

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee  
Tuesday 24 June 2025  
17th Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

## Non-implementation of legislation – Note by the Clerk

### Introduction

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide information to help inform the Committee's evidence session on the delay in implementation of all or some provisions within the following three Acts:
  - [Domestic Abuse Protection \(Scotland\) Act 2021](#) ('the 2021 Act')
  - [The Children \(Scotland\) Act 2020](#) ('the 2020 Act')
  - [Female Genital Mutilation \(Protection and Guidance\) \(Scotland\) Act 2020](#) ('the FGM Act')
2. On 24 June 2025, the Committee will hear from:
  - the Minister for Victims and Community Safety in relation to the 2021 Act, supported by
    - Jeff Gibbons, Violence Against Women and Girls Unit Head, Scottish Government
  - then the Minister for Victims and Community Safety in relation to the 2020 Act, supported by
    - Simon Stockwell, Family Law Unit Head, Scottish Government
  - And finally, the Minister for Equalities in relation to the FGM Act, supported by
    - Nel Whiting, Violence Against Women and Girls Team Leader
3. The Committee previously took evidence from the Scottish Government in relation to non-implementation of these Acts [on 10 December 2024](#). Prior to that December meeting, the Committee received [written submissions from a range of stakeholders on the Acts](#).
4. On 11 March 2025, the Committee received follow up letters from the Scottish Government on the Acts, as follows:
  - [joint letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs and the Minister for Housing on the 2021 Act](#)
  - [letter from the Minister for Victims and Community Safety on the 2020 Act](#)
  - [letter from the Minister for Equalities on the FGM Act](#).

## **Conclusion**

14. The Committee is invited to consider the above information in its evidence sessions with the Ministers.

**Clerks to the Committee**  
**June 2025**