

## **CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN JOHN SWINNEY MSP AND THE CONVENER**

**John Swinney to Convener – 18 March 2024**

Dear Martin,

I would be grateful for your consideration of what I believe is a serious issue about the membership of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee in connection with the forthcoming handling of the Report of the Corporate Body on Michael Matheson MSP.

I attach material that has been published on social media by two Members of the Committee – Stephen Kerr MSP and Annie Wells MSP - and by a substitute Member of the Committee - Edward Mountain MSP. In these social media posts, all three Members comment on the issues at stake in the case and particularly on the integrity of Michael Matheson.

It is an established part of any form of conduct process that anyone involved in decision making should have made no comment on a case before they consider it. To any fair minded individual, the published comments of these three Members create the impression that they have substantially established their view on this matter without hearing the evidence in the process.

Indeed should they participate in the proceedings of the Committee on this matter, the Committee and the Parliament may be at substantial risk that the principles of natural justice and due process have not been applied.

It is in the interests of all Members of Parliament, when any issue relating to them is referred to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee, that it will be given fair and dispassionate consideration. I cannot see how there can be confidence that can happen in this case given the comments that have been made by these three Members.

As Convener of the Committee, you carry the ultimate responsibility to ensure the proceedings of the Committee are conducted in a fair manner that assures natural justice to the Member whose conduct is being examined. Given the issue I have drawn to your attention, I would therefore be grateful to hear what steps you will take to ensure these Members take no part in the proceedings.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

John Swinney



Annie Wells MSP @AnnieWellsMSP · Nov 20, 2023

Michael Matheson misled Parliament and lied to the media repeatedly.

Why has Humza Yousaf not sacked him yet?

# WHEN WILL IPAD BILL MINISTER GET THE MESSAGE?

## Pressure mounts on Matheson to quit as concerns grow among SNP colleagues

**HUMZA** Yousaf has admitted that his Health Secretary 'should have handled the situation better' over his £11,000 data roaming bill.

Amid growing anger within the

By **Michael Blackley**  
Scottish Political Editor

SNP the First Minister yesterday acknowledged that Michael Matheson had mishandled the expenses scandal.

Mr Yousaf also conceded there are legitimate questions as to why the

minister didn't give an accurate account of his massive bill earlier.

But he still stood by his Cabinet minister, saying he is 'a man of integrity and honesty' and insisting he does not feel he was personally misled by him.

It comes amid growing concern

Turn to Page 4

357

129

457

22K



### Convener to John Swinney – 16 April

Dear John,

Thank you for your correspondence. As I have indicated before the SPPA Committee's consideration of complaints is a confidential process and it is therefore not appropriate for me to comment.

Once the Committee has concluded its consideration of the matter, it will publish a report to the Parliament that sets out its approach along with its conclusions and recommendations and the Parliament as a whole will be provided with an opportunity to reach a view at that point.

Kind regards,



**Stephen Kerr MSP**  
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Middle East conflict next Tuesday.

213

128

554

30K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 14/11/2023



**Simon Johnson** @simon... · 14/11/2023

@PoliceScotland confirm they have received a complaint about @MathesonMichael and are assessing it to see if further investigation is required

**A Police Scotland spokesperson said: "We have received a complaint which will be assessed to determine if any action is required."**

133

12

60

8.8K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 14/11/2023

SNP spend on their "Remain" campaign across Scotland, 2016: £91,000

SNP spend to get walloped in a by-election in Rutherglen & Hamilton West, 2023: £95,997

Not only are the SNP just acting as a pro-EU party, they're also terrible at spending even their own money...





# Stephen Kerr MSP

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Michael Matheson given unlimited sim by Sco...

From thescottishsun.co.uk

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12K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 09/11/2023

He must resign. No ifs, no buts, no more bluster, no more excuses, no more smirking. Just resign.



Minister repeatedly told to change iPad SIM m...ews

From news.stv.tv

249

242

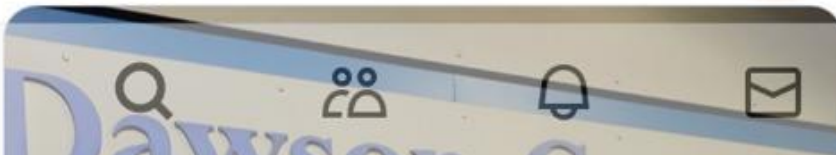
1K

26K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 09/11/2023

Just finished my surgery at the Dawson Centre in Falkirk tonight. Great speaking to people about lots of different issues including the importance of net zero.





