

The logo for SPICe (The Information Centre) is located in the top left corner. It features the word "SPICe" in a large, white, sans-serif font, with "The Information Centre" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font directly below it. The background of the logo is a dark purple rounded rectangle with a graphic of several white arrows pointing towards the right, set against a background of light purple and white curved lines.

SPICe

The Information Centre

Scottish Parliament Fact Sheet

Dates of Recess, Dissolution and Parliamentary Years

26 June 2019

Parliamentary Business: Historic Series

This Fact Sheet provides a list of the parliamentary years since 1999 as well as the dates when the Scottish Parliament has been in recess and dissolution.

A parliamentary year is a period, normally of 12 months, beginning on the date of the first meeting of the Parliament following a general election, and on each subsequent anniversary of that date within that session.

Recess is a period when the Parliament is not dissolved, but is not meeting for a particular length of time. The dates of recesses are decided by the Parliament on a motion from the Parliamentary Bureau that has regard to Scottish school holidays (rule 2.3).

Dissolution is the official term for the end of a session. The Presiding Officer determines the date when the Parliament is expected to be dissolved and members are notified of the date by the Clerk. Under the Scotland Act 1998 ordinary general elections are held on the first Thursday in May, every four years.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Parliamentary Years

| Session One | Start Date | End Date |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Parliamentary Year 1 | 12 May 1999 | 11 May 2000 |
| Parliamentary Year 2 | 12 May 2000 | 11 May 2001 |
| Parliamentary Year 3 | 12 May 2001 | 11 May 2002 |
| Parliamentary Year 4 | 12 May 2002 | 31 March 2003 |

| Session Two | Start Date | End Date |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Parliamentary Year 1 | 7 May 2003 | 6 May 2004 |
| Parliamentary Year 2 | 7 May 2004 | 6 May 2005 |
| Parliamentary Year 3 | 7 May 2005 | 6 May 2006 |
| Parliamentary Year 4 | 7 May 2006 | 2 April 2007 |

| Session Three | Start Date | End Date |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Parliamentary Year 1 | 9 May 2007 | 8 May 2008 |
| Parliamentary Year 2 | 9 May 2008 | 8 May 2009 |
| Parliamentary Year 3 | 9 May 2009 | 8 May 2010 |
| Parliamentary Year 4 | 9 May 2010 | 22 March 2011 |

| Session Four | Start Date | End Date |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Parliamentary Year 1 | 11 May 2011 | 10 May 2012 |
| Parliamentary Year 2 | 11 May 2012 | 10 May 2013 |
| Parliamentary Year 3 | 11 May 2013 | 10 May 2014 |
| Parliamentary Year 4 | 11 May 2014 | 10 May 2015 |
| Parliamentary Year 5 | 11 May 2015 | 23 March 2016 |

| Session Five | Start Date | End Date |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Parliamentary Year 1 | 12 May 2016 | 11 May 2017 |
| Parliamentary Year 2 | 12 May 2017 | 11 May 2018 |
| Parliamentary Year 3 | 12 May 2018 | 11 May 2019 |
| Parliamentary Year 4 | 12 May 2019 | 11 May 2020 |

Recess and Dissolution Dates

Session One: 12 May 1999 – 31 March 2003

| | Recess | Start Date | End Date |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1999 | Summer | 5 July 1999 | 30 August 1999 |
| | Autumn | 11 October 1999 | 22 October 1999 |
| | Christmas | 20 December 1999 | 7 January 2000 |
| | | | |
| 2000 | Spring | 10 April 2000 | 24 April 2000 |
| | Summer | 10 July 2000 | 03 September 2000 |
| | Autumn | 9 October 2000 | 22 October 2000 |
| | Christmas | 21 December 2000 | 7 January 2001 |
| | | | |
| 2001 | February | 19 February 2001 | 23 February 2001 |
| | Spring | 9 April 2001 | 20 April 2001 |
| | Summer | 2 July 2001 | 31 August 2001 |
| | Autumn | 8 October 2001 | 19 October 2001 |
| | Christmas | 24 December 2001 | 04 January 2002 |
| | | | |
| 2002 | February | 18 February 2002 | 22 February 2002 |
| | Spring | 29 March 2002 | 12 April 2002 |
| | Summer | 11 July 2002 | 30 August 2002 |
| | Autumn | 14 October 2002 | 25 October 2002 |
| | Christmas | 23 December 2002 | 3 January 2003 |
| | | | |
| 2003 | Dissolution | 1 April 2003 ¹ | 1 May 2003 |

¹ Dissolution began at midnight on 31 March 2003

Session Two: 7 May 2003 – 2 April 2007

| | Recess | Start Date | End Date |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 2003 | Summer | 28 June 2003 | 31 August 2003 |
| | Autumn | 11 October 2003 | 26 October 2003 |
| | Christmas | 20 December 2003 | 4 January 2004 |
| | | | |
| 2004 | February | 14 February 2004 | 22 February 2004 |
| | Spring | 3 April 2004 | 18 April 2004 |
| | Summer | 26 June 2004 | 29 August 2004 |
| | Autumn | 11 October 2004 | 22 October 2004 |
| | Christmas | 27 December 2004 | 7 January 2005 |
| | | | |
| 2005 | February | 12 February 2005 | 20 February 2005 |
| | Spring | 25 March 2005 | 10 April 2005 |
| | Summer | 2 July 2005 | 4 September 2005 |
| | Autumn | 8 October 2005 | 23 October 2005 |
| | Christmas | 24 December 2005 | 8 January 2006 |
| | | | |
| 2006 | February | 11 February 2006 | 19 February 2006 |
| | Spring | 1 April 2006 | 17 April 2006 |
| | Summer | 1 July 2006 | 3 September 2006 |
| | Autumn | 7 October 2006 | 22 October 2006 |
| | Christmas | 23 December 2006 | 7 January 2007 |
| | | | |
| 2007 | Dissolution | 3 April 2007 ² | 3 May 2007 |

