

MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH SENTENCING COUNCIL

FRIDAY 03 OCTOBER 2025 AT 1000

PARLIAMENT HOUSE, EDINBURGH

AGENDA

(Timings are indicative only)

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

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

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