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**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 16/11/2023  
Matheson "Realised" it when he was caught. This is a fairly open and shut case.

Matheson was caught lying about his usage, he was caught trying to sting the taxpayer for £11,000, and the SNP have been exposed as willing to let this slide to let a pal of theirs stick around.



**Simon Johnson** @simon... · 16/11/2023

Following the publication of the EE bill yesterday, people quickly (and correctly) concluded it was because of watching football because the dates of the large costs coincided with matches. The bill w...

128 128 538 19K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 16/11/2023  
Humza Yousaf and the SNP Government don't care about Brechin. It's small-fry to them- their attention is on making national news by inserting themselves into international disputes.



Do not forget this!





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143

731

22K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



Murdo Fraser @murdo\_fr... · 19/11/2023  
Spot on @CraigWHoy1

**UNHEALTHY**  
ATTITUDE  
Michael Matheson's statements appear to lack the respect of simply stating the facts

**23**

It's been clear for years that SNP government have been arrogant, secretive, authoritarian and unaccountable. The Tories know the Chancellor under said, the Budget is not a case and a majority refused to come down on things like legal advice and the cost of their independence obsession besides to that.

It's obvious, too, that they're not interested in, or competent at, the basic job of government. This is why the NHS, justice, education and other public services are at breaking point.

We all know that, on everything from making fantasy assertions about Scotland's economy, to pouring unfunded care on already over-stretched health services, they play fast and loose with the facts.

But all of these things are at least political issues and judgments. It's beyond me why anyone doesn't see that the country is more or less a mess of SNP mismanagement. But, many politicians know, you can't persuade anyone, so it's the party line.

However, the Matheson case is a completely different kettle of fish. It isn't party politics. The issues involved aren't merely partisan. And despite the initial lies and cover-up, the key facts are no longer in dispute.

No one, not even anyone in the SNP, has actually come out and said that, when a Minister wrongly claims public funds, then covers it up, and then, when the cover-up is exposed, tells a series of lies and finally admits that he lied to parliament and the media, he ought to keep his job. When you spell it out, it's so straightforward that it seems to be impossible that anyone would try it.

But that's Honus Young's position. And, when the vote of no confidence in Michael Matheson is brought before parliament - as the Scottish Conservatives, the only party with the numbers to do so, have committed to do - it will be the motion of any MSP who does not back the motion.

It's about the misuse of public funds. It's about dishonesty.

For all the blarney around them, even Michael Matheson's own statements make that abundantly clear.

The Health Secretary ran up a huge £11,000 bill on a parliamentary floor while on holiday. Then he got parliament (which means you, the Scottish taxpayer) to foot most of the bill, while the remainder was paid through his office expenses (which again means you, the Scottish taxpayer).

This happened at the beginning of this year, but only came to light a couple of weeks ago, when people started asking questions.

Mr Matheson had an business claiming that every day, because the parliament had a clear rule on date stamping of the time and had reminded him and all MSPs about them. That's a recurring issue.

Mr Matheson actually claimed this was an oversight. That doesn't matter. It doesn't explain why he should be pursued for his mismanagement and failure to follow public transparency to be avoided at all costs. We can tell, from their policy decisions, that the views of the Scottish public are disregarded, unless they happen to coincide with their own separate agenda, or can be used to stir up a bit of division with the UK Government.

But when these expenses did come to light, it must have been clear that Mr Matheson's story didn't make much sense, even if you believed every word of it.

Honus Young, though, immediately gave his Health Secretary a ringing endorsement, apparently without looking into the facts of the matter.

But after we know, for the first time, anything about these expenses, the story kept shifting.

In Wednesday, Mr Matheson told us that he'd covered up his own spending charges, but all the money was to pay for consultancy business, which he was doing bits of on his holiday.

Twenty or so people pointed out he'd have had to have been using every minute, and an impossibly amount of data, to run up such a bill. But the next day Honus Young backed his version of events.

By Friday, having thought it over, the Health Secretary said that he would stump up the full £11,000 after all. Even though he had only been conducting consultancy business while on holiday. We have learned that he had found out the truth - that the parliamentary device had been used to stream football matches - the night before.

On Monday, Mr Matheson told reporters there had been no personal use of the iPad. That was, he put it baldly, a flat lie.

Even he admitted so much when, on Thursday, he made a statement in parliament admitting that there had been personal use.

