

28 March 2012

PARLIAMENTARY TRAVEL - SCOTLAND WEEK 2012

Executive summary

1. This paper provides the SPCB with notice of the arrangements for the Scottish Parliament's delegation to Scotland Week 2012. The SPCB is invited to note the budget and size of delegation for Scotland Week 2012 and, in accordance with paragraph 2.7.2 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.

Issues and Options

2. The Parliament has participated in Scotland Week since 2000, working alongside the Scottish Government and other key players. This year, Scotland Week falls over the Easter holidays and therefore the scope to engage with Parliamentarians in both the USA and Canada is limited. Accordingly, a smaller delegation, which will be based solely in New York, and a shorter programme will be involved than in previous years. The delegation, which will depart for New York on 11 April for a three day programme of events in New York, will comprise:
 - Tricia Marwick MSP, Presiding Officer, and
 - Rhoda Grant, MSP
3. The delegation will be accompanied by Stephen Herbert, Senior Parliamentary Relations Officer (UKIRO).

Resource Implications

4. The budget for Scotland Week 2012 is £9,000.

Governance issues

5. There are no governance issues associated with this paper.

Publication Scheme

6. This paper will be published in line with the SPCB's publication scheme.

Decision

7. The SPCB is invited to:

7.1 note the arrangements being taken forward in relation to a Scottish Parliament delegation attending Scotland Week 2012, particularly, with regard to the reduced size of the delegation; and

7.2 in accordance with paragraph 2.7.2 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 the visit.

UK AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

21 March 2012