



Policy Awareness & Impact

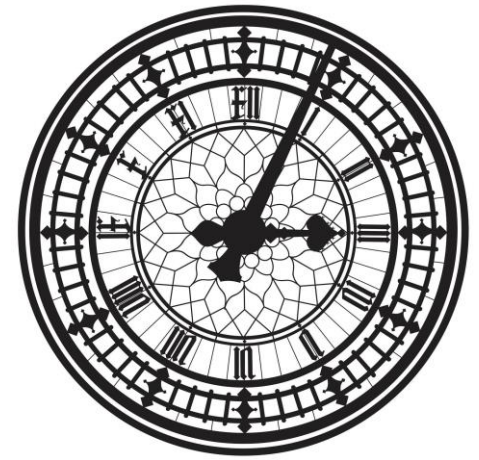
Kirsty Peebles & Elspeth Nicholson,

Newsdirect

Graeme Cook, SPICe

SPICe

The Information Centre
An t-Ionad Fiosrachaidh



RUNNING ORDER

- 10:00 Welcome and introduction
- 10:15 From lightbulb to legislation: taking a policy idea into law
- 10:50 Break
- 11:00 Trusted sources: who has the ear of policymakers?
- 11:50 Break
- 12:00 SPICe - The Scottish Parliament's Information Centre
- 12:30 Q&A
- 12:45 Closing remarks



Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition

Màiri McAllan MSP

The twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss are global threats of existential proportion. Tackling them is the collective fight of our lifetime, and the lifetime of generations to come.

We must reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect our natural environment, and adapt to the impacts of climate change. We must protect our natural environment, and we must also do so in a way that is fair to all. We must seize the opportunities that are available to us, and we must ensure that we are leaving no one behind. We must learn from our mistakes, and we must be open to new ideas. We must work together, and we must be determined to achieve our goals.



Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands

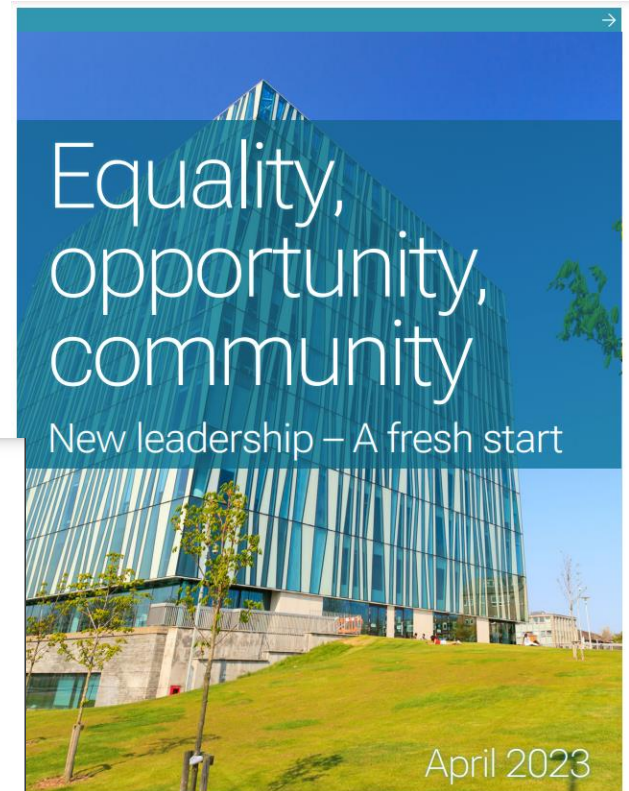
Mairi Gougeon MSP

Our land and seas are precious assets that sustain our people, underpinning our food security, and my key priority is to ensure that we continue to act as responsible custodians of them. The twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss require urgent and sustained action and I will work tirelessly with my Cabinet colleagues to meet these challenges.

