



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Ruth Maguire MSP (Co-Convenor)
Rhoda Grant MSP (Co-Convenor)

14 November 2025

Dear Conveners,

Cross-Party Group on Commercial Sexual Exploitation Complaint

I write to you today further to my letter of 24 October 2025. At its meeting on Thursday 13 November 2025, the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee discussed the complaint received in relation to the Cross-Party Group on Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

The Committee's role in relation to CPGs relates to the rules set out in the [Code of Conduct](#). The complaint addresses matters that fall within the Committee's remit: the requirement to have at least one MSP member from three of the parties represented on the Parliamentary Bureau.

The Committee has concluded its consideration and found that the Group has not complied with the requirements of the Code in relation to MSP membership for the period from 22 August 2025 to 28 October 2025.

The Committee noted in your correspondence of 28 October 2025 the circumstances that arose which contributed to this breach. The Committee also noted that corrective action had been taken and the breach had been rectified.

The Committee has agreed not to impose sanctions on this occasion. The Committee recognises the important role that CPGs play in connecting MSPs with the stakeholders who have interest in and experience of issues considered by the Group. The Committee would remind you that it takes compliance with the Code of Conduct by Cross-Party Groups very seriously and would urge you to ensure that there are no further breaches with the code of conduct for the remainder of the session.

A copy of this letter and your response has been sent to the complainant. The Committee has also agreed that it will publish this letter and your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Whitfield', written in a cursive style.

Martin Whitfield MSP
Convener
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee