

PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

OFFICEHOLDER APPOINTMENT – CHAIR OF THE SCOTTISH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Introduction

1. This paper invites the Parliamentary Bureau to timetable a motion, inviting the Parliament to nominate the successful candidate to Her Majesty for appointment as the Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission.

Background

2. Standing Orders Rule 3.11.2 provides that a selection panel is to be established to recommend a person for nomination. Once the selection panel has decided on an individual, any member of the panel may lodge a motion seeking the agreement of the Parliament to the nomination.

3. Rule 3.11.8 further provides that any debate on a motion on the nomination of a new Commissioner is restricted to 30 minutes with each speaker being restricted to no more than 5 minutes.

Conclusion

4. A cross-party selection panel, chaired by the Presiding Officer, has identified a candidate for nomination to the Parliament. Pre-appointment checks have been completed and the motion to nominate the successful candidate will be lodged by Joe FitzPatrick MSP.

5. The Bureau is invited to agree to a motion being laid for debate during the week commencing 7 March 2022, or as soon as possible thereafter.