This action is vital not just to meet our statutory obligations and achieve economic prosperity, but because it is imperative that we respect and nurture the ecosystem that forms our foundation – protecting it for future generations. I want to grasp the opportunities to support action in rural and coastal communities which are already embracing many of the changes we want to see across Scotland. I want to ensure that our precious natural resources are managed sustainably to benefit all of Scotland.

restoration and climate mitigation and adaptation efforts, while supporting our producers in high-quality food production.

- Introduced Land Reform legislation to further improve transparency of land ownership, helped ensure large scale land holdings deliver in the public interest, and empowered communities by providing more opportunities to own land and have more say in how land in their area is used.
- Created new crofting opportunities through





From lightbulb to legislation:
taking a policy idea into law

newsdirect.

GOOD FOOD NATION

- 2012 National Food Forum trailed at SNP conference
- 2015 Scottish Food Commission established
- 2016 SNP Manifesto committed to a Good Food Nation Bill
- 2018 Consultation on Bill launched December 2018
- 2019 Consultation closed April 2019
- 2019 Ministerial Working Group on Food established
- 2020 Pandemic forces government to delay legislative plans
- 2021 Another election in May 2021 and another Good Food Nation Bill commitment and finally the Bill is introduced on 7 October 2021
- 2022 Legislation passes successfully in the Scottish Parliament

Elements of the Right to Food

- **Availability** - food should be available for sale in markets and shops. Food should be available from natural resources.
- **Accessibility** - food must be affordable. People should be able to afford food for an adequate diet without compromising on any other basic needs, such as school fees, medicines or rent. Physical accessibility means that food should be accessible to all, including people who are physically vulnerable.
- **Adequacy** - food must satisfy dietary needs. Food should be safe for human consumption and free from contaminants including residues from pesticides, hormones or veterinary drugs. Adequate food should also be culturally acceptable so religious and cultural taboos must be accommodated.

Devolved powers

The Scottish Parliament and Scottish Government were established in 1999 by the Scotland Act 1998. Under this Act, the Scotland Act 2012 and the Scotland Act 2016, a range of powers have been transferred (devolved) to Scotland.

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

- administration of elections
- election franchises
- voter registration

SOCIAL SECURITY

- fuel poverty schemes
- social security benefits

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- pre-school
- primary
- secondary
- further and higher
- lifelong learning

TAX (BUSINESS, ENVIRONMENT & PERSONAL) AND BORROWING POWERS

- aggregates levy
- air passenger duty
- borrowing powers
- income tax rates and thresholds
- land and buildings transaction tax
- landfill tax

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

- health education
- health funding
- health services
- medicine
- mental health
- NHS
- public health
- social work

- air weapons licensing
- building control
- energy efficiency
- financing of local government
- gaming machine licensing
- housing policy
- system of local government

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

- civil justice
- civil law and procedure
- courts
- criminal justice
- criminal law and procedure
- debt and bankruptcy
- drink driving alcohol limits
- family law
- freedom of information
- legal aid
- legal profession
- licensing law
- fire and rescue services
- police
- property law
- railway policing
- reserved tribunals

JUSTICE, POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- employment programmes
- Scottish Enterprise
- support for Scottish business and industry
- tourism and VisitScotland

SPORT

- major events
- sportscotland

CULTURE

- creative industries
- Creative Scotland
- national gallery, library and museum collections
- national performing companies

ENVIRONMENT

- agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- climate change
- environmental protection policy
- flood and coastal protection
- national parks
- pollution
- waste
- water supplies and sewerage

- infrastructure
- ferry franchise
- passenger rail franchise
- road signs
- speed limits

TRANSPORT



Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Bill

Government Bill

Originated in the House of Commons, Session 2022-23

Last updated: 21 March 2023 at 11:12

Commons



Lords



Final stages



[See full passage](#)

Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Bill Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) - Call for Views

11 Published responses

Sort by: [Date submitted](#) ▲ [Alphabetical](#)

[KWS UK Ltd, Nigel Moore](#)