Now, we may feel sympathy for Mr Matheson if, as he now claims, he only very recently discovered that he'd taken had been watching football without his knowledge.

But if that were true, why wasn't he more explicit - not to say explicit - about the actual bill?

The obvious answer seems to be that he never had any intention of paying it. That's not a fit and proper attitude from someone who is supposed to be a public servant.

And his pretence that he only made over-view earlier in the week to pretend his men were pretty quickly out the window when the whole theme of his statement was that he should hang on to his job, because they were the ones to blame.

The point is that this case is one of misrepresentation of taxpayers' money. That's not a Minister having had a bit of fun. It's the First Minister, in parliament, to the media and, by extension, to the Scottish public.

Anyone who claimed that this is not a resignation, or a no confidence motion, or a vote of no confidence, is not a Conservative. It's a vote of no confidence.

Even Sutherland MSPs might see that that needs to be clear.

# The Health Secretary's a bare-faced liar and anyone who doesn't back our no confidence vote should be laughed out of the room

By CRAIG HOY



MSP AND SCOTTISH CONSERVATIVE PARTY CHAIRMAN

... in very serious and enough to read his ministerial fate. As we know, that's not the SNP style. They don't do responsibility. They certainly don't own, or even own up to, their mistakes. For them, secrecy is behind,

**‘Until just over a week ago he was happy for this £11,000 bill to be dropped on the taxpayer’**

72

201

729

34K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



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Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 08/11/2023

If a nurse managed to incur £11,000 worth of bills on roaming charges, do you think they'd be able to go to their employer and ask them to pay it?

He should pay it back- or the SNP should on his behalf if he's unable to. Maybe rent out the campervan.





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**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 19/11/2023

You come to the conclusion that a key factor behind Humza being too afraid to sack Michael Matheson is that he has no replacement.

The SNP do not have what you'd call "strength in depth"

369 143 731 22K

Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Murdo Fraser** @murdo\_fr... · 19/11/2023

Spot on @CraigWHoy1

**UNHEALTHY ATTITUDE:** Michael Matheson's stubbornness shows he has no intention of paying the bill

**23**

It's been clear for years that the SNP in government has been arrogant, secretive, authoritarian, and unaccountable. The Ferris case, the Leuchter murder, the Ransperwood case and a stubborn refusal to come clean on things like legal advice and the cost of their independence admission testifies to that.

It's obvious, too, that they're not interested in, or competent at, the basic job of government. This is why the NHS, justice, education and other public services are at breaking point.

We all know that, on everything from making fantasy assertions about Scotland's economy, to parading unfounded (and now thoroughly disproven) claims about wind capacity or the number of green jobs, they play fast and loose with the facts.

But all of these things are at least political issues and judgments. It's beyond me why anyone doesn't see that the country is worse off after years of SNP-Green mismanagement. But, as any politician knows, you can't persuade everyone, now's the pity!

Hence, the Matheson case is a completely different kettle of fish. It isn't party politics. The issues involved aren't remotely partisan. And despite the initial lies and cover-up, the key facts are no longer in dispute.

No one, not even anyone in the SNP, has actually come out and said that, if a Minister strongly claims public funds, they come off top, and then, when the cover-up is exposed, tells a series of lies to keep the subject that he lied to out of the media, he might as well be

transparency to be avoided at all costs. We can tell, from their policy decisions, that the views of the Scottish public are discounted, unless they happen to coincide with their own separate agenda, so can be used to stir up a bit of division with the UK Government.

But when these expenses did come to light, it soon became clear that Mr Matheson's story didn't make much sense, even if you believed every word of it.

Hanna Young, though, immediately gave his Health Secretary a ringing endorsement, apparently without looking into the facts of the matter.

But after we know, for the first time, anything about these expenses, the story kept shifting. On Wednesday, Mr Matheson told us that he'd moved up on the running charges, but admission money was to pay for substitution expenses, which he was doing lots of on his holiday.

Plenty of people pointed out he'd have had to have been on his holiday, and an incredible amount of data, to top up our knowledge the next day (Friday) showed he'd been on his holiday.

By Friday, having thought it over, the Health Secretary said that he would stamp up the full £1.1bn after all. Even though he had only been conducting constituency business while on holiday. We later learned that he had found out the truth - that the replacement

**The Health Secretary's a bare-faced liar and anyone who doesn't back our**

**"He had no intention of paying. That's not a fit and proper attitude"**

**"This is about the misuse of"**





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choices, with dreadful implications for Scotland, but they are also responsible for economic ineptitude that forces these choices. Even if other G7 countries have e...

