



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Lobbying Register - Third Annual Report

23 September 2021

Reference: SPCB (2021) Paper 52

Executive summary

1. The SPCB has been engaged by parliamentary officials at regular intervals on the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016 and Lobbying Register, since 2017. This has included previous annual reports. The third annual report has now been produced, inclusive of data for the first 3 years and 3 months of the Register (from 12 March 2018 to 12 June 2021).
2. The report is not a statutory requirement but produced to help provide public information about the progress and operation of the Register, as well as to update the SPCB and appropriate committees of the Parliament. As such, the report (and associated data) is attached to this paper. In terms of topicality, we would draw your attention to the chapters on 'Updates on the Lobbying Register' and 'Six-month statutory periods and compliance'.
3. Updates on the Lobbying Register provides details of the actions being taken by the Lobbying Register Team, in relation to the recommendations of the Public Audit and Post-legislative Scrutiny Committee's statutory review of The Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. This Committee published its final [report](#) on 22 March 2021. This section also outlines the actions specifically requested of the Scottish Government, by the Committee.
4. Six-month statutory periods and compliance reports back on how compliance issues have been handled during the challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic and makes suggestions for future compliance performance.
5. As with previous years, the report also has sections on Registrants and Information Returns, providing analysis of the substantial content now held on the Lobbying Register.
6. As usual, a copy of the report will be provided to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, which has lobbying within its remit. A copy will also be provided to the Finance and Public Administration Committee.
7. Officials will be happy to answer any questions on the report or any other issues relating to the ongoing administration of the Act at the meeting.

Publication Scheme

8. This paper will be published in accordance with the SPCB's publication scheme.

Decision

9. The SPCB is invited to note this paper and the annual report.

Lobbying Register Team
Engagement & Communications Group
September 2021