JSP
Local Government and Communities Committee	LGC
Local Government and Regeneration Committee	LGR
Local Government and Transport Committee	LGT
Local Government Committee	LG
Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee	LGHP
National Galleries of Scotland Bill Committee (Session 1)	NG
National Galleries of Scotland Bill Committee (Session 4)	NGS
National Trust for Scotland (Governance etc.) Bill Committee	NTS
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee	NZET
Pentland Hills Regional Park Boundary Bill Committee	PPB
Pow of Inchaffray Drainage Commission (Scotland) Bill Committee	POI
Procedures Committee	PR
Public Audit and Post-legislative Scrutiny Committee	PAPLS
Public Audit Committee	PA
Public Audit Committee (Session 7)*	PAC
Public Petitions Committee (Session 1)	PE
Public Petitions Committee*	PPC
Public Service Reform Committee*	PSRC
Referendum (Scotland) Bill Committee	REF
Review of SPCB Supported Bodies Committee	RSSB
Robin Rigg Offshore Wind Farm (Navigation and Fishing) (Scotland) Bill Committee	RR
Rural Affairs and Environment Committee	RAE
Rural Affairs and Islands Committee	RAI
Rural Affairs Committee*	RA
Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee	RACCE
Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee	RAINE
Rural Development Committee	RD

Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee	REC
Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Bill Committee	SF
Scotland Bill Committee	SCO
Scottish Parliamentary Pension Scheme Committee	SPPS
Scottish Parliamentary Pensions Bill Committee	SPPB
Scottish Parliamentary Standards Commissioner Bill Committee	SC
Social Inclusion Housing and Voluntary Sector Committee	HS
Social Justice and Social Security Committee	SJSS
Social Justice Committee	SJ
Social Justice, Housing and Local Government Committee*	SJHLG
Social Security Committee	SSC
Solicitors in the Supreme Courts of Scotland (Amendment) Bill Committee	SSCS
SPCB Supported Bodies Landscape Review Committee	SSBLRC
Standards and Public Appointments Committee	ST
Standards Committee	ST
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee*	SPPA
Stirling-Alloa-Kinross Railway and Linked Improvements Bill Committee	SAK
Subordinate Legislation Committee	SL
Transport and the Environment Committee	TE
Transport Committee*	TPT
Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change Committee	TIC
Ure Elder Fund Transfer and Dissolution Bill Committee	URE
Waverley Railway (Scotland) Bill Committee	WAV
Welfare Reform Committee	WR
William Simpson's Home (Transfer of Property etc.) (Scotland) Bill Committee	WSH
Writers to the Signet Dependents' Annuity Fund Amendment (Scotland) Bill Committee	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

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