The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Jamie Hepburn MSP
Minister for Parliamentary Business
Scottish Government

8 October 2026

Dear Jamie

Non-implementation of legislation

Last session our predecessor Committee examined the impact of the delay in the implementation of all or some provisions within the following three Acts:

- Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Act 2020
- The Children (Scotland) Act 2020
- Part 1 of the Domestic Abuse Protection (Scotland) Act 2021

In its legacy report it urged its successor committee to press the Scottish Government to ensure there was no further undue delay in the implementation of these Acts.

This Committee has agreed to continue to pursue the implementation of these Acts this session.

While it notes that the Scottish Government is intending to consult on implementing Domestic Abuse Protection Orders under Part 1 of the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021, the Committee is very concerned by the lack of progress more generally on the implementation of the Acts.

Please could you provide the Committee with an update on the Scottish Government's plans for the implementation of these Acts. The Committee would also welcome a commitment to provide regular updates to it on progress toward implementation.

I would be grateful for a response by 6 November 2026.

Yours sincerely

Katie Hagmann MSP
Convener

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.