

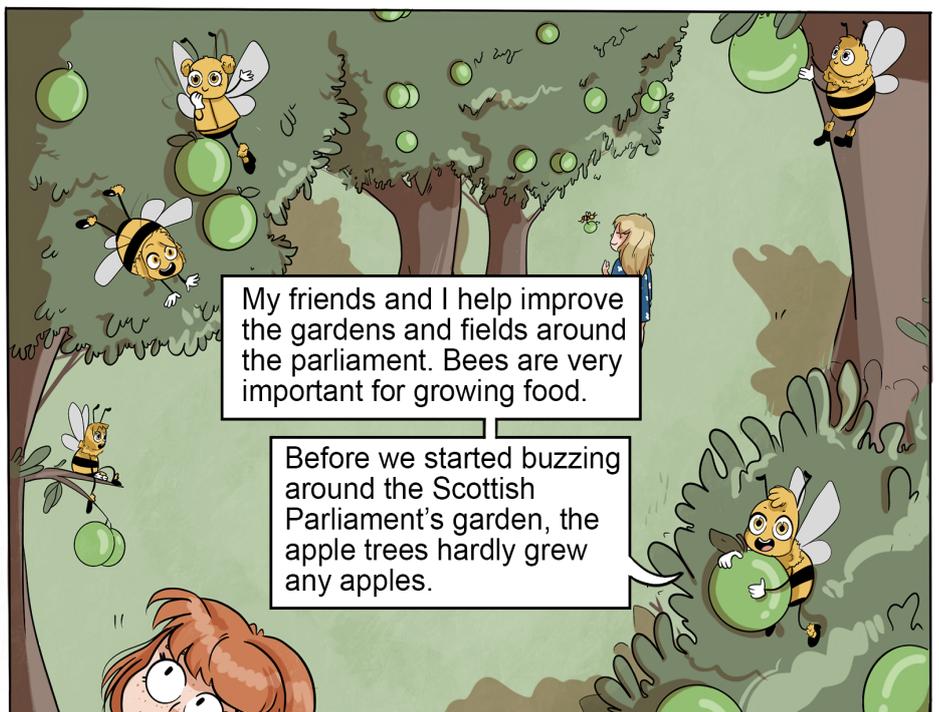
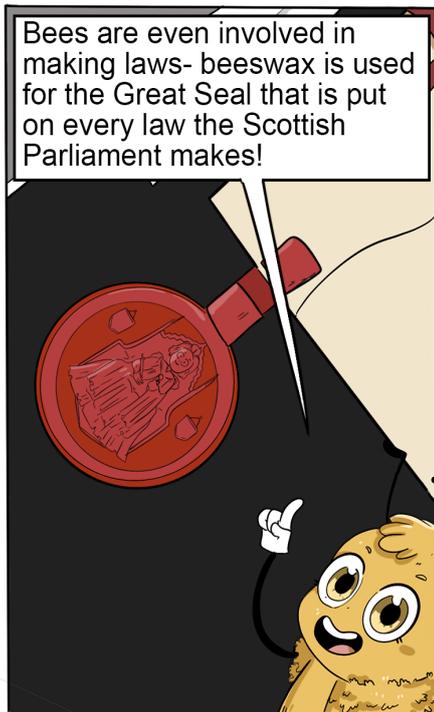