[Humane Wildlife Solutions](#)

[OneKind, Kirsty Jenkins](#)

[Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals \(Scottish SPCA\)](#), Mike

[GM Freeze, Liz O'Neill](#)

[Nourish Scotland, Pete Ritchie](#)

[Scottish Animal Welfare Commission, Scottish Animal Welfare Commission](#)

[NFU Scotland, Beatrice Morrice](#)

[Agricultural Industries Confederation Scotland](#)

[Food Ethics Council, Dan Crossley](#)

[Beyond GM, Pat Thomas](#)

Closed 23 Jan 2023

Opened 16 Jan 2023

Contact

Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

0131 348 5000

rural.committee@Parliament.Scot



Scottish Parliament 
@ScotParl



.@jameshuttoninst predict that gene-editing technology could result in potatoes with more vitamin C than lemons being grown.

@realstephenkerr's Members' Business debate will focus on gene-modification and gene-editing this afternoon. Watch here:
ow.ly/NkoC50LxCtJ

Stephen Kerr

A Potato With More Vitamin C Than a Lemon



4:00 PM · Nov 8, 2022

[Bills and laws](#) ▾[MSPs](#) ▾[Chamber and committees](#) ▾[Get involved](#) ▾[Visit](#) ▾[About](#) ▾[Contact us](#)[Home](#) > [Bills and Laws](#) > [Bills \(proposed laws\)](#)

Bills and laws

Bills (proposed laws)

"Bills" are proposed laws that are being examined by the Scottish Parliament. Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) discuss them to decide if they should become law. The public usually gets the chance to share their views.

The different types of Bills are:

- Government Bills
- Member's Bills
- Committee Bills
- Private Bills
- Hybrid Bills

Filter your results

Search by keyword

Bill type

Bill stage

Select a time period ⓘ

Start date

End date

Include



Current Bills



Previous Bills

[Apply filter](#)[Reset filter](#)



Bills and Laws

Legislative Consent Memorandums

Sometimes the UK Parliament will look at a Bill that affects a [“devolved”](#) area. When this happens, the Scottish Government, the Scottish Parliament and the UK Parliament follow a process called “legislative consent.”

This page lists UK Parliament Bills. Information on related Legislative Consent Memorandums (LCMs) and supplementary LCMs can be found under each Bill heading.

You can search for LCMs published since the start of the session 5 (May 2016). For older LCMs, please use the archive website.

[📁 Archive of LCMs from 2005-2016](#)

[➔ Find out more about legislative consent memorandums](#)

Filter [Hide all filters](#)

Search by keyword

Enter keyword

Select a time period ¹

Current session ▾

Start date

12/05/2021 ▾

End date

22/03/2023 ▾

Apply filter

Reset filter

Displaying 34 Consent Memorandums

Scottish Government consultations

Find and take part in consultations that interest or impact you. You can also view published responses and analysis.

Find consultations

[Search for consultations >](#)

Stay updated

[Join our mailing list >](#)

Featured: [Reforming the criminal law to address misogyny](#)

In February 2021, the Scottish Government established an Independent Working Group on Misogyny and... [More](#)

Closes 2 June 2023



The manifesto of the governing party is sliced into annual plans for legislation and other non-legislative commitments. In Scotland, these Programme for Government statements are usually made annually at the start of September. The UK equivalent is delivered in a speech by the monarch on behalf of the UK Government at the State Opening of Parliament.

Coalitions and other agreements – such as between the SNP and Greens - require a compromise to be found.

We can expect the change in leadership of the SNP to reset some priorities and policies for the 2023-26 period. Opponents of any reset will query if they have the mandate to do this.

A Stronger
& More Resilient
Scotland
The Programme for Government 2022-23



→  Scottish Government
Riaghaidh na h-Alba

**SCOTLAND'S
FUTURE**



National Policy Forum Consultation 2023

Welcome to the online hub for Labour's 2023 National Policy Forum (NPF) consultation.

