Official Report
Aithisg Oifigeil

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Comataidh nan Co-ionannachdan, Còraichean Daonna agus Ceartas Catharra

Thursday 25 June 2026

Session 7

The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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Thursday 25 June 2026

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EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
1st Meeting 2026, Session 7

CONVENER

*Katie Hagmann (Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley) (SNP)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Meghan Gallacher (Central Scot and Lothians West) (Con)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Holly Bruce (Glasgow Southside) (Green)
*Amanda Lindsay (Central Scot and Lothians West) (Reform)
*Fulton MacGregor (Coatbridge and Chryston) (SNP)
*Carol Mochan (South Scotland) (Lab)
*Collette Stevenson (East Kilbride) (SNP)

*attended

LOCATION

The Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)

Scottish Parliament

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Thursday 25 June 2026

[The Convener opened the meeting at 10:01]

Interests

The Convener (Katie Hagmann): Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the first meeting of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee in session 7. I am delighted to have been elected as convener of the committee, and I look forward to working with you all. It is a hugely important committee, and I wish to conduct our meetings based on the principles of collaboration, respect and integrity.

We have received no apologies.

Under agenda item 1, each member of the committee will make a declaration of interests that are relevant to the committee's remit. I refer members to paper 1.

I will give my declaration first. I draw members' attention to my entry in the register of members' interests. I am a councillor on Dumfries and Galloway Council and, as I have noted in the voluntary section of my entry, I was a spokesperson for the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, so I lobbied on behalf of local government, and I was supported by Inclusion Scotland through the access to elected office fund. I feel that that is relevant to my role on the committee.

Meghan Gallacher (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Con): I have no interests to declare at this time, but I will, of course, note any interests if they become relevant.

Holly Bruce (Glasgow Southside) (Green): I am a sitting councillor on Glasgow City Council.

Carol Mochan (South Scotland) (Lab): I have no relevant interests to declare.

Amanda Lindsay (Central Scotland and Lothians West) (Reform): I, too, have no relevant interests to declare.

Collette Stevenson (East Kilbride) (SNP): I have no relevant interests to declare.

The Convener: Thank you, everyone.

Deputy Convener

10:03

The Convener: Under agenda item 2, we are to choose a deputy convener. I refer members to paper 2. The Parliament has agreed that only members of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party are eligible to be chosen as deputy convener of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee. Accordingly, Meghan Gallacher is the only member eligible. I invite Amanda Lindsay to formally nominate Meghan Gallacher to be our deputy convener.

Amanda Lindsay: I nominate Meghan Gallacher to be deputy convener.

Meghan Gallacher was chosen as deputy convener.

The Convener: I welcome Meghan Gallacher to her new role.

Meghan Gallacher: Thank you.

Decision on Taking Business in Private

10:04

The Convener: Agenda item 3 is a decision on whether to take in private item 4, which is an initial discussion on our work programme. Are members content to take that item in private?

Members *indicated agreement*.

The Convener: That concludes our formal business in public. We will move into private session to consider the remaining item on our agenda.

10:05

Meeting continued in private until 10:58.

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