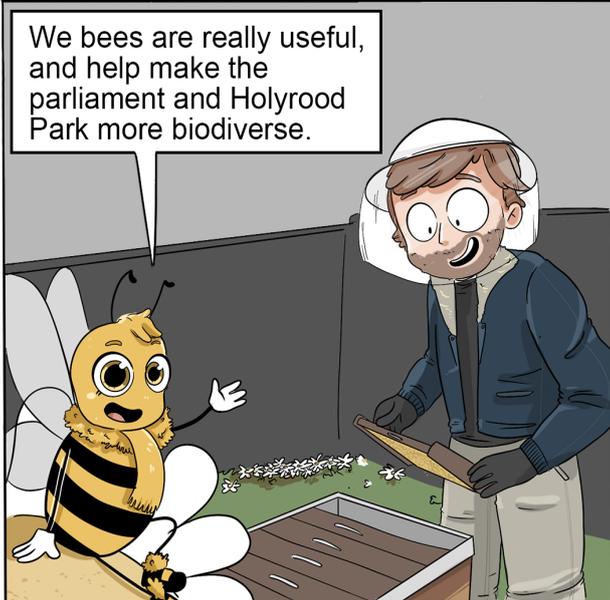
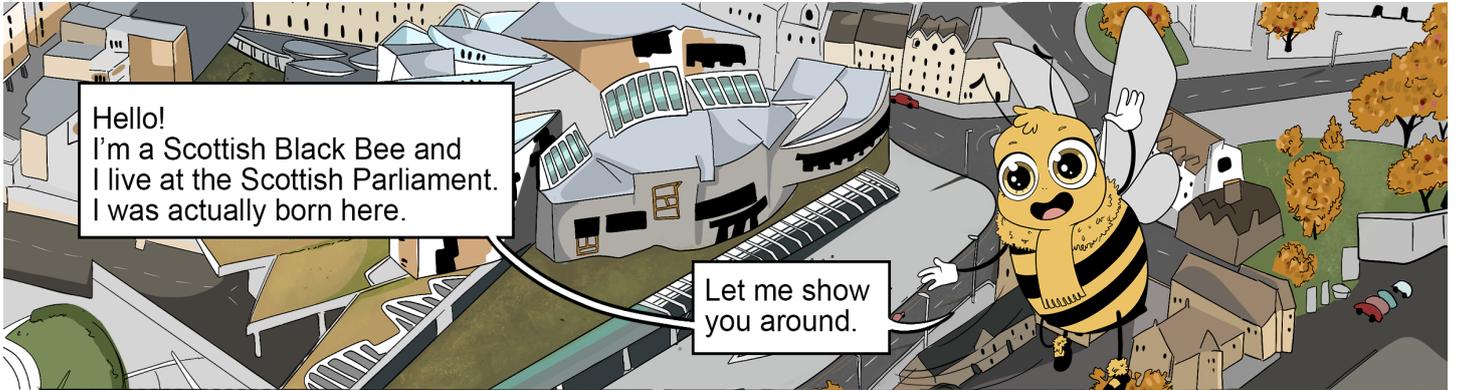


