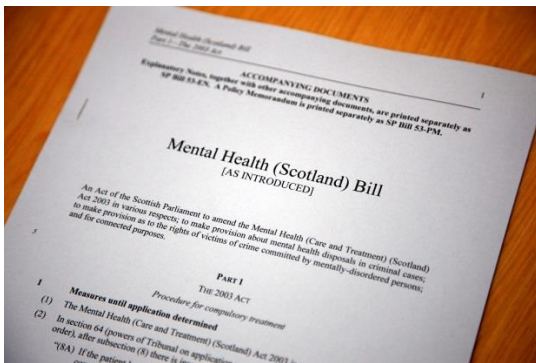




Once a bill is introduced, it's referred to the committee that usually deals with the subject covered by the bill.



This lead committee then considers and reports on the general principles of the bill, asking such questions as: 'Is this the right approach to making law on this issue?'



The lead committee usually invites the public to send in written comments, and it hears from organisations and individuals at evidence sessions.



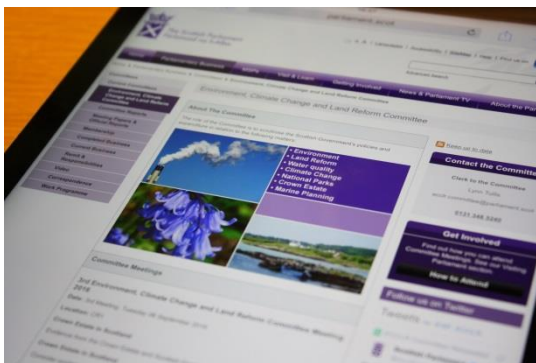
It may also go on fact-finding visits to places likely to be affected by the bill, or it may invite comments through social media.



It usually ends its evidence programme by hearing from the MSP who introduced the bill.



If you are interested in a bill, contact the lead committee clerks to ask how the committee plans to consider the bill and how you can get involved.



The lead committee publishes a report explaining the evidence received. The report usually makes recommendations and may suggest how the bill should be amended to improve it.



The committee normally recommends whether or not the Parliament should agree to the general principles of the bill.

Overall Committee recommendation

274. The Committee supports the general principles of the Bill and recommends to Parliament they be agreed to.

The Parliament then debates the general principles of the bill in a stage 1 debate.



If the Parliament doesn't agree to the general principles, the bill falls. If the Parliament agrees to the general principles, MSPs will consider the details of the bill at stage 2 and propose amendments to the text.