

**MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH SENTENCING COUNCIL
COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

21 MAY 2026

BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

MINUTES

Members present:

Sheriff Pattison (chair)
Joanne McMillan (member)
Lynn Burns (member)
Lindsey Miller (member)
Sheriff Amel Elfallah (advisor)

Secretariat:

Valerie MacGregor (principal policy officer - engagement)
Victoria Weldon (head of communications and engagement)
Lynda Tahri (communications manager)
Caroline Bellinger (communications manager)

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies were noted from Sheriff Paul Brown (advisor).
2. The Committee agreed not to publish the following papers: 1.2, 2.1, 3.1, 3.1A, 4.1, 4.1A, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3.

PROCEEDINGS

Item 1.1: Draft minutes

3. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 January 2026 were approved.

Item 1.2: Progress of actions

4. The Committee noted the actions from the previous meeting.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Item 2.1: Update

5. Item 2.1 provided an update to the tenures of the Committee members and advisors.
The update was noted and approved.

DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA PROPOSAL

Item 3.1: Social media audit and content

6. The secretariat provided an update on the Council's existing social media presence and proposal for future content. The Committee noted the update and approved the proposal.

DOORS OPEN DAY

Item 4.1: Doors Open Days proposal

7. The secretariat proposed resources and activities to mark Doors Open Days events. The Committee approved the resources with further changes to be made through correspondence. The creation of an easy read/ accessible resource was also discussed and agreed. The Committee noted activities proposed.

AP1: Secretariat to create an accessible, easy read version of proposed resource

AP2: Secretariat to provide a proposal of costings for activities.

SENTENCING PROCESS VIDEO AND PODCAST

Item 5.1: Sentencing process video and podcast

8. The secretariat provided an update on educational resources to help explain the sentencing process to the general public. The Committee noted the update and highlighted some changes.

AP3: Secretariat to update educational resources

STAKEHOLDER EVENTS

Item 6.1: Stakeholder events

9. The secretariat provided the Committee with an update of meetings and events. The Committee noted the update.

COMMUNICATIONS

Item 7.1: Communications activity

10. The Committee was provided with an update of recent communications activity. The Committee noted the paper.

Item 7.2: Digital and social media report

11. Paper 7.2 provided the Committee with an update on media and social media activity. The Committee noted the paper.

Item 7.3: Engagement

12. Paper 7.3 provided the Committee with an update on engagement activity. The Committee noted the paper.

AOB

Item 8.1: AOB

13. No other business was raised.

Scottish Sentencing Council Secretariat

May 2026