² Dissolution began at midnight on 2 April 2007

Session Three: 9 May 2007 – 22 March 2011

| | Recess | Start Date | End Date |
|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 2007 | Summer | 30 June 2007 | 2 September 2007 |
| | Autumn | 6 October 2007 | 21 October 2007 |
| | Christmas | 22 December 2007 | 4 January 2008 |
| | | | |
| 2008 | February | 9 February 2008 | 17 February 2008 |
| | Spring | 29 March 2008 | 13 April 2008 |
| | Summer | 28 June 2008 | 31 August 2008 |
| | Autumn | 11 October 2008 | 26 October 2008 |
| | Christmas | 20 December 2008 | 4 January 2009 |
| | | | |
| 2009 | February | 14 February 2009 | 22 February 2009 |
| | Spring | 4 April 2009 | 19 April 2009 |
| | Summer | 27 June 2009 | 30 August 2009 |
| | Autumn | 10 October 2009 | 25 October 2009 |
| | Christmas | 21 December 2009 | 4 January 2010 |
| | | | |
| 2010 | February | 13 February 2010 | 21 February 2010 |
| | Spring | 27 March 2010 | 11 April 2010 |
| | Summer | 5 July 2010 | 5 September 2010 |
| | Autumn | 9 October 2010 | 24 October 2010 |
| | Christmas | 23 December 2010 | 9 January 2011 |
| | | | |
| 2011 | February | 14 February 2011 | 20 February 2011 |
| | | | |
| 2011 | Dissolution | 23 March 2011 ³ | 5 May 2011 |

³ Dissolution began at midnight on 22 March 2011

Session 4: 11 May 2011 – 23 March 2016

| | Recess | Start Date | End Date |
|-------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|
| 2011 | Summer | 2 July 2011 | 4 September 2011 |
| | Autumn | 8 October 2011 | 23 October 2011 |
| | Christmas | 23 December 2011 | 8 January 2012 |
| | | | |
| 2012 | February | 13 February 2012 | 19 February 2012 |
| | Spring | 31 March 2012 | 15 April 2012 |
| | Summer | 30 June 2012 | 2 September 2012 |
| | Autumn | 6 October 2012 | 21 October 2012 |
| | Christmas | 22 December 2012 | 6 January 2013 |
| | | | |
| 2013 | February | 9 February 2013 | 17 February 2013 |
| | Spring | 30 March 2013 | 14 April 2013 |
| | Summer | 29 June 2013 | 1 September 2013 |
| | Autumn | 12 October 2013 | 27 October 2013 |
| | Christmas | 21 December 2013 | 5 January 2014 |
| | | | |
| 2014 | February | 8 February 2014 | 16 February 2014 |
| | Spring | 5 April 2014 | 20 April 2014 |
| | Summer | 28 June 2014 | 3 August 2014 |
| | Summer | 23 August 2014 | 21 September 2014 |
| | Autumn | 11 October 2014 | 26 October 2014 |
| | Christmas | 20 December 2014 | 4 January 2015 |
| | | | |
| 2015 | February | 7 February 2015 | 15 February 2015 |
| | Spring | 4 April 2015 | 19 April 2015 |
| | Summer | 27 June 2015 | 30 August 2015 |
| | Autumn | 10 October 2015 | 25 October 2015 |
| | Christmas | 19 December 2015 | 4 January 2016 |
| | | | |
| 2016 | February | 13 February 2016 | 21 February 2016 |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| 2016 | Dissolution | 24 March 2016 ⁴ | 5 May 2016 |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------|

Session 5: 12 May 2016- to date

| | Recess | Start Date | End Date |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 2016 | Summer | 2 July 2016 | 4 September 2016 |
| | Autumn | 8 October 2016 | 23 October 2016 |
| | Christmas | 24 December 2016 | 8 January 2017 |
| | | | |
| 2017 | February | 11 February 2017 | 19 February 2017 |
| | Spring | 1 April 2017 | 16 April 2017 |
| | Summer | 1 July 2017 | 3 September 2017 |
| | Autumn | 7 October 2017 | 22 October 2017 |
| | Christmas | 23 December 2017 | 7 January 2018 |
| | | | |
| 2018 | February | 10 February 2018 | 18 February 2018 |
| | Spring | 31 March 2018 | 15 April 2018 |
| | Summer | 30 June 2018 | 2 September 2018 |
| | Autumn | 6 October 2018 | 21 October 2018 |
| | Christmas | 22 December 2018 | 6 January 2019 |
| | | | |
| 2019 | February | 9 February 2019 | 17 February 2019 |
| | Spring | 06 April 2019 | 21 April 2019 |
| | Summer | 30 June 2019 | 1 September 2019 |
| | Autumn | 12 October 2019 | 27 October 2019 |
| | Christmas | 21 December 2019 | 5 January 2020 |
| | | | |
| 2020 | February | 8 February 2020 | 16 February 2020 |
| | Spring | 04 April 2020 | 19 April 2020 |
| | Summer | 27 June 2020 | 30 August 2020 |
| | Autumn | 10 October 2020 | 25 October 2020 |
| | Christmas | 24 December 2020 | 8 January 2021 |

⁴ Dissolution began at midnight on 23 March 2016.

SPICe

The Information Centre

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