37 11 69 4.4K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 13/12/2023

Michael Matheson thinks the heat is off and all is back to normal. What an example of how the SNP have run the Scottish Government.

We need to get rid of the lot of them.

301 172 796 20K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 13/12/2023

The SNP's shameful behaviour towards Kate Forbes shows us all that the SNP do not understand human rights.

[youtube.com/watch?v=-5lZFe...](https://youtube.com/watch?v=-5lZFe...)





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The outcome of the A96 Corridor Review was due to be announced for final public consultation in autumn, which was already nearly a year later than promised.

Now the P&J can reveal the review's findings are delayed for a third time.

Government agency Transport Scotland says it is expected in the "coming months".

The review was ordered after the Greens joined a power-sharing deal with the SNP in summer 2021 with the Greens against full dualling of the route.

107 80 284 8.9K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 24/11/2023

Humza Yousaf- the Michael Matheson story isn't going away. No Cab Sec should be able to get away with lying brazenly having tried to scam the taxpayer out of £11,000.

He must go, he should have gone already.

304 200 962 19K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 23/11/2023

The SNP are utterly clueless, right up to their leadership. Too desperate to attack the UK Government to even get their facts straight.



**alexmassie** @alexmassie · 23/11/2023

Astonishingly, Shona Robison, finance secretary in the Scottish government, tells @ITVBorderRB that cuts to National Insurance are bad because they "help the better off". How can she not know these cuts don't apply to income above £50K?





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**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 08/11/2023 ...

If a nurse managed to incur £11,000 worth of bills on roaming charges, do you think they'd be able to go to their employer and ask them to pay it?

He should pay it back- or the SNP should on his behalf if he's unable to. Maybe rent out the campervan.

**TAXPAYER FORCED TO PAY NEARLY**

**£11,000**

**FOR SNP HEALTH SECRETARY'S MOROCCO ROAMING CHARGES**

Scottish Conservatives & Unionists





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189 172 657 16K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 20/11/2023 ...  
Extremely misleading tweet. It should read:

“Local SNP politician receives backing from local SNP members”, which is hardly a news story!



**The Falkirk Herald** @fal... · 20/11/2023

The Health Minister received local backing in Falkirk West. He is currently carrying out the annual review of NHS Forth Valley.  
@NHSForthValley  
falkirkherald.co.uk/news/people/mi...

100 38 211 11K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 20/11/2023 ...  
The people of Scotland are being taken for fools by the SNP establishment. My piece for the @Telegraph



237 150 556 20K



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**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 13/11/2023

Matheson can't get his story straight. Parliament says they didn't examine his browsing history. He says they have confirmed that he didn't use the device for personal use. They haven't. That is simply and clearly not true. This stinks to high heaven.

[#ResignMatheson](#)



**Simon Johnson** @simon... · 13/11/2023

Interesting Scottish Parliament statement after @MathesonMichael insisted he does not have to hand over his iPad because a Holyrood IT official has already examined its data

"We did not look at the browsing history. This would not have showed data volumes consumed. We were primarily looking at volume of mobile data consumed as we had assurances it was for parliamentary purposes."

155 171 556 29K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 13/11/2023

Having a former Prime Minister in the post seems pretty serious to me. @David\_Cameron is exactly the person we need to represent the





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25

6

56

3.3K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 16/11/2023  
Matheson must resign. Here he is repeating a bare-faced lie. This has gone on long enough.



**Philip Sim** @BBCPhilipS... · 16/11/2023

Michael Matheson says he learned that family members had used his partly iPad data last Thursday. Here's a clip from an interview on Monday, this week, where he's explicitly asked whether others had used it. He says "no", before repeating the defence about the SIM card.



149

159

652

23K



Stephen Kerr MSP @RealSt... 16/11/2023  
Matheson must resign. Here he is repeating a





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[#ResignMatheson](#)



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"We did not look at the browsing history. This would not have showed data volumes consumed. We were primarily looking at volume of mobile data consumed as we had assurances it was for parliamentary purposes."

155

171

556

29K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Tom Holland** @tomland\_to... · 13/11/2023

Δ Britain without its Jewish citizens would be a



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90 120 441 22K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 16/11/2023

Michael Matheson has lied and has tried to pass a £11,000 bill to the taxpayer. That he hasn't resigned- that Humza Yousaf hasn't demanded his resignation- shows the weakness and corruption of the SNP.

