



Budget (Scotland) Bill

Bill Number:	SP Bill 45
Introduced on:	16 January 2014
Introduced by:	John Swinney
Passed:	5 February 2014
Royal Assent:	12 March 2014

Passage of the Bill

The Budget (Scotland) Bill [SP Bill 45] was introduced on 16 January 2014. The Stage 1 debate took place on 22 January, the Finance Committee considered the Bill at Stage 2 on 29 January and the Bill was passed by the Parliament on 5 February 2014.

Purpose and objectives of the Bill

The Budget Bill is the final stage in the annual budget process and this Bill gives parliamentary authority for spending in Scotland for financial year 2014-15. The budget process is intended to allow the Parliament's subject committees the opportunity to comment on the Scottish Government's spending plans prior to the annual budget being agreed. The expectation is for the subject committees to play an active role in scrutinising and making recommendations on spending priorities.

Provisions of the Bill

The Bill authorises approximately £33bn of cash expenditure by the Scottish Government and its associated bodies, other organisations whose core funding is centrally provided (e.g. local authorities and health boards), the Forestry Commissioners, the Food Standards Agency, the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body and Audit Scotland.

The Bill received Royal Assent on 12 March 2014.