



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## **Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 19 January at 9.00am**

### **Present:**

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

### **In attendance:**

- David McGill
- Michelle Hegarty
- Lynsey Hamill
- Lorna Foreman
- Neil Mackie
- Becky Thomson
- Helen Birrell
- Susan Duffy
- Roy Devon
- Rob Littlejohn
- Huw Williams
- Mark Brough
- Eric MacLeod
- Lisa Creamer
- Judith Proudfoot, Secretary

### **Previous minutes**

1. The SPCB agreed the minute of the meeting held on 8 December 2022.

## **Matters arising**

2. Jackson Carlaw provided feedback following his presentation to the Finance and Public Administration Committee of the SPCB's 2023-24 Budget.
3. The SPCB noted updates on officeholder recruitment exercises. The SPCB also raised the issue of the impact of the late business sittings prior to Christmas and agreed that there was a role for the SPCB in any similar future proposals given its responsibilities as the employer of parliamentary staff. A discussion would be scheduled for a future meeting.
4. The SPCB noted that the following matters had been noted/agreed by correspondence since the last meeting:
  - Agreed that overnight accommodation costs incurred by Members as a consequence of the late sittings on 20 and 21 December 2022 could be met through the Members Expenses Scheme as exceptional expenses.
  - SPCB(2023)Paper 1 – agreed a response to the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee in relation to a petition about an independent review of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO).
  - Agreed a contingency request from the SPSO.

## **Chief Executive's Report**

5. The SPCB noted the Chief Executive's report and an additional update on the Scottish Human Rights Commission.

## **Members' feedback survey – Paper 2**

6. This item was deferred.

## **Industrial action**

7. The SPCB received an update on the implications of the proposed industrial action planned for Wednesday 1 February. It was anticipated that parliamentary business would continue to be supported but there may be restrictions on public access to Holyrood.

## **Scottish Parliamentary Service pay – Paper 3**

8. The SPCB agreed a negotiating remit for the 2023-24 pay award.

## **Security – Paper 4**

9. The SPCB agreed 3 requests for security works to be undertaken. The SPCB did not agree one retrospective request for funding relating to home improvements. The SPCB requested a further paper on some of the issues arising from the discussion.

## **Festival of Politics 2022 Report – Paper 5**

10. The SPCB noted the report on the 2022 Festival of Politics event.

## **Festival of Politics 2023 – Paper 6**

11. The SPCB agreed the arrangements for the 2023 Festival as set out in the paper.
12. The SPCB discussed the future of the Festival and requested work be undertaken to look at whether it was still the most effective and efficient way of achieving the Parliament's engagement objectives. An options paper would be brought back to a future meeting for further discussion.

## **Scotland's Futures Forum (SFF): 2021-22 Annual Report and Accounts – Paper 7**

13. The SPCB noted an update on activities of the SFF during the past year and discussed its role alongside the work of committees and cross-party groups. A further discussion was requested.
14. The SPCB noted the 2021-22 Annual Report and Accounts.

## **Date of next meeting**

15. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for 2 February 2023.

**SPCB secretariat**  
January 2023