



Budget (Scotland) Bill

Bill Number:	SP Bill 22
Introduced on:	17 January 2013
Introduced by:	John Swinney
Passed:	6 February 2013
Royal Assent:	13 March 2013

Passage of the Bill

The Budget (Scotland) Bill [SP Bill 22] was introduced on 17 January 2013. The Stage 1 debate took place on 22 January, the Finance Committee considered the Bill at Stage 2 on 30 January and the Bill was passed by the Parliament on 6 February 2013.

Purpose and objectives of the Bill

The Budget Bill is the final stage in the annual budget process and this Bill gives parliamentary authority for spending in Scotland for financial year 2013-14. The budget process is intended to allow the Parliament's subject committees the opportunity to comment on the Scottish Government's spending plans prior to the annual budget being agreed. The expectation is for the subject committees to play an active role in scrutinising and making recommendations on spending priorities.

Provisions of the Bill

The Bill authorises approximately £32bn of cash expenditure by the Scottish Government and its associated bodies, other organisations whose core funding is centrally provided (e.g. local authorities and health boards), the Forestry Commissioners, the Food Standards Agency, the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body and Audit Scotland.

The Bill received Royal Assent on 13 March 2013.