

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENDER SENSITIVE PARLIAMENT ADVISORY GROUP ON 17.04.2024 AT 5.30 PM IN TG20-21, THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT/ MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Present: Rt Hon Alison Johnstone MSP, Presiding Officer (Chair)  
Ruth Maguire MSP, Scottish National Party  
Carol Mochan MSP, Scottish Labour Party  
Maggie Chapman MSP, Scottish Green Party  
Beatrice Wishart MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrats  
Professor Sarah Childs, Personal Chair of Politics and Gender, University of Edinburgh  
Professor Meryl Kenny, Professor of Gender and Politics, University of Edinburgh  
Femi Otitoju, Diversity and Inclusion Consultant  
Hannah Johnson, Knowledge Exchange Lead - Senedd Cymru & Senior Gender Adviser - INTER PARES

In attendance: Susan Duffy, Group Head of Engagement and Communications  
Jennifer Griffin, Private Secretary, Office of the Presiding Officer  
Polly Davidson, Gender Sensitive Advisory Group Secretariat  
Hannah Gunn, Gender Sensitive Advisory Group Secretariat  
Tom Malone, Parliament Communications Office

Apologies: Sue Webber MSP, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

### **Item 1: Minute of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

1.1 The Group noted that the Minutes of the previous meeting were approved via correspondence.

1.2 The Group noted the response rate to the Members Experience and Diversity surveys issued to MSPs. The Group agreed to send a reminder to Members to encourage participation. It was agreed that the deadline for completion could be extended by one week, if necessary.

### **Item 2: Update on the progress on recommendations**

2.1 The Group noted the update paper and that it would receive separate updates on recommendations 28 and 7.

2.2 The Group agreed to write to Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee for an update on progress towards recommendation 14.

2.3 In relation to recommendation 16, The Group agreed to write to the SPCB and the Parliamentary Bureau suggesting that the discussions that have previously taken place on sitting times should take place on an annual basis.

### **Item 3: Recommendation 28: CPD for Members**

3. The Group noted the paper. It was agreed that CPD sessions should form part of induction training and also take place part-way through the parliamentary session. It was also agreed that these sessions should be for everyone, not just new MSPs.

**Item 4: Recommendation 7: Creation of video package to assist parties in appealing to underrepresented groups**

4.1 The Group agreed to the revised proposal for the video package.

4.2 The Group agreed to email MSPs to canvass interest in participating, with a letter to be issued by the Office of the Presiding Officer.

**Item 5: Any other business**

5.1 There was no other business.

5.2 The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12 June 2024 in Q1.04 and on Teams, at 12.30 pm.

**Gender Sensitive Parliament Advisory Group Secretariat  
April 2024**

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