



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

# Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 20 April 2023 at 9.00am

## Present:

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

## Apologies:

- Alison Johnstone MSP

## In attendance:

- David McGill
- Michelle Hegarty
- Becky Thomson
- Helen Birrell
- Sara Glass
- Mairi Pearson
- Dawn Gibbons
- Pauline McNeill MSP, chair of Pension Fund Trustees
- Janice Crerar
- Huw Williams
- Eric MacLeod
- Lisa Creamer
- Judith Proudfoot, Secretary

## Previous minutes

1. The SPCB agreed the minutes of the meetings held on 23 and 30 March 2023.

## Matters arising

2. The SPCB discussed updates on: arrangements put in place to manage disruptions to business in the chamber; and planning being done ahead of the proposed day of strike action on Friday 28 April.
3. The following papers had been agreed by correspondence since the previous meeting:
  - SPCB (2023) Paper 22 – parliamentary travel, Emma Harper MSP
  - SPCB (2023) Paper 23 – parliamentary travel, Tartan Week

## **Security – Paper 25**

4. The SPCB agreed 2 requests from Members to implement recommended security works. The SPCB noted Members' appreciation of the assistance provided by the Security Team in dealing with these matters.

## **Parliamentary travel – Paper 24**

5. The SPCB declined a request for costs associated with a visit to the Faroe Islands on the basis that a similar visit had taken place in August 2022.

## **Parliamentary travel – Paper 26**

6. The SPCB approved costs associated with the Member's travel to Guernsey.

## **Parliamentary travel – Paper 27**

7. The SPCB approved costs associated with the Member's travel to Lithuania.

## **Scottish Parliamentary Pension Scheme – Paper 28**

8. The SPCB met with Pauline McNeill MSP, chair of the Pension Fund Trustees, to discuss the SPCB's contribution rate as the Fund sponsor.
9. On the basis of advice from the Government Actuary's Department, and a recommendation by the Pension Fund Trustees, the SPCB agreed to increase the contribution rate in a stepped manner by 0.8% per year over the next 3 years. This would utilise a reduction of the current surplus, mitigating some risk from market conditions. The SPCB also suggested that, given the current volatile nature of the market, the Trustees may wish to consider seeking a further actuarial valuation next year.

## **Officeholders: appointment of acting Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland – Paper 29**

10. The Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland (the Commissioner) Bruce Adamson would demit office on 17 May 2023. Following a successful recruitment exercise, his successor had been identified and would be nominated to the Parliament for appointment by His Majesty later this month. As the new Commissioner would not be able to take up appointment until mid-August, the SPCB agreed the terms of appointment of Nick Hobbs as the acting Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland from 18 May to mid-August 2023. The SPCB also agreed to appoint Mr Hobbs as the Accountable Officer for this same period.

### **Date of next meeting**

11. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for 4 May 2023.

**SPCB secretariat**

April 2023