

## MAJOR EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS PROGRAMME 2012-13: UPDATES

### Executive summary

1. The SPCB agreed the Major Events and Exhibitions Programme for 2012-13 at their meeting on 21 December 2011. It further agreed that no further events should be added to the programme until November 2012.
2. This Paper seeks the SPCB's approval for two additional events to be added to the Major Events and Exhibitions Programme 2012-13. The overall Programme aims to support the Parliament's strategic priorities through supporting Members and engaging with the public and it also strongly supports the top line objectives of the Parliament's Engagement Strategy by increasing levels of awareness and understanding of the Parliament's role and remit amongst the public in Scotland and building confidence that the Parliament is "everyday accessible" for the people of Scotland.

### Issues and options

3. The updated draft Major Events and Exhibitions Programme for 2012-13 for the SPCB to consider is attached at **Annex A**.
4. The two new proposals for consideration are - an event proposed by Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People to mark the United Nations Anniversary of the UNCRC (**Annex B**); and the Scottish Youth Parliament's Spring Sitting 2013 (**Annex C**).
5. Both proposals meet the SPCB's criteria for major events as they provide an opportunity for the Parliament to engage with a wide range of audiences and interest groups including young and work towards the overall strategic objectives of the Parliament.

### Resource Implications

6. All operational costs associated with these additional events will be met by the organisers. Staff resources are available to manage these events from within resources already agreed by the SPCB.

### Governance issues

7. A strategic approach has been taken to ensure that all of the proposals detailed work towards the Parliament's strategic objectives and meet the SPCB's objectives for events and the top line objectives of the Engagement Strategy. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and equalities issues are considered in the early planning stages of each individual event.

### **Publication Scheme**

8. This Paper can be published once the two events have been announced.

### **Decision**

9. The SPCB is asked to consider this Paper and its associated annexes and to approve the updated Major Events and Exhibitions Programme for 2012-13.

### **EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS TEAM**

June 2012

## ANNEX A

### MAJOR EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS PROGRAMME 2012-13

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event / Exhibition</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>April 2012</b>			
<b>May 2012</b>			
Friday 4	Scottish Communities Alliance Conference	Conf	DC
Monday 14	SEET: Euroquiz	Quiz	DC
Thursday 17	Scottish Opera	Con	MH
Friday 25	Horizon 2020 Conference	Conf	DC
<b>June 2012</b>			
Thursday 7	Business in the Parliament Dinner	Din	GL
Friday 8	Business in the Parliament Conference	Conf	DC
Sun 10 to Wed 13	BIMR Regional Conference	Conf	Various
Monday 11	John Smith Fellows	Din	MR
Thursday 14	Dewar Debate	Deb	DC/GL
<b>July 2012</b>			
Wednesday 4	World Press Photo Exhibition Launch Reception	Rec	MH
Thursday 5 to Saturday 28	World Press Photo Exhibition	Exhib	MH
Wed 25 to Saturday 28	BIPRA Conference	Conf	Various
<b>August 2012</b>			
Friday 10 to Sat 8 Sept	<i>Special Delivery: The William Wallace Letters</i> Exhibition	Exhib	MH
Monday 13 & Tuesday 14	Edinburgh International Culture Summit	Conf	Various
Wednesday 15	<i>Special Delivery: The William Wallace Letters</i> Launch Reception	Rec	MH
Friday 17 and Saturday 18	Festival of Politics 2012	Fest	Various
Friday 24 and Saturday 25	Festival of Politics 2012 incl. Young Person's Day	Fest	Various
<b>September 2012</b>			
w/c Monday 3	Scottish Food and Drink Fortnight	Various	Various
<b>October 2012</b>			
Monday 1	Carers Parliament	Conf	DC
Wednesday 24	Poppyscotland Reception	Rec	GL
Saturday 27	UIYSP Conference	Conf	Various
Wednesday 31	Childline 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Rec	GL
<b>November 2012</b>			
Friday 16	S6 Modern Studies Summit	Conf	DC
Friday 23	SCCYP – UNCRC Anniversary Event	Conf	CR
Wednesday 28	SWA 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition Launch Reception	Rec	MH
Thurs 29 to Friday 25 Jan	SWA 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition	Exhib	MH
	Gaelic Language Day 2012	Various	Various
<b>December 2012</b>			
Monday 3	St Andrew's Day Debate	Deb	DC
Wednesday 19	Carol Service	Service	GL/MH
<b>January 2013</b>			
Wednesday 23	Consular Corps Burns Supper	Dinner	MH/MR
<b>February 2013</b>			
w/b Monday 18	Environment Week	Various	CR/GL
<b>March 2013</b>			
	<i>Scottish Youth Parliament Spring Sitting</i>	Conf	DC/CR
Saturday 9	International Women's Day	Conf	GL/DC
Wednesday 13	Commonwealth Day 2013	Rec	GL