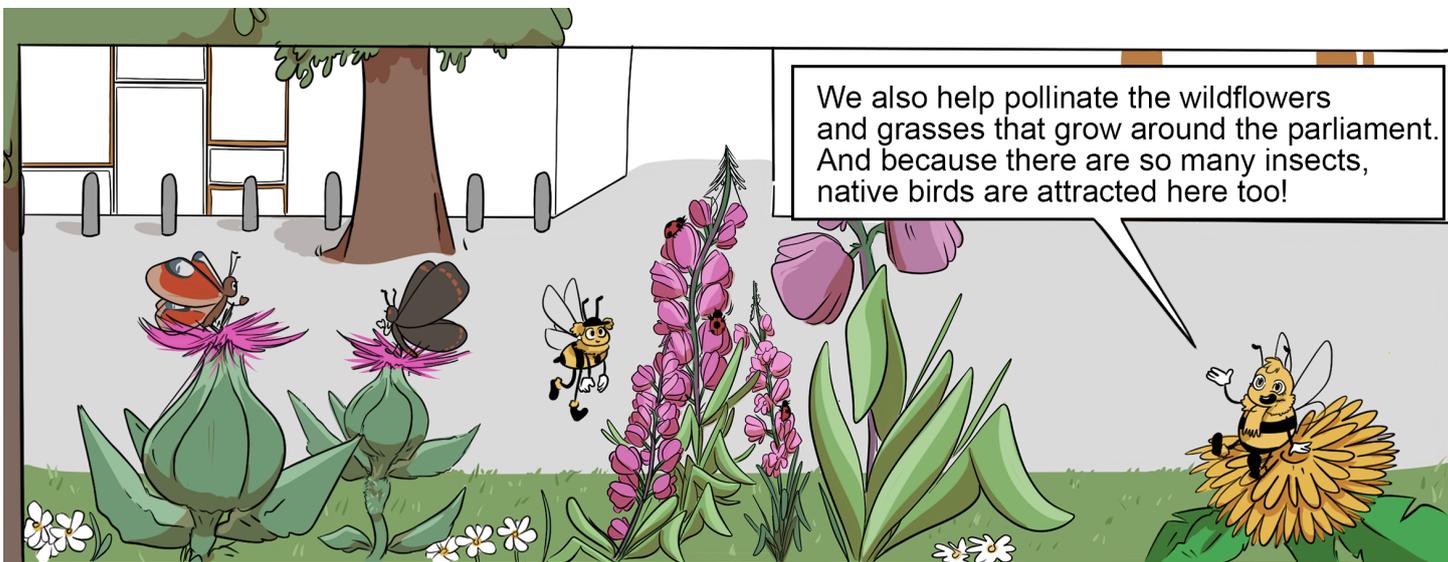
# Our Words

## A Bee's Eye View

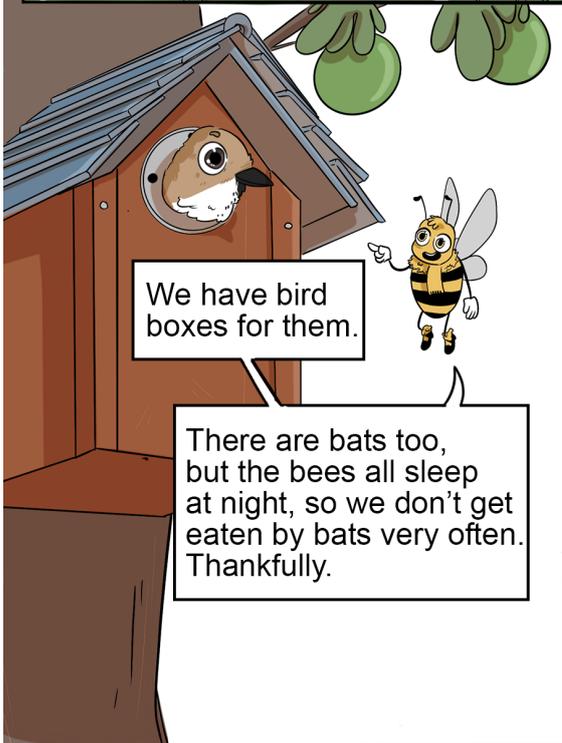
The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

by **Thorntree Primary School and Magic Torch Comics**



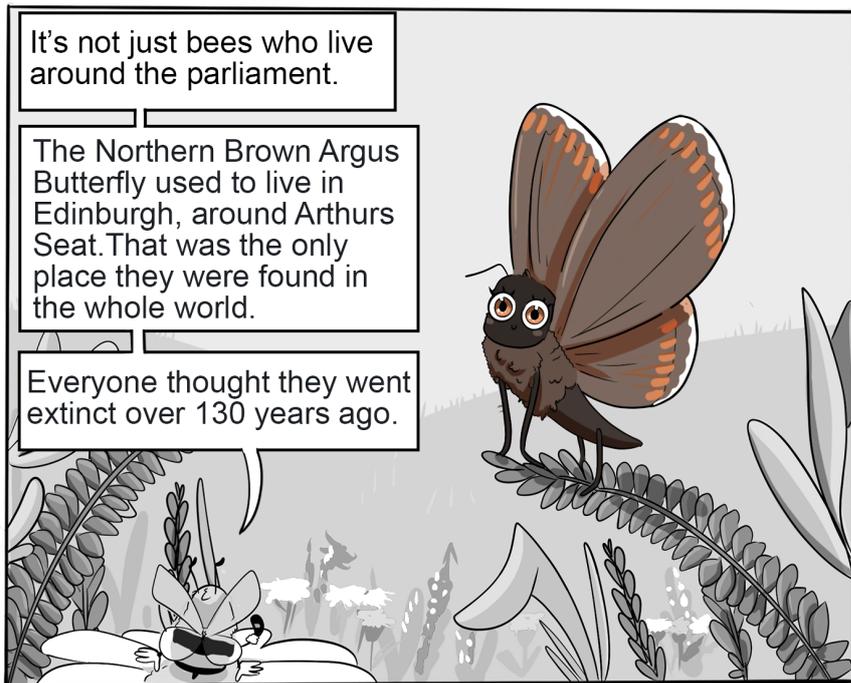


We also help pollinate the wildflowers and grasses that grow around the parliament. And because there are so many insects, native birds are attracted here too!