344 307 1.5K 42K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 16/11/2023

This is what the SNP think of the Scottish Parliament. It's simply not important- "Wallowing" in petty issues such as misuse of Scottish Taxpayer's money.

How dare the Scottish Parliament try to hold the Scottish Government to account!



**Michael Russell** @Feorl... · 15/11/2023

Unspeakable horrors in Gaza , impending cease fire vote , their party planning to leave ECHR and plenty more around that should engage & absorb all those charged with representative responsibilities - yet t...



125



39



180



14K







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outside the EU

144

122

446

17K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Lewis McKenzie** @LewisMc... · 10/11/2023

The Scottish Sun yesterday attempted to help protect the public purse from future whopping data roaming bills - by offering Michael Matheson an unlimited sim card.

Our reporter visited the Health Sec's constituency office, but our gift was declined.



Michael Matheson given unlimited sim by Sco...

From thescottishsun.co.uk

18

14

59

12K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 09/11/2023

He must resign. No ifs, no buts, no more bluster, no more excuses, no more smirking. Just resign.





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61 1K 3K 172K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 10/11/2023

The SNP have been badly exposed by the Michael Matheson affair. Without public pressure from the Scottish Conservatives and others, their govt would have happily kept him in post as if nothing had happened.

Rotten to the core.

319 171 798 24K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 10/11/2023

Matheson should resign from his post immediately. No member of the public can have confidence in him after watching him try to wring £11,000 from the taxpayer for his own absurd mistake.

39 23 110 3.1K





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Sort order: Phone label Ascending

Date	Time	Phone	Username	Dialled	Description	Data used
28-Dec-2022	00:00:00	07870	Michael Matheson MSP (Pad	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	1.26 GB
30-Dec-2022	00:00:00	07870	Michael Matheson MSP (Pad	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	88.70 MB
31-Dec-2022	00:00:00	07870	Michael Matheson MSP (Pad	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	505.67 MB
02-Jan-2023	00:00:00	07870	Michael Matheson MSP (Pad	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	710.89 MB
03-Jan-2023	00:00:00	07870	Michael Matheson MSP (Pad	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	3.18 GB
05-Jan-2023	00:00:00	07870	Michael Matheson MSP (Pad	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	352.66 MB

365 405 1K 188K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 15/11/2023

£11,000 was almost taken from taxpayer pockets to pay this. It's not going away. Matheson should have already resigned and it's Humzas weakness showing through.

67 52 288 16K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 15/11/2023

Once again, thank you for the running commentary on UK Govt affairs- but you're the First Minister, not a political commentator or think tank director.

Any updates on help for those affected by Storm Babet? Any solutions to the huge waiting times for GPs in Scotland?

**Humza Yousaf** @Hu... · 15/11/2023

Not only is the UK Govt's policy of sending asylum seekers to Rwanda morally repugnant, but it has now been confirmed as unlawful too. The policy must be





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People are still waiting for support in Brechin after the flooding over a month ago.

480 330 1.6K 73K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 21/11/2023 ...  
What arrogance- but how typical of the SNP.



**Paul Hutcheon** @pau... · 21/11/2023

NEW: Michael Matheson walks away from press after being quizzed on £11,000 ipad "lie" claim.

"Don't follow me around," he said....

163 88 447 17K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 21/11/2023 ...  
Today the Scottish Parliament is voting on... a ceasefire in Gaza. I'm certain people would prefer if their Parliament was dealing with the issues that affect them, the issues we were elected to deal with!

685 320 1.7K 160K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 20/11/2023 ...  
Only in the SNP Scottish Govt:



Humza spreads a dubious statistic- opposition parties call for an investigation into this as it would break the Ministerial code.





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**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealS... · 20/01/2024

Lying and covering up does not stop with Sturgeon- it goes right through the SNP. See how they closed ranks after Mathieson lied about his £11,000 data bill.

They have chosen lying as the only way to stay in power- as they're incompetent and incapable of actually governing.

382 393 1.8K 46K

Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealS... · 19/01/2024

Sturgeon refused to admit her COVID WhatsApps were deleted. Now we know they were. She is dishonest and a liar, and there is much more to come on this subject.

322 490 2.5K 57K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealS... · 19/01/2024

“Not a single Labour MP stood up to speak.”

