

Parliamentary Bureau – Officeholder Appointment

Chair of the Scottish Commission for Human Rights

Introduction

1. This paper invites the Parliamentary Bureau to timetable a motion inviting the Parliament to agree to nominate Prof Angela O'Hagan to His Majesty for appointment as the Chair of the Scottish Commission for Human Rights.

Background

2. An open recruitment exercise was undertaken by a cross-party selection panel set up under Standing Orders and which was chaired by the Presiding Officer.
3. Interviews were held on 18 March 2024 and a successful candidate has been identified. Pre-appointment checks have now been completed.
4. Under Rule 3.11.7, 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. Karen Adam MSP will lodge the Motion.
5. Rule 3.11.8 further provides that any debate on a motion on the nomination is restricted to 30 minutes with each speaker being restricted to no more than 5 minutes.

Conclusion

6. The Parliamentary Bureau is invited to agree to a motion being timetabled for debate ideally during the week commencing 13 May 2024.

Parliamentary Business Team
May 2024