The 2023 consultation has now closed The NPF consultation was a really important opportunity for us to hear from our members, supporters and stakeholders on how the next Labour government can fairer, greener and more dynamic Britain for all.

[Read this year's policy consultations:](#)

- [Delivering growth](#)
- [The everyday economy](#)
- [Empowered communities](#)
- [Prevention, early intervention and better public services for all](#)
- [Supporting families](#)
- [Labour's progressive trade policy](#)

The consultation has now closed.

You can learn more about the six NPF policy commissions and the themes they cover [here](#).

For any questions or to request further information please email policydevelopment@labour.org.uk.

You can also keep up-to-date with NPF more broadly, by following us on Twitter [@labpolicyforum](#) [#LabourPolicy](#)



[How to make a submission](#)



[About Labour Policy Forum](#)

Trusted sources: who has the
ear of policymakers?

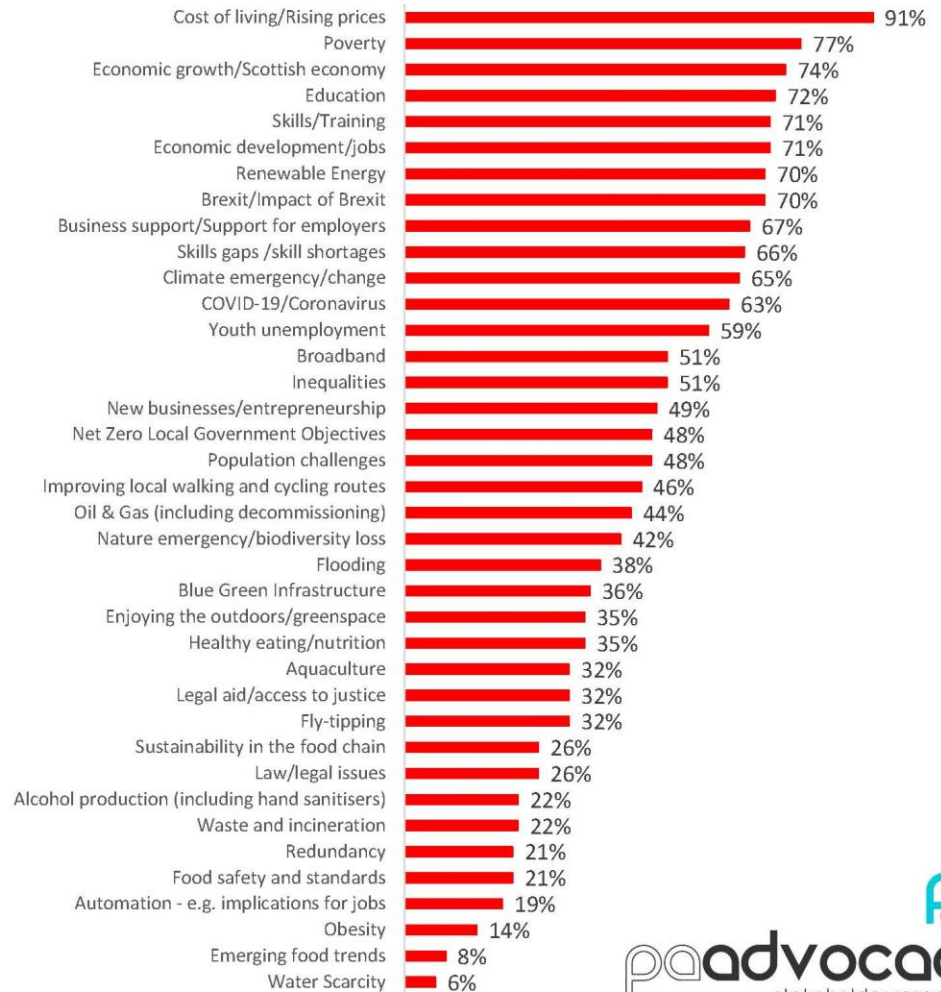


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In which of the subjects on this list, if any, do you take either a personal or professional interest?