We have bird boxes for them.

There are bats too, but the bees all sleep at night, so we don't get eaten by bats very often. Thankfully.



It's not just bees who live around the parliament.

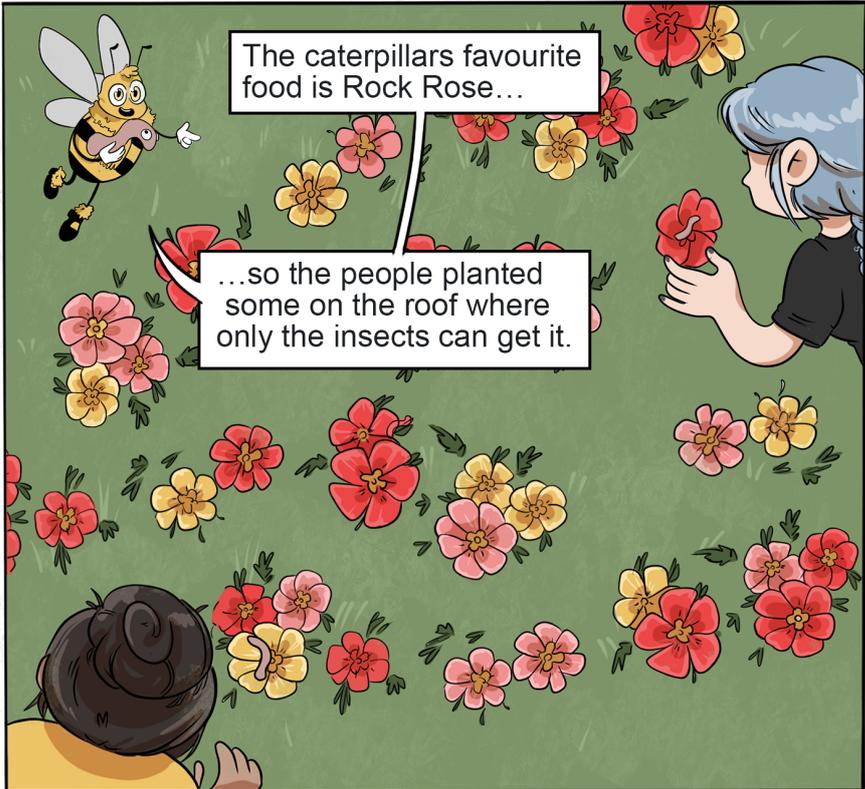
The Northern Brown Argus Butterfly used to live in Edinburgh, around Arthurs Seat. That was the only place they were found in the whole world.

Everyone thought they went extinct over 130 years ago.



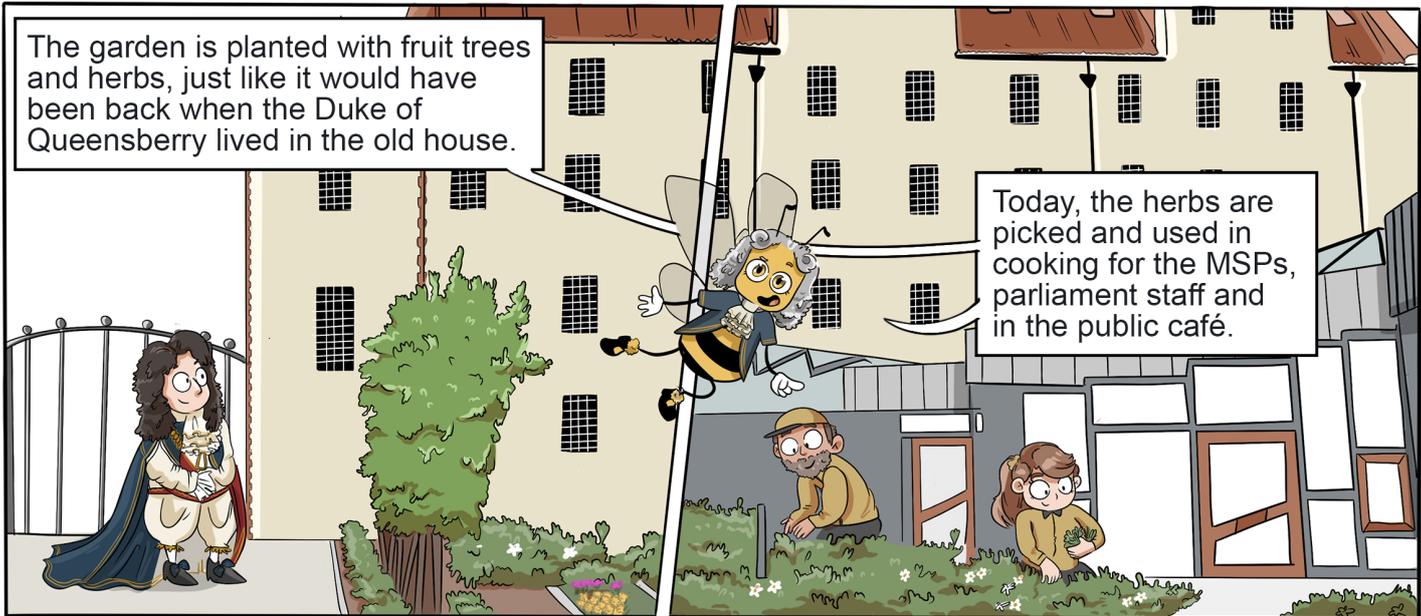
A few years ago, a pair were found in the Holyrood Palace gardens.

