



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Holyrood Project Press Releases 2007

21 February 2007 [Closure of Holyrood Project](#)

9 February 2007 [Holyrood receives ISO 14001 certificate](#)

Closure of Holyrood Project

The Presiding Officer George Reid MSP announced to Members of the Scottish Parliament today that:

- The final cost of Holyrood has been reduced by £16.1m. The cost to the taxpayer therefore will fall from an estimated £430.5m to £414.4m.
- The Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB), after extensive investigation, has decided not to litigate on issues during the construction phase of the Holyrood project.
- But, post-construction, the SPCB has instructed action for the recovery of the costs arising from the collapse of the strut in the Chamber on 2 March, 2006.

Making the announcement today Mr Reid said:

"As Lord Fraser made clear, everyone engaged in the project - consultants, contractors, MSPs, staff - might have managed it better.

"So in making our announcement today, we are not trying to sweep past problems out of the way. The most we can claim is a steely determination to get a grip on the project; to move us in and then to move us on; and never to give up on our dedication to get back what we could for the public purse."

He added:

"Which is why I use the word 'closure' in its full double meaning today. Closure in the sense of finalising the accounts. But closure also in the psychological sense of finally letting go of a problem, of releasing oneself for new opportunities and challenges.

"And with closure, I very much hope that Scotland's third Parliament will, in May, get off to a fresh start."

[Presiding Officer's letter to all MSPs](#)

[SPCB report on the Holyrood Project Close-Out](#)

[Back to top](#)

Holyrood Receives ISO 14001 Certificate in Environment Week

As Scottish Environment Week draws to a close, the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) announced today that it has achieved a prestigious certificate for its environmental management system.

The internationally-recognised ISO 14001:2004 certificate was awarded by assessment body Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance (LRQA).

The Presiding Officer said:

"Since its creation in 1999 the Scottish Parliament has committed itself to achieving tough 'green' targets and I'm delighted that we have achieved such an important milestone for environmental management."

The ISO 14001 certificate represents a worldwide business standard designed to help an organisation manage environmental risk and minimise its impact on the environment.

The certificate assesses the way an organisation:

- integrates environmental considerations to its management structures,
- handles its environmental impacts and continually improves its environmental performance in areas such as waste, energy and procurement,
- achieves legal compliance with all relevant environmental legislation.

It was awarded following a thorough 7 day external audit by LRQA. LRQA were particularly impressed with the responsible purchasing policies of the Parliament which include many environmental criteria.

Don Stanley, Head of Assessment comments:

"We were delighted that the Scottish Parliament achieved certification to ISO 14001. This is a clear sign of SPCB's commitment to continual improvement in the area of environmental performance. Having robust management systems will help reduce costs and wastage while enhancing the ability to provide effective services."

Holyrood is also set to meet three further targets by March this year as part of its environmental policy launched in 2005.

- The Scottish Parliament will have exceeded its target to reduce waste to landfill of 5 percent and has achieved a reduction of 40% in comparison to 2005. A reduction of 60 tonnes or the equivalent of 6 double decker buses full of waste.
- A reduction in energy use of 3 percent – to contribute to a further target of 8 percent by March 2009.

- A reduction of 5 percent in office paper used. A saving of 21 thousand sheets a year.

Background notes

The Scottish Parliament was designed with extensive environmental features, including:

- Solar panels on the Canongate Building which provide approximately 24,000 kWh/annum of energy to heat water for Queensberry House;
- 100% of electricity purchased from renewable sources such as wind turbines;
- State-of-the-art features which help to reduce water use, including on-site bore holes which provide all the water needed for toilets.

ISO 14001 is the international environmental management system standard against which a company can be assessed. To find out more about ISO 4001 visit www.iso.org.

Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance is an independent third party certification body accredited to certify companies to ISO 14001.

This is the third year for Scottish Environment Week, which aims to create an opportunity to focus on the importance of the environment and its value to the society and economy of Scotland.

[Back to top](#)