Last week there was a brief debate in the Commons on the closure of [Grangemouth refinery](#), one of only six of its kind left in the UK. The owner, Petroineos, announced in

November that the facility would stop refining oil and become an import terminal





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 **The Falkirk Herald** @fal... · 20/11/2023

The Health Minister received local backing in Falkirk West. He is currently carrying out the annual review of NHS Forth Valley.  
@NHSForthValley  
falkirkherald.co.uk/news/people/mi...

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The people of Scotland are being taken for fools by the SNP establishment. My piece for the @Telegraph



237 150 556 20K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 20/11/2023 ...

Additionally- yesterday Humza Yousaf attended the Scottish BAFTAs red carpet to pose for pictures. Is the SNP messaging that

this posing is more important than governing the country?



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**Scottish Conservatives** · 06/12/2023

Michael Matheson lied to the public – yet Humza Yousaf continues to back him.

Join our campaign if you agree that the Health Secretary must go 🇬🇧

[action.scottishconservatives.com/sack-michael-m...](https://action.scottishconservatives.com/sack-michael-m...)



260



271

709

19K



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229

12K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealS... · 10/01/2024

Worst of all- he clung on to his position after trying to fleece the taxpayer and was backed up by his party!



**insane moments in bri...** · 10/01/2024

Scottish Health Secretary Michael Matheson tries to claim £10,936 in expenses for his iPad roaming bill after it was used to watch football matches on his holiday in Morocco (2023)



242

159

577

32K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealS... · 10/01/2024

Despite all of the "White Papers" and press releases, the SNP Scottish Govt by publishing hard facts: GERS figures and data on exports,





**Stephen Kerr MSP**  
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45

2.8K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 18/11/2023

The SNP are showing us the meaning of the word "debacle"



Matheson iPad debacle is the tip of the iceber...

From telegraph.co.uk

259

138

571

20K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 17/11/2023

You can say exactly the same about another referendum result, one held just two years earlier...



**Pete Wishart** @PeteW... · 17/11/2023

Scotland voted to remain in the EU and a majority of Scots want to rejoin. Unionist parties may choose to forget and ignore

those facts. The SNP never will.

twitter.com/theSNP/status/





# Stephen Kerr MSP

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29 2 43 2.8K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 09/11/2023

He must resign. No ifs, no buts, no more bluster, no more excuses, no more smirking. Just resign.



From news.stv.tv

249 242 1K 26K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 09/11/2023

Henry McLeish had to resign for subletting a floor of his office. Wendy Alexander was forced to resign over an undeclared donation of £950. David McLetchie was forced out over taxi fares.



Michael Matheson spent £11,000 of taxpayers money in 5 days on date charges. He must do



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Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 15/11/2023

This is Michael Matheson's phone bill, revealed by a FOI.

The two dates the most data was used; the 28th Dec and the 2nd Jan, are both notable for significant football matches: Hibs v Celtic and Celtic v Rangers.

A coincidence? We need the full truth.

[@simon\\_telegraph](#)

Date	Time	Phone	Username	Status	Description	Data used
28-Dec-2022	00:00:00	07870****	Michael Matheson MSP (Pat)	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	1.28 GB
30-Dec-2022	00:00:00	07870****	Michael Matheson MSP (Pat)	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	68.71 MB
31-Dec-2022	00:00:00	07870****	Michael Matheson MSP (Pat)	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	505.67 MB
02-Jan-2023	00:00:00	07870****	Michael Matheson MSP (Pat)	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	710.69 MB
02-Jan-2023	00:00:00	07870****	Michael Matheson MSP (Pat)	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	3.18 GB
03-Jan-2023	00:00:00	07870****	Michael Matheson MSP (Pat)	Marocco internet	Marocco internet	352.60 MB

365

405

1K

188K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Murdo Fraser** @murdo\_fr... · 15/11/2023

Maybe he could ask his SNP chums in Holvrood to stop slashing Council budgets?



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From buchanpolicynetwork.wordpress.com

3

7

8

3.3K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 10/11/2023

One rule for SNP Ministers, another for everyone else?

**H Holyrood magazine** @H... · 10/11/2023

NEW: The Scottish Conservatives have published an email sent from the parliament to MSPs in 2018, saying only roaming charges of up to £200 would be covered.

**FOR ACTION: Are you intending to travel outside the EU with your parliamentary phone or iPad?**

If so, please phone the IT Helpdesk on 0131 34 (86100) to advise **where** and **when** you are travelling. EE offer competitive rates for using mobile data and voice abroad, but we have specify the dates the daily rate is applied.

