



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 6 March 2025 at 9.00am

Present:

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

Apologies:

- Christine Grahame MSP
- David McGill

In attendance:

- Michelle Hegarty
- Sara Glass
- Mairi Pearson
- Lynsey Hamill
- Alan Durward
- Iain Rae
- Eric MacLeod
- Mark Brough
- Lisa Creamer
- Lynn Russell, Head of Secretariat

Previous minutes

1. The SPCB agreed the minute of the meeting held on 20 February 2025.

Matters arising

2. The following items were dealt with by correspondence since the previous meeting—
 - Paper 14: The SPCB approved a determination received from the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner for an ICT refresh and migration

to a new supplier, if the annual cost of hosting is less than is currently being paid.

- The SPCB noted correspondence from the Electoral Commission (EC). It agreed that it would provide comments to the Speaker's Committee on the EC's corporate plan to inform the development of a Scottish corporate plan.
- The SPCB noted correspondence from the Local Government and Communities Committee to the Scottish Public Service Ombudsman (SPSO) regarding its in-depth scrutiny into the operation of the SPSO. The SPCB further noted the current work of the SPCB Supported Bodies Landscape Review Committee and public petition PE1964: Create an independent review of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman, recently considered and closed by the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee.

Reimbursement of Members' Expenses Scheme – Annual Uprating of Provisions: Paper 15

3. The SPCB agreed the uprating of the Reimbursement of Members' Expenses Scheme provisions, as detailed in the paper.

Reimbursement of Members' Expenses Scheme – Exceptional Expenses Application: Paper 17

4. The SPCB noted that incorrect information had been provided to a Member regarding their expenses allowance. The SPCB agreed to approve an application for exceptional expenses as a result of this error.

Catering Services Tariff Update: Paper 16

5. The SPCB considered an update on the catering outlets within the parliamentary estate and their performance during 2024/25. The SPCB agreed an increase to the catering tariff for the Garden Level Restaurant, The Holyrood Room and the Events & Hospitality brochure. Jackson Carlaw MSP did not support this decision.
6. The SPCB will receive a further update on catering services in due course.

Date of next meeting

7. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for 20 March 2025.

SPCB Secretariat
March 2025