



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 27 June 2024 at 9.00am

Present:

- Alison Johnstone MSP (chair)
- Claire Baker MSP
- Jackson Carlaw MSP
- Maggie Chapman MSP
- Christine Grahame MSP

In attendance:

- David McGill
- Michelle Hegarty
- Lorna Foreman, Dawn Gibbons, Kenny Htet-Khin
- Janice Crerar
- Lynsey Hamill
- Alan Balharrie, Robin Davidson
- Callum Thomson, Stephen Wright
- Alan Durward
- Eric MacLeod
- Mark Brough
- Allan Campbell
- Lisa Creamer
- Judith Proudfoot, Secretary

Previous minutes

1. The SPCB agreed the minute of the meeting held on 13 June 2024.

Matters arising

2. The SPCB noted that officials were looking into an allegation of mis-use of parliamentary resources.

Review of complaints process

3. The SPCB noted an update on work by officials to look into the resolution of Parliament directing the SPCB to commission a review into the Parliament complaints processes. SPCB also noted work had commenced to reflect on the SPCB recent investigation process, for its future consideration. A further update would be provided after the summer recess.

Civil Service Pension Scheme – SPCB (2024) Paper 47

4. An issue had been identified in relation to the application of the SPCB's overtime policy. Investigations were ongoing and officials would report further once these were completed. Pending that, the SPCB agreed in principle to a modest corrective payment being made in relation to the backdating of SPCB staff pension contributions to ensure compliance with the Pension Scheme.

Officeholders – contingency request – SPCB (2024) Paper 48

5. The SPCB deferred decision on this request pending a meeting with the Executive Director of the Scottish Human Rights Commission.

Camp

6. The SPCB received an update on work being done to reinstate the landscape area to safe use for the public, following the unauthorised camp. Officials would be meeting with Police Scotland to review handling of the situation and the SPCB would receive a close out report in the autumn.

FOI requests

7. The SPCB had a discussion with officials on the organisation's approach to handling Freedom of Information requests. This would feed into a wider review exercise being undertaken on handling of FOIs generally.

Subject access request

8. The SPCB noted an update on a decision taken by senior officials to refuse a data subject access request received on the grounds that it was manifestly excessive.

Crèche services – SPCB (2024) Paper 49

9. The SPCB had asked officials to look into any other viable options for improving childcare provision at Holyrood. Options were presented at the meeting and discussed.

10. Work was ongoing looking into provision of direct access from the crèche to outside space and a detailed costed proposal would be brought back for further consideration. Officials were also further investigating advice on viability around a nursery provision.

Any Other Business

Correction to the Scottish Parliament Official Report

11. The SPCB noted and agreed to seek a correction to the Official Report of the SPCB QT session in the chamber on 13 June 2024 to reflect that a recent decision on lanyards for parliamentary staff had been taken by the Director of People, Communications and Inclusion, not by the SPCB.
12. The SPCB noted its appreciation for the invaluable contribution made by Judith Proudfoot as Secretary to the SPCB over the last 20 years.

Date of next meeting

13. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for 12 September 2024.

SPCB Secretariat

June 2024