Where possible you should turn off data roaming unless you absolutely require it (settings, mobile data, mobile data options, roaming off). **Please note that BIT will only cover roaming costs up to £200, and the individual will be responsible for anything beyond this.**

See below for a comparison of costs when travelling outside the EU

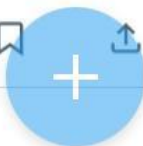
	With Bundle	Outwith Bundle
10 minute phone call to the UK	£6.00 daily charge covers 500 MB of data, unlimited texts and voice calls back to the UK	£17.50 (£1.75 per min)
500 MB of data		£2,750 (£5.50 per MB)
SMS		£0.30
Phone call to a number outside the EU	£0.10 - £0.65 per minute depending on destination	

144

122

446

17K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Lewis McKenzie** @LewisMc... · 10/11/2023

The Scottish Sun yesterday attempted to help protect the public purse from future whopping



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From news.stv.tv

249 242 1K 26K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 09/11/2023

Henry McLeish had to resign for subletting a floor of his office. Wendy Alexander was forced to resign over an undeclared donation of £950. David McLetchie was forced out over taxi fares.

Michael Matheson spent £11,000 of taxpayers money in 5 days on data charges. He must go.

235 369 1.3K 61K

Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Jamie Halcro Johnston...** · 09/11/2023

Desperate, shameless deflection from a rattled @HumzaYousaf. It's clear he's mislead parliament. And of course, we don't know what his then boss, @NicolaSturgeon, said on WhatsApp during the Covid pandemic BECAUSE SHE'S DELETED THEM. #FMQs

20 54 167 4.8K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 09/11/2023

SNP will point fingers and try to distract from



**Edward Mountain**  @1ed... · 10/11/2023 ...  
**So why did Michael Matheson claim them in the first place? #chancer**



**Glenn Campbell** @Gle... · 10/11/2023

**"It is my decision to reimburse these costs in full, which I believe in all the circumstances to be the right one"**

**Health secretary @MathesonMichael t...**



47



28



123



7K



**Edward Mountain**  @1e... · 08/11/2023 ...  
**Minister Michael Matheson racks up £11k roaming fee..... the answers aren't good enough and no employer would accept them.**



From [bbc.co.uk](https://www.bbc.co.uk)



50



58



148



5.4K





**Stephen Kerr MSP**  
11.2K posts

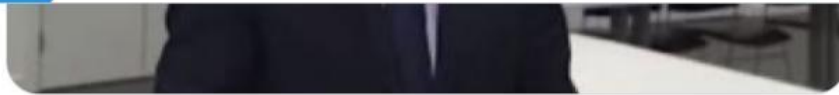
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149 159 652 23K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 16/11/2023 ...  
Matheson must resign. Here he is repeating a bare-faced lie. This has gone on long enough.



**Philip Sim** @BBCPhilipS... · 16/11/2023

Michael Matheson says he learned that family members had used his party iPad data last Thursday. Here's a clip from an interview on Monday, this week, where he's explicitly asked whether others had used it. He says "no", before repeating the defence about the SIM card.



149 159 652 23K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 16/11/2023 ...  
Matheson "Realised" it when he was caught.



**Stephen Kerr MSP**

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113

72

272

7.5K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealSt... · 27/11/2023

The SNP have been in power for 16 years, yet don't seem to have learned anything about governance.

The idea they can just make the Michael Matheson scandal go away by brushing it off is absurd. The story will eat at them until finally someone gets the gumption to sack him.

318

145

558

17K



Stephen Kerr MSP reposted



**Cllr Iain Gall** @GallIain · 25/11/2023

What happens after 16 years of @theSNP led @scotgov endorsed austerity. #potholes







**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealStephenKerr · Nov 16, 2023



Michael Matheson has lied and has tried to pass a £11,000 bill to the taxpayer. That he hasn't resigned- that Humza Yousaf hasn't demanded his resignation- shows the weakness and corruption of the SNP.

344

306

1.5K

42K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealStephenKerr · Nov 16, 2023



**Michael Matheson** has lied and has tried to pass a £11,000 bill to the taxpayer. That he hasn't resigned- that Humza Yousaf hasn't demanded his resignation- shows the weakness and corruption of the SNP.

344

306

1.5K

42K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealStephenKerr · Dec 13, 2023



**Michael Matheson** thinks the heat is off and all is back to normal. What an example of how the SNP have run the Scottish Government.

We need to get rid of the lot of them.

301

172

794

20K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealStephenKerr · Feb 8



An utter humiliation for Humza Yousaf- **Michael Matheson** has quit as Health Sec after Humza's backing.

