

## PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU: COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSTITUTES

1. The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party is seeking to make the following changes to committee memberships—
  - Jeremy Balfour to replace Craig Hoy on Delegated Powers and Law Reform
  - Sue Webber to replace Stephen Kerr on Education, Children and Young People (Stephen Kerr is currently the Convener of the Committee)
  - Rachael Hamilton to replace Alexander Stewart on Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice
  - Tess White to replace Sue Webber on Health, Social Care and Sport
  - Alexander Stewart to replace Tess White on Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments
  
2. The Party is also seeking to make the following changes to committee substitutes—
  - Craig Hoy to replace Jeremy Balfour as the substitute on Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice
  - Tess White to replace Rachael Hamilton as the substitute on Social Justice and Social Security
  
3. The Bureau has previously discussed the matter of gender balance on committees. These changes would result in the following changes to the gender balance of the relevant committees:

Committee	Total	Before changes				After changes				Change
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
DPLR	5	5	0	100%	0%	5	0	100%	0%	0
Education	10	7	3	70%	30%	6	4	60%	40%	-1M+1F
Equalities	7	3	4	43%	57%	2	5	29%	71%	-1M+1F
Health	10	3	7	30%	70%	3	7	30%	70%	0
SPPA	5	3	2	60%	40%	4	1	80%	20%	+1M-1F

4. The changes will not change the gender balances on DPLR (which has no female members) and Health (which has a higher proportion of female members than male). Education, Equalities and SPPA would all see changes to current gender balance: Education and Equalities with an increase in the number of women and SPPA with a reduction. In requesting these changes, the Party has stated that it has weighed each Member's expertise and wishes against the push for gender parity on each committee. They believe these changes do not upset the balance to a level that justifies going against the wishes of the Members involved. They also do not wish to overburden certain MSPs just because of their gender, as they believe this to be unfair practice.

5. For information, the annexe includes an updated version of a table previously shared with the Bureau which does not include these changes, illustrating the current gender balance of membership on each committee.
6. In order for these changes to be made in time for Committees meeting in the week commencing 30 May, the Bureau is invited to agree to lodge motions proposing these changes and that the motions be taken on Thursday 26 January.

### Parliamentary Business Team May 2022

Annexe – current position (as of May 2022)

Committee	Total	Male	Female	Male	Female	Party				
COVID-19	6	5	1	83%	17%	3	2	1	0	0
CPPPC	5	5	0	100%	0%	2	2	1	0	0
CEEAC	7	4	3	57%	43%	3	2	1	1	0
Criminal Justice	8	3	5	38%	63%	4	2	2	0	0
DPLR	5	5	0	100%	0%	2	2	1	0	0
Economy	9	5	4	56%	44%	4	2	2	1	0
Education	10	7	3	70%	30%	5	2	1	1	1
Equalities	7	3	4	43%	57%	3	2	1	1	0
Finance	7	5	2	71%	29%	3	2	1	1	0
Health	10	3	7	30%	70%	5	2	2	1	0
Local Govt	7	4	3	57%	43%	3	2	1	1	0
NZET	7	3	4	43%	57%	3	2	1	1	0
PAC	5	4	1	80%	20%	2	2	1	0	0
RAINE	9	3	6	33%	67%	4	2	1	1	1
SJSS	8	4	4	50%	50%	4	2	2	0	0
SPPA	5	3	2	60%	40%	2	2	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>
						45%	28%	17%	8%	2%