

## **REIMBURSEMENT OF MEMBERS' EXPENSES SCHEME – APPLICATION FOR A SECOND REGIONAL OFFICE**

### **Executive summary**

1. This paper invites the SPCB to consider an application submitted by the SNP regional MSPs for the South of Scotland to establish a second regional office.

### **Issues and Options**

2. Provision is made at Section 1 Paragraph 1.2.2 (d) that enables the SPCB to determine, on receipt of an application, that where more than one member is returned from the same political party in Highlands and Islands, North East Scotland, South of Scotland and Mid-Scotland and Fife Regions whether a second regional office may be established.

3. Chic Brodie MSP, Joan McAlpine MSP, Aileen McLeod MSP and Paul Wheelhouse MSP have submitted an application to establish two offices in the South of Scotland Region. It is proposed to establish the offices in Dumfries and Hawick on the basis of poor transport links between the east and west part of the region. It is considered by establishing offices in these two locations the Members would be able to access all constituents throughout the region.

### **Resource Implications**

4. There are sufficient funds in the overall expenses budget to meet the additional costs associated with the establishment of a second office.

### **Governance issues**

5. Provision is made for an additional office within the expenses scheme.

### **Publication Scheme**

6. This paper will be published in line with the SPCB's Publication Scheme.

### **Next steps**

7. Advise the Members of SPCB decision.

**Decision**

8. The SPCB is invited to consider this application.

Allowances Office  
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