



**What's Happening at Holyrood?
Anderson Strathern Parliamentary Bulletin
Tuesday 6 May 2008**

BILLS IN PROGRESS

There are currently five Bills progressing through the Scottish Parliament.

[Creative Scotland Bill \(Ex\)](#)

This Bill seeks to establish a body known as Creative Scotland and to confer on it functions in relation to the arts and culture and to the application of creative skills.

Current Status

The Creative Scotland Bill was introduced into the Scottish Parliament on 12 March 2008 by Alex Salmond MSP. The Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee has been designated Lead Committee for examination of the Bill. At its last meeting on 30 April 2008, the Committee took oral evidence on the general principles of the Bill at Stage 1 from various representatives of the Scottish Government, Scottish Arts Council and Scottish Screen. **At its next meeting this week on 7 May 2008, the Committee will continue to take further evidence on the Bill at Stage 1. For a full list of witnesses please see the relevant agenda under Committee Business.**

[Glasgow Commonwealth Games Bill \(Ex\)](#)

This Bill seeks to make provision in relation to the Commonwealth Games that are to be held principally in Glasgow in 2014. The Bill aims to meet the Scottish Government's obligations under the Host City Contract and deliver the commitments given in the Candidate City file. The Bill seeks to give the Scottish Ministers and councils the powers needed to achieve these aims.

Current Status

The Bill was introduced into the Scottish Parliament on 9 November 2007. The Local Government and Communities Committee was assigned as the Lead Committee for examination of the Bill. The Committee published its [Stage 1 Report](#) on 15 February 2008. The Bill was passed at Stage 1 on 27 February 2008. A transcript of the Stage 1 debate can be read in the [Official Report](#). The Committee completed scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 2 at its last meeting on 19 March 2008. **The Bill was passed at Stage 3 by the Parliament on 30 April 2008. A transcript of the Stage 3 debate can be read in the [Official Report](#). The Bill now awaits Royal Assent.**

[Judiciary and Courts \(Scotland\) Bill \(Ex\)](#)

This Bill aims to make substantive provision in relation to four main policy areas: judicial independence; the judiciary including the provision of a statutory basis for the Judicial Appointments Board; the courts; and new arrangements for the governance of the Scottish Court Service. The overarching objective of the Bill is to modernise and improve the court system by modernising and strengthening the role of Scotland's judiciary.

Current Status

The Bill was introduced into the Scottish Parliament on 30 January 2008 by Kenny MacAskill MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice. The Justice Committee was assigned as the Lead Committee for examination of the Bill.



The Committee published its [Stage 1 Report](#) on 2 May 2008. Whilst the Report concludes that the general principles of the Bill should be agreed to, the Committee expressed concern over a number of issues, namely the administrative and organisational responsibilities being placed on the Lord President and the proposal regarding direct authority for the Scottish Court Service being taken away from Scottish Ministers. Further, the Committee unanimously recommended that there should be a mandatory requirement for the Judiciary to undertake training. The Stage 1 debate is scheduled to take place on 14 May 2008.

Public Health etc. (Scotland) Bill (Ex)

This Bill seeks to re-state and amend the law on public health; to make provision about mortuaries and the disposal of bodies; to enable the Scottish Ministers to implement their obligations under the International Health Regulations; to enable provisions to be made in relation to provision of information to users on the effect on health of sunbeds; to amend the law on statutory nuisances; and for connected purposes.

Current Status

The Bill was introduced into the Scottish Parliament on 25 October 2007. The Health and Sport Committee was assigned as the Lead Committee for examination of the Bill. The Committee published its [Stage 1 Report](#) on 18 March 2008 and recommended that the general principles of the Bill be agreed to. The Bill was passed by the Parliament at Stage 1 on 17 April 2008. A transcript of the Stage 1 Debate is available in the [Official Report](#). **The Committee will commence scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 2 at its meeting on 7 May 2008.**

Scottish Register of Tartans Bill (M)

This Bill seeks to establish a Scottish Register of Tartans, requires a Keeper of the Register of Tartans to maintain and oversee the Register and new registrations, and sets down the process for registering new tartan designs in the Register.

Current Status

The Bill was introduced into the Scottish Parliament by Jamie McGrigor MSP on 25 March 2008. The Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee has been assigned as Lead Committee for examination of the Bill. The Committee considered its approach to the Bill at its last meeting on 16 April 2008. **At its next meeting on 14 May 2008, the Committee will take oral evidence on the general principles of the Bill at Stage 1.**