

MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH SENTENCING COUNCIL

FRIDAY 02 OCTOBER 2026 AT 1000

PARLIAMENT HOUSE, EDINBURGH

AGENDA

(Timings are indicative only)

TIME	DESCRIPTION	SPEAKER(S)
1	PROCEEDINGS	
1000-1015	Item 1.1: Introduction and welcome <i>Oral update</i>	Chair
	Item 1.2: Previous meeting minutes <i>Papers 1.2A-B</i>	Chair
	Item 1.3: Progress of actions since last meeting <i>Paper 1.3</i>	Chair
	Item 1.4: Private papers <i>Papers 1.2B, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2, 2.2A-G, 2.3, 2.3A-B, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 6.1, 6.1A, 6.2B-C, and 6.3</i>	Chair
	Item 1.5: Update on Council and committee membership <i>Paper 1.5</i>	Chair
	Item 1.6: Draft budget bid 2027-28 <i>Oral update with reference to paper 1.6</i>	Ondine Tennant
2	SENTENCING GUIDELINES	
1015-1120	Item 2.1: Environmental and wildlife offences <i>Paper 2.1</i>	Sheriff Frances McCartney
	Item 2.2: Domestic abuse <i>Papers 2.2 and 2.2A-G</i>	Summary Sheriff Jo McDonald
	Item 2.3: Sentencing after a guilty plea <i>Papers 2.3 and 2.3A-B</i>	Summary Sheriff Alison Michie David Dickson
	Item 2.4: Guideline committees update • <i>Sexual offences committee</i>	Lady Drummond

3	COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT	
1120-1200	Item 3.1: Recent and upcoming engagement activity <i>Papers 3.1 and 3.1A</i>	Chair
	Item 3.2: Communications activity <i>Paper 3.2</i>	Sheriff Scott Pattison
	Item 3.3: Media and digital update <i>Paper 3.3</i>	Sheriff Scott Pattison
	Item 3.4: Podcast proposal <i>Paper 3.4</i>	Sheriff Scott Pattison
4	RESEARCH	
1200-1230	Item 4.1: Research updates <i>Paper 4.1</i>	Dr Jay Gormley
	Item 4.2: Sentencing young people guideline – 3-year review update <i>Paper 4.2</i>	Dr Nicole Vidal
5	POLICY DEVELOPMENT	
1230-1240	Item 5.1: Policy update <i>Paper 5.1</i>	David Dickson
	Item 5.2: Criminal Justice Committee Pre-budget scrutiny <i>Paper 5.2</i>	Ondine Tennant
6	GOVERNANCE AND REPORTS	
1240-1255	Item 6.1: Annual report 2025-26 <i>Papers 6.1 and 6.1A</i>	Chair
	Item 6.2: Standing papers: correspondence, FOISA, and complaints; finance overview; guideline timetable <i>Papers 6.2A-C</i>	Chair
	Item 6.3: Decisions by correspondence <i>Paper 6.3</i>	Chair
7	AOB	

1255-1300	Item 7.1: AOB <i>Oral</i>	Chair
8	FUTURE MEETING DATES	
1300	• Meeting: Friday 04 December 2026 • Workshop: Friday 05 February 2027 • Meeting: Friday 12 March 2027 • Meeting: Friday 04 June 2027 • Workshop: Friday 27 August 2027 • Meeting: Friday 01 October 2027 • Meeting: Friday 03 December 2027	Chair
1300	CLOSE	