Imagine that! Back after more than a hundred years!



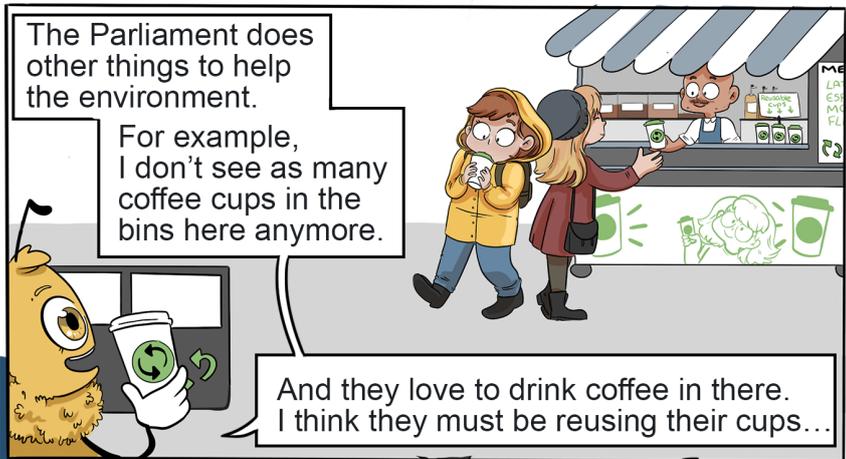
The caterpillars favourite food is Rock Rose...

...so the people planted some on the roof where only the insects can get it.



The garden is planted with fruit trees and herbs, just like it would have been back when the Duke of Queensberry lived in the old house.

Today, the herbs are picked and used in cooking for the MSPs, parliament staff and in the public café.



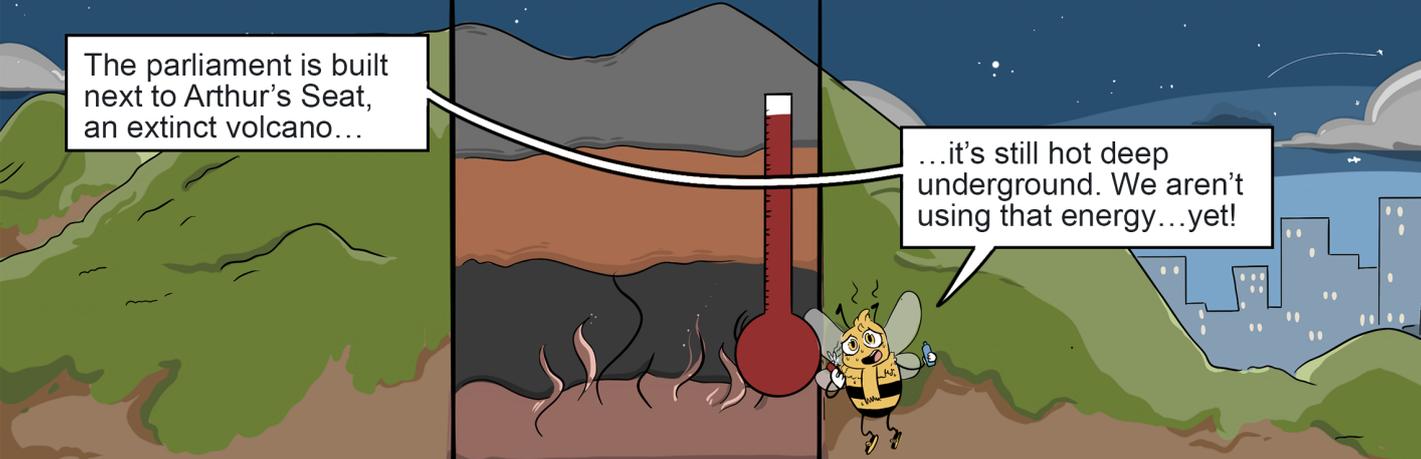
The Parliament does other things to help the environment.

