

## **PARLIAMENTARY TRAVEL**

### **Executive summary**

1. The Corporate Body is invited to note parliamentary travel overseas and, in accordance with Volume 2, Section 2.4 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament, in relation to receipt by Members of travel, hospitality etc, to approve the details of the travel and other costs associated with it.
2. This paper outlines parliamentary travel relating to participation in a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) delegation to the National Assembly of Malawi to participate in a seminar for newly elected Members to the National Assembly. The Corporate Body is asked to approve the parliamentary travel detailed in this paper.

### **Issues and Options**

3. The purpose of the parliamentary travel is outlined below and the attached table at Annex A provides further detail on the travel and costs involved.
4. Advance approval by the Corporate Body for any visit programme means that travel on parliamentary business is not regarded as a registrable interest under the terms of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

### **CPA post-election seminar, Lilongwe, Malawi**

5. The CPA Scotland Branch has selected Liam McArthur MSP to participate in a post-election seminar for newly elected Members to the National Assembly of Malawi. The seminar is being organised by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at the request of the National Assembly of Malawi. The CPA Scotland Branch was invited to nominate one Member to form part of a CPA team to deliver a seminar programme at the National Assembly.

### **Resource Implications**

6. The estimated cost to the SPCB of attendance at the seminar in Lilongwe, Malawi, is estimated to be £700. The CPA Secretariat will cover the cost of travel (economy air fare), accommodation and meals for the period of the seminar. The costs to the SPCB relate to the costs of additional accommodation in Malawi which will enable the Member to undertake a visit to a MP's constituency in Malawi. The cost of car hire and subsistence outwith the parliamentary seminar timetable will also be met by the SPCB.

### **Publication Scheme**

7. This paper will be published as part of the SPCB's Publication Scheme. It is suggested that this paper is not published until the parliamentary travel has taken place.

### **Decision**

8. The Corporate Body is invited:
  - To agree the parliamentary travel relating to attendance at the CPA organised parliamentary seminar in Lilongwe, Malawi, including the costs associated with a constituency visit.
  - In accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament, in relation to receipt by Members of travel, hospitality etc., to approve the details of the travel and the associated costs as set out in the paper.
  - To agree that this paper is not published until the activity detailed has taken place.

**UK and International Relations Office  
May 2014**

**Annex A**

<b>VISIT DATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION &amp; OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>APPROX. COSTS TO SPCB</b>
8 June to 15 June	To form part of a CPA Secretariat organised delegation to the National Assembly of Malawi. The delegation will deliver a three day seminar programme to newly elected Members of the National Assembly and undertake a constituency visit.	8 days (including travel)	Lilonge, Malawi	Liam McArthur MSP	£700