



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Minute of the Gender Sensitive Parliament Advisory Group meeting held on Wednesday 17 September at 6.00pm

Present:

- Rt Hon Alison Johnstone MSP, Presiding Officer (Chair)
- Rona Mackay MSP, Scottish National Party
- Carol Mochan MSP, Scottish Labour Party
- Sue Webber MSP, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- Professor Sarah Childs, Personal Chair of Politics and Gender, University of Edinburgh
- Professor Meryl Kenny, Professor of Gender and Politics, University of Edinburgh
- Femi Otitoju, Diversity and Inclusion Consultant

Apologies:

- Maggie Chapman MSP, Scottish Green Party
- Beatrice Wishart MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats
- Hannah Johnson

In attendance:

- Allan Campbell, Head of Operations, Chief Executive Group

Officials supporting the Advisory Group and officials from the Office of the Presiding Officer also attended.

Item 1: Minute of previous meeting and matters arising

1.1 The Advisory Group agreed the minute of the meeting held on 14 May 2025.

1.2 The Advisory Group noted the items agreed by correspondence since the last meeting:

- Parents and Carers' Survey to be issued
- Revised GSA illustration for public launch

Item 2: Update on progress on recommendations

2.1 The Group discussed the updates presented in the paper and noted the updates provided. This included:

- **Recommendation 3:** The Group noted officials are working to progress the scheduled disability audit and agreed that further options for other aspects of Recommendation 3 should be considered at the next meet of the Group.
- **Recommendation 4:** The Group agreed to continue to pursue this recommendation.
- **Recommendation 5:** The Group agreed to follow up its correspondence with the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee in relation to this recommendation.
- **Recommendation 6:** The Group requested officials follow-up on this recommendation and provide an update at the next meeting.
- **Recommendation 7:** The Group noted the intention to launch the video at the Young Women and Democracy Summit on 19 September.
- **Recommendation 13:** The Group agreed that officials should continue work on monitoring the relevant data.
- **Recommendation 14:** The Group agreed to look again at this recommendation at their next meeting.
- **Recommendations 15/16:** The Group noted that every effort should be made to give Members as much notice of late-sittings as possible, whilst acknowledging the unpredictability of parliamentary business.
- **Recommendation 17:** The Group agreed to continue to monitor the predictability and family friendliness of parliamentary business.
- **Recommendation 34:** The Group requested officials seek an update on this recommendation to bring back to the next meeting.

Item 3: Any other business

3.1 The Advisory Group noted work was underway to schedule the next Women's Caucus meeting.