PARLIAMENTARY APPOINTMENTS:

SESSION 1

This fact sheet contains information on parliamentary appointments during Session 1 (12 May 1999-31 March 2003). It provides information about the posts of Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer as well as membership details for the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body and the Parliamentary Bureau.

Abbreviations used

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Party/Independent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Con</td>
<td>Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>Scottish Labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD</td>
<td>Scottish Liberal Democrats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNP</td>
<td>Scottish National Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presiding Officers

The **Presiding Officer** is elected by other Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) and is in charge of ensuring that the business of the Parliament is conducted effectively, on time, fairly, and within the rules and in an orderly manner. The Presiding Officer has no party allegiance whilst in the chair. There are also two **Deputy Presiding Officers** who must also act impartially when they are chairing parliamentary meetings; when they are not chairing parliamentary meetings they can play a full part in parliamentary business.

The Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officers continue to serve in post during dissolution and until the election of the next Presiding Officer in a new session.

**Presiding Officer**
Sir David Steel (12 May 1999- 7 May 2003)

**Deputy Presiding Officers**
Patricia Ferguson (Lab) (12 May 1999- 27 November 2001)
George Reid (SNP) (12 May 1999- 7 May 2003)
Murray Tosh (Con) (29 November 2001- 7 May 2003)

Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body

The **Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body** (SPCB) is chaired by the Presiding Officer and is made up of four members elected by Parliament from its MSPs. It is responsible for ensuring that the Scottish Parliament is provided with the property, staff and services it requires. The SPCB considers and makes decisions on a wide range of issues concerning the running of the Parliament including the financing of the Parliament and allocation of the budget, the staffing of the Parliament, accommodation and the use and the security of parliamentary facilities.

The Presiding Officer continues to serve in post during dissolution and until the election of the next Presiding Officer in a new session.

Members of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body continue to serve in post during dissolution and until the election of replacement members in a new session. This is the case unless an MSP resigns from the SPCB, ceases to be an MSP (other than by dissolution of the Parliament), or the MSP is removed from the SPCB by a resolution of the Parliament.

**Presiding Officer**
Sir David Steel (18 May 1999- 7 May 2003)

**Appointed Members**
Duncan McNeil (Lab) (20 December 2001-21 May 2003)
Des McNulty (Lab) (18 May 1999- 13 December 2001)
Andrew Welsh (SNP) (18 May 1999-21 May 2003)
John Young (Con) (18 May 1999- 21 May 2003)
Parliamentary Bureau Membership

The Parliamentary Bureau consists of the Presiding Officer and representatives of each political party or group in the Parliament which has five or more members. The representatives are nominated by the leader of each party. The main functions of the Parliamentary Bureau are:

- To propose the business programme.
- To propose alterations to the Daily Business List in the Business Bulletin if there should be changes in the advance programme.
- To propose the establishment, remit, membership and duration of any committee or sub-committee.
- To determine any question regarding the competence of a committee to deal with a matter, and, if two or more committees are competent to deal with a matter, to determine which of those committees is to be the lead committee responsible for that matter.

Standing Orders allow Parliamentary Bureau members to arrange for another member to take their place at Bureau meetings by notifying the Presiding Officer in writing in advance.

A deputy Presiding Officer may attend any meeting of the Parliamentary Bureau and may participate in the proceedings but may not vote unless he or she is chairing the meeting in place of the Presiding Officer, when he or she shall have a casting vote.

Members of the Parliamentary Bureau do not continue to serve during dissolution.

Presiding Officer
Sir David Steel (17 May 1999-31 March 2003) *

Nominated Members
Patricia Ferguson (Lab) (28 November 2001-31 March 2003)
Fiona Hyslop (SNP) (27 June 2001-31 March 2003)
Alex Johnstone (Con) (27 June 2001-31 March 2003)
Tom McCabe (Lab) (17 May 1999-27 November 2001)
Tricia Marwick (SNP) (28 September 2000-27 June 2001)
Euan Robson (LD) (13 March 2001-31 March 2003)
Michael Russell (SNP) (17 May 1999-26 September 2000)
Tavish Scott (LD) (30 October 2000-12 March 2001)
Iain Smith (LD) (17 May 1999-30 October 2000)

---

* Sir David Steel continued to serve as Presiding Officer until 7 May 2003. However, his membership of the Parliamentary Bureau ceased on 31 March 2003.

Scottish Parliament Fact sheet FS2-08
Contacting the Public Information Service

For more information you can visit our website at http://www.scottish.parliament.uk or contact the Public Information Service.

Address
Public Information Service
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Telephone 0131 348 5000
Textphone users can contact us on 0131 558 7676. We also welcome calls using the RNID Typetalk service.

Fax 0131 348 5601
Email sp.info@scottish.parliament.uk