

**MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH SENTENCING COUNCIL**

**FRIDAY 03 OCTOBER 2025 AT 1000**

**PARLIAMENT HOUSE, EDINBURGH**

**AGENDA**

(Timings are indicative only)

<b>TIME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SPEAKER(S)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>PROCEEDINGS</b>	
<b>1000-1010</b>	<b>Item 1.1: Introduction and welcome</b>	Chair
	<b>Item 1.2: Previous meeting minutes</b> <i>Paper 1.2</i>	Chair
	<b>Item 1.3: Progress of actions since last meeting</b> <i>Paper 1.3</i>	Chair
	<b>Item 1.4: Private papers</b> <i>Papers 1.3, 1.5, 2.1, 3.1, 3.1A, 3.1B, 3.1C, 3.1D, 3.1E, 3.2, 3.2A, 3.3, 3.3A, 3.3B, 3.3C, 3.4, 3.4A, 4.2, 4.3, 4.3A, 4.3B, 4.4, 4.4A, 4.4B*, 4.4C, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.3A, 5.3B, 5.4, 6.1, 7.1B**, 7.1C, and 7.2</i>	Chair
	<b>Item 1.5: Update on Council and committee membership</b> <i>Paper 1.5</i>	Chair
<b>2</b>	<b>BUSINESS PLANNING</b>	
<b>1010-1020</b>	<b>Item 2.1: 2026/27 Budget update</b> <i>Oral update with reference to Paper 2.1</i>	Ondine Tennant
<b>3</b>	<b>SENTENCING GUIDELINES</b>	
<b>1020-1140</b>	<b>Item 3.1: Draft rape guidelines</b> <i>Papers 3.1 and 3.1A-E</i>	Lord Matthews
	<b>Item 3.2: Draft domestic abuse guideline</b> <i>Papers 3.2 and 3.2A</i>	Lindsey Miller
	<b>Item 3.3: Draft domestic abuse guideline: public consultation</b> <i>Papers 3.3 and 3.3A-C</i>	Lindsey Miller
	<b>Item 3.4: Environmental and wildlife offences - consideration of scope</b> <i>Papers 3.4 and 3.4A</i>	Sheriff Fleming

	<p><b>Item 3.5: Guideline committees update</b></p> <p><i>Oral update on the work of the guideline committees: -</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sexual offences</i></li> <li>• <i>Domestic abuse</i></li> <li>• <i>Sentencing after a guilty plea</i></li> <li>• <i>Environmental and wildlife crime</i></li> </ul>	<p>Lord Matthews</p> <p>Lindsey Miller</p> <p>Sheriff Fleming</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>RESEARCH</b>	
1140-1210	<p><b>Item 4.1: Research Committee update</b></p> <p><i>Oral update</i></p>	Sheriff Fleming
	<p><b>Item 4.2: Research projects update</b></p> <p><i>Oral update with reference to paper 4.2</i></p>	Dr Nicole Vidal
	<p><b>Item 4.3: National survey of public perceptions of sentencing</b></p> <p><i>Papers 4.3 and 4.3A-B</i></p>	Dr Nicole Vidal
	<p><b>Item 4.4: Research project update</b></p> <p><i>Papers 4.4 and 4.4A-C</i></p>	Jane Rice
<b>5</b>	<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT</b>	
1210-1230	<p><b>Item 5.1: Communications activity update</b></p> <p><i>Paper 5.1</i></p>	Joanne McMillan
	<p><b>Item 5.2: Social media and digital report</b></p> <p><i>Paper 5.2</i></p>	Joanne McMillan
	<p><b>Item 5.3: 10-year anniversary update</b></p> <p><i>Paper 5.3 and 5.3A-B</i></p>	Joanne McMillan
	<p><b>Item 5.4: Recent and upcoming engagement activity</b></p> <p><i>Papers 5.4 and 5.4A</i></p>	Chair
<b>6</b>	<b>POLICY DEVELOPMENT</b>	
1230-1240	<p><b>Item 6.1: Policy update</b></p> <p><i>Paper 6.1</i></p>	David Dickson
<b>7</b>	<b>GOVERNANCE AND REPORTS</b>	
1240-1250	<p><b>Item 7.1: Standing papers: correspondence, FOISA, and complaints; finance overview; guideline timetable</b></p> <p><i>Papers 7.1A-C</i></p>	Chair
	<p><b>Item 7.2: Decisions by correspondence</b></p> <p><i>Paper 7.2</i></p>	Chair

<b>8</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
<b>1250-1300</b>	<b>Item 8.1: AOB</b>	Chair
<b>9</b>	<b>FUTURE MEETING DATES</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council meeting: Friday 05 December 2025</li> <li>• Workshop: Friday 06 February 2026</li> <li>• Council meeting: Friday 27 March 2026</li> <li>• Council meeting: Friday 12 June 2026</li> <li>• Workshop: Friday 28 August 2026</li> <li>• Council meeting: Friday 02 October 2026</li> <li>• Council meeting: Friday 04 December 2026</li> </ul>	Chair

\* This was erroneously listed as paper 4.3B in original published agenda

\*\* Paper 7.1A was erroneously listed as a private paper in the original published agenda