Almost all MSPs take an interest in the cost of living

Common areas of interest also include Poverty, the Economy, Education, Skills and Training, Renewable Energy, Brexit, COVID-19 and the Climate Emergency.



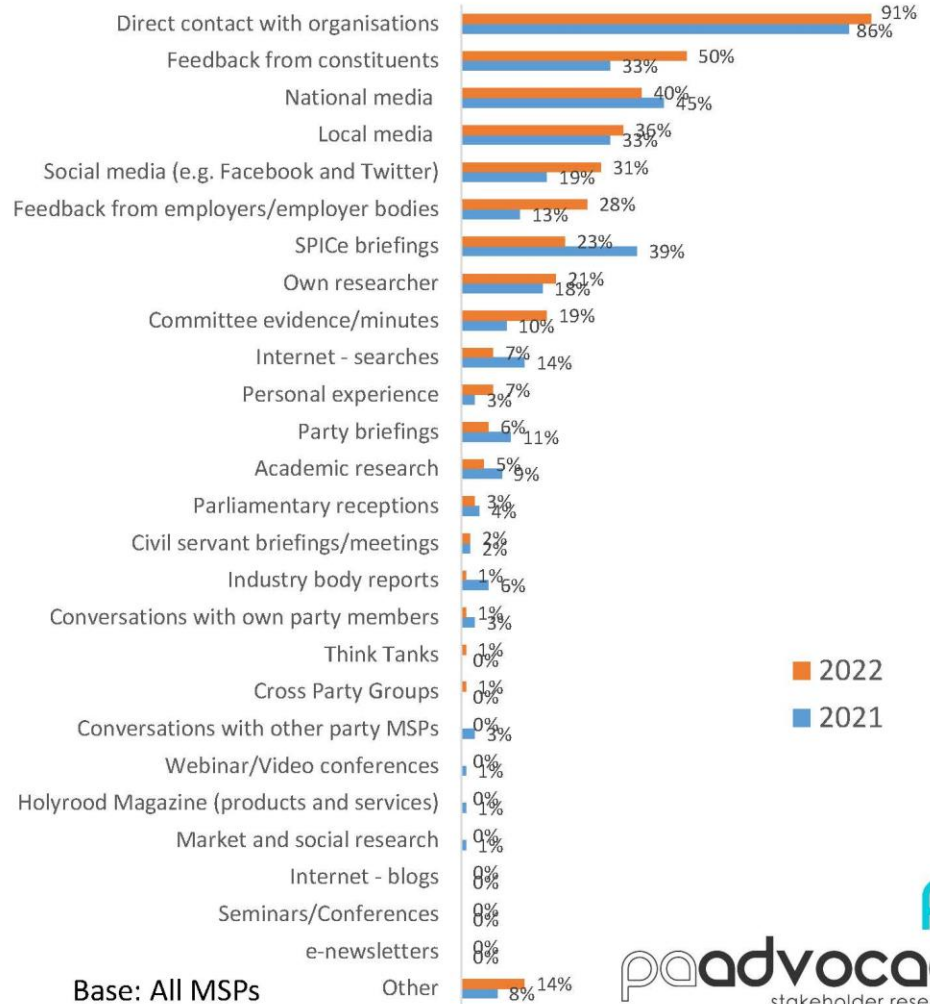
Base: All MSPs (68)

Direct contact from relevant organisations remains the most commonly mentioned useful source of information

MSPs like to reference information directly from organisations they trust.

Credible briefings. I'm not wanting press releases, I don't want propaganda either - and usually the two go together. What I'm looking for is evidence based information. Very often you will get claims about public organisations which they then seek to refute. I want to see the evidence not the spin on either side. Good briefings that reference down to a local level. It's easy to throw a Scottish statistic out there and then run away. I want to see how that breaks down. For example, if we go back to SDS and Modern Apprenticeships, the idea that they break them down into sectors is quite helpful.

