



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) meeting held on Thursday 18 April 2024 at 9.00am

Present:

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

In attendance:

- David McGill
- Michelle Hegarty
- Roy Devon, Alan Durward
- Lynsey Hamill, Becky Thomson, Stephen Wright
- Victoria Barby
- Susan Duffy, Jane McEwan, Emma Armstrong
- Eric MacLeod
- Jennifer Griffin
- Lisa Creamer
- Judith Proudfoot, Secretary

Previous minutes

1. The SPCB agreed the minute of the meeting held on 21 March 2024.

Matters arising

2. There were no matters arising.

Requests for memorials – SPCB (2024) Paper 27

3. The SPCB considered a request received to have a permanent memorial to Michael McGahey erected in the Parliament. The SPCB noted again the interest expressed in the proposal during a recent Members' debate and the significant role of Mr McGahey as a leader and voice for Scottish miners. The SPCB also noted that there were existing memorials and artwork in place in other locations commemorating the miners' leader, including in the National Galleries.
4. In line with its policy of no permanent memorials in the Parliament or its grounds, the SPCB agreed not to pursue this request. However, when responding to the request, the SPCB wished to make clear that there were a number of ways in which the Parliament could be involved in marking the contribution of Mr McGahey including the Member's debate that had already taken place; a Member-sponsored event or exhibition; and/or a potential temporary loan of an item to the Scottish Parliament Art Collection.
5. The SPCB confirmed that it was content that its existing policy on memorials and the wider subject of marking significant anniversaries, events and people was still appropriate.

Security – SPCB (2024) Paper 28

6. The SPCB noted an update on the main provisions of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill, also known as 'Martyn's Law', which was due to be considered by the UK Parliament. The SPCB agreed the approach for applying the requirements of the Bill's.

Protest Policy

7. The SPCB further discussed its Protest Policy and Visitor Behaviour Policy. It emphasised again that it supported an open and accessible Parliament, and recognised the importance of peaceful protests and demonstrations at the Scottish Parliament. However, protests were not permitted inside the building as that would be disruptive to the effective running of the Parliament.
8. The SPCB agreed the current Policies and implementation arrangements remained appropriate subject to incorporating clarification on small, discreet items such as pin badges and that the Protest Policy is applicable to all building users, including Members.

Low Emission Zones (LEZs) – SPCB (2024) Paper 29

9. The SPCB noted an update on how Edinburgh's LEZs would impact on those attending the Parliament, including timescales and an outline of planned communications with building users.

UK election Guidance – SPCB (2024) Paper 30

10. The SPCB agreed updated guidance for MSPs and their staff on the use of parliamentary resources during a UK election.

Political branding on social media – SPCB (2024) Paper 31

11. The SPCB welcomed updated guidance on the use of Parliament generated broadcast material on social media.

Date of next meeting

12. The next meeting of the SPCB was scheduled for 2 May 2024.

SPCB Secretariat
April 2024