For example, I don't see as many coffee cups in the bins here anymore.

And they love to drink coffee in there. I think they must be reusing their cups...



Just like the beehives, the parliament is trying to keep the heat in better... In some of the rooms the lights only go on when there are people inside.....and turn off when no one's there.



The parliament is built next to Arthur's Seat, an extinct volcano...

...it's still hot deep underground. We aren't using that energy...yet!



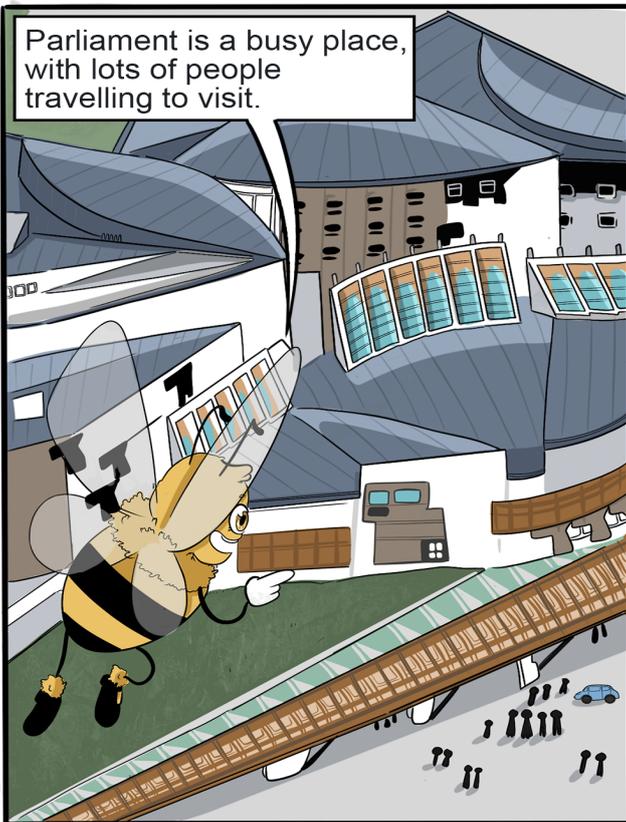
But we are using some of the water from down there.

It's not clean enough to drink, but it can be used in the ponds...

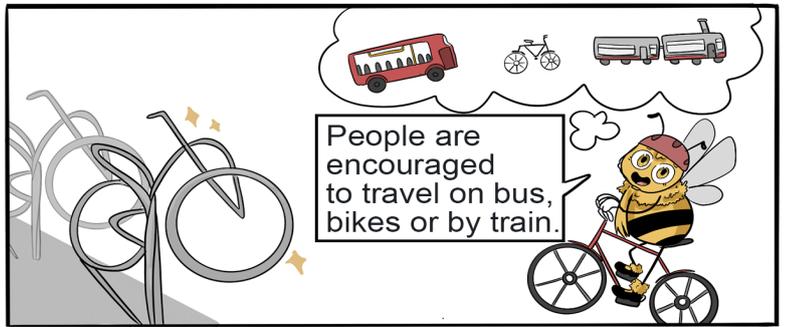


...or to flush the toilets.

