The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Danny Boyle
Executive Director
BEMIS

10 November 2026

Dear Danny

Proposal for a Short-Term Inquiry into Protests and Racism in Scotland

Thank you for the proposal for a short-term inquiry into Protests and Racism in Scotland that you submitted to the Committee on behalf of a collective of anti-racism organisations.

Your proposal was shared with members and helped inform the Committee's consideration of its work programme priorities for the coming year.

The Committee recognises both the seriousness and urgency of examining the issues you have raised.

With that in mind, the Committee has agreed to undertake a two phased inquiry into community cohesion. The Committee will begin its work with a session on 3 December in which it will hear from duty bearers. This session will help shape the terms of reference of its more in-depth inquiry, which will take place in spring 2027.

Whilst the Committee has yet to agree its approach, it would be standard practice for that in depth inquiry to begin with a call for written evidence. As such, we will not be seeking written evidence ahead of the session on 3 December as we do not want organisations to have to duplicate effort, responding to two calls for views, and we also want organisations proper time to develop responses. However, you would be welcome to make a written submission on behalf of the collective of anti-racism organisations you represent to inform the session on 3 December. It would be helpful if the clerks could receive this by 26 November.

I would/

Contact: Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

I would also like to assure you that the more in-depth inquiry work in the new year will be led by lived experience, and the Committee will be giving careful consideration as to how best to undertake that work once it has agreed the terms of reference for the inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Katie Hagmann MSP
Convener