Which sources of information are most useful to you in your role?



Base: All MSPs

Sources of information

A lot of it is constituent feedback about what's happening in the local area, that's incredibly useful. Briefings, particularly where it's linked to a debate rather than a standalone briefing. Briefings that are tailored, as you've suggested, to your particular party role, committee role or areas of interest as well.

I get a daily press digest which gives me an overview of what issues have come out. I rely on briefings that I get sent as an MSP, so that's kind of classic one or two page briefings or research reports that are produced on areas I'm interested in, in terms of my shadow cabinet work. And then representations for committee, the clerks and SPICe do really good briefings for us that summarise evidence we've had.

If we start at the widest context, South of Scotland, constituents' emails, newspapers, news review. Coming down a bit towards East Lothian, again the newspapers, contacts, social media, Facebook. Coming into the parliament, committee work, through periodicals, professional papers and obviously the clerking support through SPICe. Legislative-wise in the chamber, both the internal, in my case Labour support unit, along with periodicals, discussion with colleagues and social media, and Google.

Email is the primary one that we use, but also cross-party groups, sectoral cross-party groups, members debates, events in parliament, whether that's a reception or whatever. But also the opportunity to meet people who are involved in the constituency, so constituency visits.

I try and stay up to date with what the Parliamentary Information Centre is providing, and when I receive briefings, particularly in relation to debate subjects from different organisations, I don't read them all, because that wouldn't be true, but particularly in subject areas where I have an interest, I do try and read them.

I hate to say it, but Twitter despite being hideous and just a source of rage and bile towards me is a very, very good source of news and what's going on in the world, particularly in my constituency, so I sit on Twitter and watch that constantly.

General briefings and annual reports are a waste of time, you need something that's much more targeted.

Future agriculture policy in Scotland

Background

With the Scottish Government's Agriculture Bill expected in the second half of 2023, the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee has agreed to undertake some pre-legislative scrutiny of future agriculture policy. The purpose of this scrutiny is to understand what farmers, crofters and food producers need from future agriculture policy.

The Scottish Government's proposals are centred on replacing the common agricultural policy (CAP) payment scheme. This new agriculture support framework is intended to support farmers and crofters in delivering a number of key outcomes in—

- High quality food production
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Nature protection and restoration
- Improved animal health and welfare
- Wider development of rural communities

The Committee will hear the views of farmers, crofters, stakeholder organisations and academics on the proposals through a programme of evidence sessions, roundtables and farm visits up to summer recess.

Further information about the Scottish Government's proposals for future agriculture policy is set out in this [📄 consultation paper](#).

Further information about the proposed new agriculture support framework is available in this [📄 agricultural reform route map](#).

➔ [A record of all the committee meetings can be found here](#)

Chamber and committees

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee

Committee work

Current

Future agriculture policy in Scotland

Previous

Inshore fisheries

Future

Petition PE1490 Control of wild goose numbers

Correspondence

Petition PE1758 End greyhound racing In Scotland

Official Reports

UK Common Frameworks

Reports

Remit

News Agenda

Recommendations of
Predecessor Committees
(but this can be ignored)

Party Manifesto pledges &
Member's ideas

SPICe researchers

**Work Plan
influencers**

Clerking teams

Things referred from Other
Cttees (e.g. Petitions)

Things they are required to
do (e.g. Bills, Budget)

External Organisations

PETITION TO THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

from
The Blairingone and Saline Action Group

Seeking redress from environmental pollution and noxious odours caused by the current practice of spreading sewage sludge and other non-agriculturally derived waste on land in Scotland.

Explanatory Memorandum

- I. Since 1997 the communities of Blairingone and Saline have experienced environmental pollution and noxious odours from the spreading and injecting of raw and partially treated sewage sludge and other non-agriculturally derived wastes on neighbouring farmland. Within the last year, the practice of composting exempt waste has also been carried out on the site. This latest practice has resulted in almost daily complaints to SEPA and the Environmental Health Department of Perth and Kinross Council.