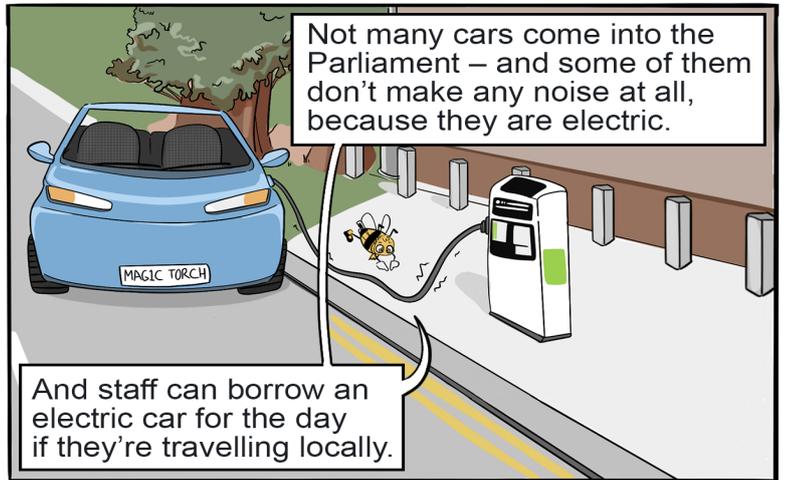
Floooooosshh



Parliament is a busy place, with lots of people travelling to visit.



People are encouraged to travel on bus, bikes or by train.

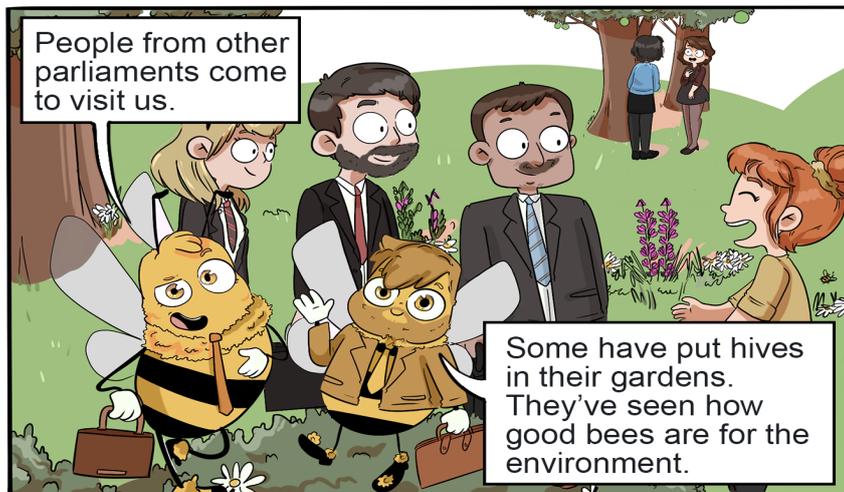


Not many cars come into the Parliament – and some of them don't make any noise at all, because they are electric.

And staff can borrow an electric car for the day if they're travelling locally.

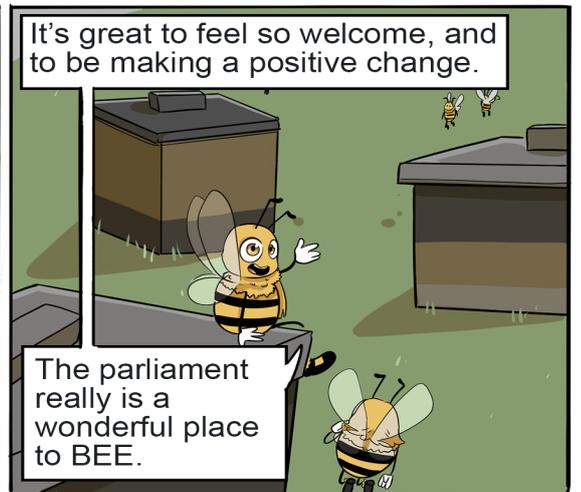


It's a lovely place to live and work. The school next door has even planted flowers for us.



People from other parliaments come to visit us.

Some have put hives in their gardens. They've seen how good bees are for the environment.



It's great to feel so welcome, and to be making a positive change.

The parliament really is a wonderful place to BEE.



To read more about bees and biodiversity at the Scottish Parliament, scan the QR code with a phone or tablet.

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