

**MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH SENTENCING COUNCIL**

**FRIDAY 27 MARCH 2026 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>1000-1015</b> | <b>Item 1.1: Introduction and welcome</b>   | Chair                  |
|                  | <b>Item 1.2: Previous meeting minutes</b><br><i>Paper 1.2</i>   | Chair                  |
|                  | <b>Item 1.3: Progress of actions since last meeting</b><br><i>Paper 1.3</i>   | Chair                  |
|                  | <b>Item 1.4: Private papers</b><br><i>Papers: 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.6A, 1.6B, 2.1, 2.1A, 2.2, 2.3, 2.3A, 2.3B, 2.3C, 3.1, 3.2, 3.2A, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 4.2A, 4.2B, 5.1, 5.2, 5.2A, 5.2B, 5.2C, 5.3, 6.1B, 6.1C, and 6.2.</i> | Chair                  |
|                  | <b>Item 1.5: Update on Council and committee membership</b><br><i>Paper 1.5</i>   | Chair                  |
|                  | <b>Item 1.6: Update on funding 2026-27</b><br><i>Papers 1.6 and 1.6A-B</i>  | Ondine Tennant         |
| <b>2</b>         | <b>SENTENCING GUIDELINES</b>  |                        |
| <b>1015-1110</b> | <b>Item 2.1: Sentencing after a guilty plea guideline</b><br><i>Papers 2.1 and 2.1A</i>   | Summary Sheriff Michie |
|                  | <b>Item 2.2 Sentencing process guideline</b><br><i>Paper 2.2</i>  | David Dickson          |
|                  | <b>Item 2.3 Rape guidelines and domestic abuse consultation (NHOs)</b><br><i>Papers 2.3 and 2.3A-C</i>  | David Dickson          |
|                  | <b>Item 2.4: Guideline committees update</b>  |                        |

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|-----------|--|---|
|           | <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>Environment and wildlife</i></li> <li>• <i>Sentencing after a guilty plea</i></li> </ul> | <p>Lady Drummond<br/>Summary Sheriff McDonald<br/>Victoria Young<br/>Summary Sheriff Michie</p> |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT</b>   |   |
| 1110-1140 | <p><b>Item 3.1: Recent and upcoming engagement activity</b><br/><i>Papers 3.1 and 3.1A</i></p>   | Chair   |
|           | <p><b>Item 3.2: Communications activity</b><br/><i>Papers 3.2 and 3.2A</i></p>   | Sheriff Pattison  |
|           | <p><b>Item 3.3: Media and digital update</b><br/><i>Paper 3.3</i></p>  | Sheriff Pattison  |
|           | <p><b>Item 3.4: Communication updates to note</b><br/><i>Paper 3.4</i></p>   | Sheriff Pattison  |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>RESEARCH</b>  |   |
| 1140-1210 | <p><b>Item 4.1: Research Committee update</b><br/><i>Paper 4.1</i></p>   | Jay Gormley   |
|           | <p><b>Item 4.2: Sentencing research</b><br/><i>Paper 4.2 and 4.2A-B</i></p>  | Jane Rice   |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>POLICY DEVELOPMENT</b>  |   |
| 1210-1240 | <p><b>Item 5.1: Policy update</b><br/><i>Paper 5.1</i></p>   | David Dickson   |
|           | <p><b>Item 5.2: Sentencing and Penal Policy Commission</b><br/><i>Papers 5.2 and 5.2A-C</i></p>  | Ondine Tennant  |
|           | <p><b>Item 5.3: Public consultation on improving protections in the justice system for women and girls</b><br/><i>Paper 5.3</i></p>  | David Dickson   |

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|------------------|--|-------|
| <b>6</b>         | <b>GOVERNANCE AND REPORTS</b>  |       |
| <b>1240-1250</b> | <b>Item 6.1: Standing papers: correspondence, FOISA, and complaints; finance overview; guideline timetable</b><br><i>Papers 6.1A-C</i>   | Chair |
|                  | <b>Item 6.2: Decisions by correspondence</b><br><i>Paper 6.2</i>   | Chair |
| <b>7</b>         | <b>AOB</b>   |       |
| <b>1250-1255</b> | <b>Item 7.1: AOB</b>   | Chair |
| <b>8</b>         | <b>FUTURE MEETING DATES</b>  |       |
| <b>1255-1300</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting: Friday 12 June 2026</li> <li>• Workshop: Friday 28 August 2026</li> <li>• Meeting: Friday 02 October 2026</li> <li>• Meeting: Friday 04 December 2026</li> </ul> | Chair |
| <b>1300</b>      | <b>CLOSE</b>   |       |