



Budget (Scotland) Bill

Bill Number:	SP Bill 59
Introduced on:	15 January 2015
Introduced by:	John Swinney
Passed:	4 February 2015
Royal Assent:	11 March 2015

Passage of the Bill

The Budget (Scotland) Bill [SP Bill 59] was introduced on 15 January 2015. The Stage 1 debate took place on 21 January, the Finance Committee considered the Bill at Stage 2 on 28 January and the Bill was passed by the Parliament on 4 February 2015.

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 2015-16. 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 £33.5bn 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 11 March 2015.