Communities in other parts of Scotland have experienced similar problems and the issue is therefore of national importance.

- II. The following non-agriculturally derived wastes can be applied up to 250 tonnes per hectare in any 12-month period: *Waste food and drink, blood and gut contents from abattoirs, chicken blood and guts from chicken processing, paper waste sludge, septic tank sludge, textile waste, sludge from biological treatment plants, treatment sludge from tanneries.*

These non-agriculturally derived wastes can be applied up to 250 tonnes per hectare in any 12-month period.

Sewage sludge is controlled by the Sludge (Use in Agriculture) Regulations 1989. The dumping of sewage sludge at sea ended in 1998. A non-statutory Code of Practice was introduced in 1996, but no further legislation has been introduced since the ban on dumping at sea was introduced in 1998.

Petitions

Petitions are a way to ask the Parliament to do something. Find out more about submitting a petition to the Parliament.

[➔ Learn about how to sign or submit a petition and what happens to petitions in the Parliament](#)

[Date published: Monday, July 11, 2022](#)

PE1945 : Ban the extraction and use of peat for horticulture and all growing media by 2023

[Date published: Monday, July 11, 2022](#)

PE1946 : To call on the Scottish Government to pay all charges for homeless temporary accommodation

[Date published: Monday, July 11, 2022](#)

PE1944: Enforce engine idling ban

[Date published: Monday, July 11, 2022](#)

PE1948: Improve the way that unexplained deaths are dealt with

[Date published: Sunday, July 3, 2022](#)

PE1943 : Help prevent the destruction of greenfield sites by providing financial incentives towards the remediation and reuse of brownfield sites

[Date published: Monday, May 30, 2022](#)

PE1942: Encourage peer support programmes in public sector organisations

[Date published: Monday, May 30, 2022](#)

PE1941: Stop the destruction of headstones within community cemeteries

[Date published: Monday, May 23, 2022](#)

PE1940: Permit Nest Protect as a valid system under new Fire and Smoke Alarm law

The logo for SPICe (The Information Centre) is located in the top left corner. It features the text "SPICe" in a large, white, sans-serif font, with "The Information Centre" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. The background of the logo is a dark purple rounded rectangle with a pattern of white and light purple arrows pointing towards the right.

SPICe

The Information Centre

In-house, impartial research support, academic quality

40 staff, subject-specific remits. Publish factsheets and briefings (v useful!) and provide a confidential enquiry services for MSPs and their staff.

Support Committees through the provision of oral and written briefings, research, proposing areas for questioning, background on potential inquiry topics, petitions briefings and legislative support.

Produce weekly Material for Debates (MfD) briefing.