It shows again the terrible judgement of the First Minister. This cannot be allowed to continue.

258

239

1.3K

41K





**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealStephenKerr · Nov 24, 2023



Humza Yousaf- the **Michael Matheson** story isn't going away. No Cab Sec should be able to get away with lying brazenly having tried to scam the taxpayer out of £11,000.

He must go, he should have gone already.

303

200

959

19K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealStephenKerr · Nov 10, 2023



The SNP have been badly exposed by the **Michael Matheson** affair. Without public pressure from the Scottish Conservatives and others, their govt would have happily kept him in post as if nothing had happened.

Rotten to the core.

319

171

797

24K



**Stephen Kerr MSP** @RealStephenKerr · Nov 15, 2023



This is **Michael Matheson's** phone bill, revealed by a FOI.

The two dates the most data was used; the 28th Dec and the 2nd Jan, are both notable for significant football matches: Hibs v Celtic and Celtic v Rangers.

A coincidence? We need the full truth. [@simon\\_telegraph](#)



**Mobile Manager**  
Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body



Annie Wells MSP @AnnieWellsMSP · Nov 20, 2023



Michael Matheson misled Parliament and lied to the media repeatedly.

Why has Humza Yousaf not sacked him yet?

# WHEN WILL IPAD BILL MINISTER GET THE MESSAGE?

**Pressure mounts on Matheson to quit as concerns grow among SNP colleagues**

**HUMZA** Yousaf has admitted that his Health Secretary 'should have handled the situation better' over his £11,000 data roaming bill. Amid growing anger within the

By **Michael Blackley**  
Scottish Political Editor

SNP the First Minister yesterday acknowledged that Michael Matheson had mishandled the expenses scandal.

Mr Yousaf also conceded there are legitimate questions as to why the

minister didn't give an accurate account of his massive bill earlier.

But he still stood by his Cabinet minister, saying he is 'a man of integrity and honesty' and insisting he does not feel he was personally misled by him.

It comes amid growing concern

**Turn to Page 4**

357

129

457

22K



**Convener to John Swinney – 27 March 2024**

Dear John,

As you will appreciate, the SPPA Committee's consideration of complaints is a confidential process and it is therefore not appropriate for me to comment.

Kind regards  
Martin

**John Swinney to Convener – 27 March 2024**

Dear Martin,

Thank you for your brief reply earlier this afternoon. I have drawn to your attention material that I believe has the potential to jeopardise the integrity of the process to consider the report from the Corporate Body, especially in relation to ensuring there is natural justice in the process. These are serious issues that affect the reputation of the Committee and the Parliament and I am disappointed that your response does not address the fundamental issue that I have raised with you. The Committee – from the information that is publicly available to me – will embark on that consideration tomorrow. I am anxious to be assured that the issues I have raised with you, will be properly and full addressed in advance of that consideration commencing.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

John

**John Swinney to Convener – 3 April 2024**

Dear Martin,

I refer to my letter of 18 March in which I raised my concerns about the fact that Stephen Kerr MSP and Annie Wells MSP would participate in the consideration by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee of the SPCB Report in relation to Michael Matheson MSP, having previously expressed opinions that could suggest they have prejudged opinions on the case.

I note that Stephen Kerr has now stood down from the Committee and has indicated publicly that it would have been wrong to sit on the Committee having previously made public comments on the case. I welcome Mr Kerr's decision which establishes a clear precedent about the conduct Parliament should expect from Members who may sit in judgement on cases of this type.

The fact that Mr Kerr has come to this view, demonstrates that the same issue needs to be confronted in relation to Annie Wells MSP. I attach a copy of tweet from Annie Wells, along with an article from the Daily Express, that includes extensive comments on the case from Annie Wells. In the Daily Express article it is clear that Annie Wells has expressed opinions - similar to Stephen Kerr MSP - that amount to prejudging the case.

I therefore believe the Committee process is at considerable risk of being considered to be prejudiced if Annie Wells, who has expressed such open and definitive views without hearing evidence in the case, takes part in the deliberations.

As I indicated to you before, Members look to you, as Convener of the Committee, to ensure the proceedings of the Committee are conducted in a fair manner that assures natural justice to the Member whose conduct is being examined. Given the material I have drawn to your attention, I would therefore be grateful to hear what steps you will take to ensure that Annie Wells takes no part in the proceedings given that Stephen Kerr MSP has established such a clear precedent.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

John Swinney