**SCOTLAND'S COMMISSIONER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: UNCRC ANNIVERSARY EVENT – FRIAY 23 NOVEMBER 2012**

**Background**

1. Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People has requested the use of the Debating Chamber chaired by the Presiding Officers for an event to mark the first Annual Report to Children and Young People and the Celebration of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention for Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

**Discussion**

2. Throughout the Commissioner's campaign *a RIGHT blether*, the Scottish Parliament offered children and young people access to *the RIGHT blether* information resources and engaged children and young people in related and linked events. The Parliament also became a Voting Centre for the Vote throughout the month of December.
3. In November 2012 it will be two years on from the actual Voting exercise. 2011 saw planning, additional adult consultation and negotiation take place around the actual Vote outcomes and the Commissioner's developing response to these in his Strategic Plan.
4. The beginning of 2012 has seen the establishment of a new Campaign called *RIGHT now* which outlines what the Commissioner is now actively doing in order to make improvements in the lives of children and young people in keeping with the priorities they identified for him.
5. The Commissioner has committed to engaging with children and young people to report on his progress on an annual basis until 2016. Until 2016 this will happen on or around the anniversary of the adoption of the UNCRC, 20 November. This will raise awareness of the significance of this date to Scotland's children and young people and the adults who work with and for them, and would link directly back to the anniversary of *the RIGHT Blether* Vote.
6. The Commissioner believes that an event in the Debating Chamber would be seen as a flagship event that would pilot the Commissioner's approach to ensuring accountability to children and young people. The event would feature a number of different elements and would involve children and young people from the age of 5 to 17.
7. Given that this is the first time that this event will be held in the Parliament and the wide age range of the children participating officials recommend that the plenary of this event should take place in one of the large committee rooms chaired by a Member and not the Debating Chamber as requested. This will provide an opportunity to assess the potential of the event to take place in the Debating Chamber in future years.

8. If the plenary were to take place in one of the large committee rooms it would be possible to widen the reach of the event by using GLOW (Education Scotland's managed intranet system) that would allow those in the debate to communicate directly with schools across Scotland. The event would also be simultaneously webcast. Young people attending via GLOW will have the opportunity to engage in debate with those participating in the committee room as well as Members.
9. The debate will be formulated around the 4 key priority areas for children identified through the outcome of *the RIGHT Blether* Vote: Safe and Secure in the Home; Safe and Respected in the Community; Fair access to opportunities where children and young people learn; and Inclusion in Society.
10. Workshops held in committee rooms will focus upon influencing change through different methods and media. These workshops would be led by Members and key national figures drawn from relevant sectors.
11. This event meets the SPCB's criteria for events and exhibitions as it provides and engagement opportunity for Members. It also strongly supports the objectives of the Engagement Strategy and targets one of our key audiences. It differs from other events that we are holding targeting young people in that the lower age limit starts at 5 years.

### **Resources**

12. Staff time to organise and manage this event will be structured into existing workloads. All costs for this event will be met by the Scottish Commissioner for Children and Young People.

### **Recommendation**

13. It is recommended that given this is the first time an event of this type has been proposed that this event should take place in one of the large committee rooms, with the potential in future years for it to be considered for the Debating Chamber.