SPRE

SCOTTISH POLICY & RESEARCH EXCHANGE

<https://spre.scot/the-brokerage/>



WATCH

Policy Engagement in Action



FIND

The latest engagement opportunities



USE

Engagement Strategies and Tools

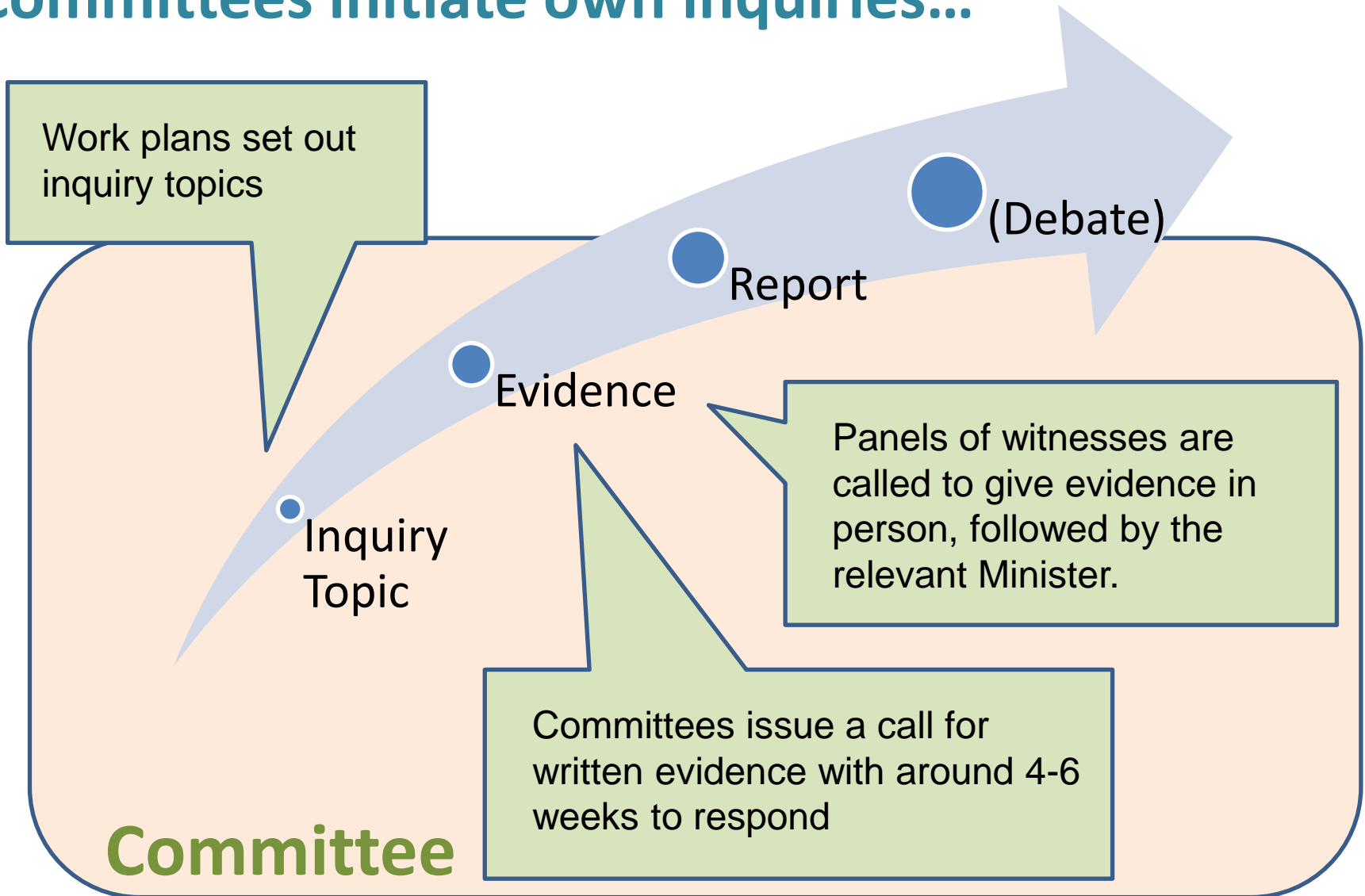
<https://spre.scot/the-brokerage/>

Getting Started

Before beginning the process of engaging with policy, it's worth taking stock of the journey ahead and what you're taking with you. Think just as much about the company for the journey as the destination you're aiming for. It cannot be overstated that several modest goals are much more achievable than one big one. So pick a destination you can see from where you are rather than where you might think you should be.



Committees initiate own inquiries...





The Legislative Journey #1

Publish Bill

Consultation

Written Evidence

Consideration of
General Principles

**Stage 1a
Committee**

Debate/Vote (on General
Principles)

**Stage 1b
Chamber**



The Legislative Journey #2

If passes Stage 1...

Line by line
scrutiny

Consideration of amendments

Stage 2
Committee

Stage 3 Amendments/Debate/Vote

Stage 3
Chamber

Professor Julie Fitzpatrick is
Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA)
for Scotland