### **Decision**

14. The SPCB is invited to consider this request and agree that the event should take place using one of the large committee rooms chaired by a Member for the plenary session as well as other committee rooms for workshops.

## NATIONAL SITTING OF THE SCOTTISH YOUTH PARLIAMENT - MARCH 2013

### Background

1. The Scottish Youth Parliament has requested that its National Sitting in March 2013 is held at the Scottish Parliament with the first day using the Debating Chamber chaired by the Presiding Officers.
2. The SPCB previously agreed that the Parliament should support the Scottish Youth Parliament on a biennial basis but only provide the Debating Chamber for a full sitting once per session with the other sitting focussing on committee sessions and workshops. If the SPCB agrees to the 2013 March Sitting at the Parliament the Scottish Youth Parliament will not be able to hold another event at the Parliament until 2015 or use the Debating Chamber until the next session.

### Discussion

3. The Scottish Youth Parliament was established in 1999 with a responsibility to provide a forum for young people. Their core aim is to help Scotland understand which issues are important to young people, and to campaign on those issues in order to make Scotland a better place for young people.
4. The vision of the Scottish Youth Parliament is of a stronger, more inclusive Scotland that gives young people a real say by truly involving them in the decision making process. Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP) are young people aged between 14-25 who are elected by their peers to represent different areas and voluntary organisations from across Scotland. These young people have a democratic mandate to represent young people from their area, and it is that mandate which allows the Scottish Youth Parliament to campaign on behalf of young people about the issues affecting them.
5. MSYPs meet at least three times a year at National Sittings where they discuss issues which affect young people. The Scottish Youth Parliament is proposing a partnership with the Scottish Parliament to work towards the Scottish Youth Parliament National Sitting in March 2013. It is proposed that the event which will be held in the Debating Chamber on day one will bring together young people and MSPs and key policy makers, not only to discuss and debate issues important to young people in Scotland, but also to create a space where people with different perspectives can work together to co-design new, creative solutions to the issues facing young people today.
6. National Sittings of the Scottish Youth Parliament provide an innovative model of youth engagement which also builds the capacity of MSYPs involved through a series of training workshops, debates and participative activities, in addition to engaging a significant number of young people from all across Scotland. The aim of the March Sitting would be for the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Youth Parliament to bring a combination of skills and experience to this event. This would be an opportunity for the Scottish Youth

Parliament to work with the Scottish Parliament to improve links between the two organisations and to demonstrate the connections between young people and their political structure.

7. The event would be held over two days - Friday and Saturday – in March. Day one would involve welcome and opening statements in the Debating Chamber; potentially a session with the Public Petitions Committee (the Committee have indicated an interest in this); and a Members' Debate between MYSPs and MSPs. Day two would take place in committee rooms and the Members' Restaurant and will focus upon subject committees and educational training events.
8. This proposal creates a number of positive partnership opportunities between the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Youth Parliament. It meets the SPCB's objectives for public engagement as it seeks to engage with young people about the issues that are of importance to them. As previously agreed by the SPCB, the Scottish Parliament will support the Scottish Youth Parliament on a biennial basis offering the Chamber once a session.

### **Resource implications**

9. Staff time to organise and deliver this event will be absorbed into existing workloads. All costs associated with this event would be met by the Scottish Youth Parliament.

### **Recommendation**

10. As previously agreed by the SPCB, the Parliament should support the Scottish Youth Parliament on a biennial basis but only provide the Debating Chamber for a full sitting once a session. It is therefore recommended that the SPCB approve this event for inclusion in the Major Events and Exhibitions Programme 2012-13 with the understanding that Scottish Youth Parliament will not be able to hold another event at the Parliament until 2015 or use the Debating Chamber until the next session.

### **Decision**

11. The SPCB is invited to consider this request and agree to that the March 2013 National Sitting of the Scottish Youth Parliament takes place at the Scottish Parliament with day one using the Debating Chamber chaired by the Presiding Officers.