Response ID ANON-FS3X-KMQC-G

Submitted to Committee Effectiveness - Stakeholder Survey Submitted on 2025-04-14 18:57:47

About you

1 Please read the privacy notice below and tick the box below to show that you understand how the data you provide will be used as set out in the policy.

I have read and understood how the personal data I provide will be used.

2 How your response will be published

I would like my response to be published in its entirety

3 What is your name?

Name: Sally Wainwright

4 What is your email address?

Email: lesbianpersistence@gmail.com

5 Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Organisation

Organisation details

6 Name of organisation

Name of organisation: Lesbian Persistence

7 Information about your organisation

Please add information about your organisation in the box below:

Lesbian Persistence is a Scottish grassroots voluntary organisation set up in November 2024. We work to raise the profile of lesbians socially, culturally and politically. Lesbian Persistence is open to any Scottish based lesbian who believes in women's sex-based rights. Our activities include organising social and cultural events, advocating for improved lesbian visibility and rights, and research.

We understand women and girls to be females, lesbians to be same-sex attracted women, and use those definitions throughout this submission.

8 How would you describe the focus of your organisation in terms of engaging in policy scrutiny:

Focused on an issue that cuts across lots of portfolio and policy areas (i.e., poverty, climate change, equalities and/or supporting a specific community or group), which may mean you engage with multiple committees.

How you engage in scrutiny

9 Which activities have you undertaken in the context of work of Scottish Parliament committees? (tick all that apply)

Responding to calls for views or surveys., Writing to or engaging with individual MSPs about committee scrutiny, Engaging with committees at events or visits, including focus groups., Following up to see how the Scottish Government has responded to committee work/recommendations.

If you ticked "Other" please use the text below to explain:

10 How long have you been engaging in committee scrutiny?

Six months or less

The work of committees

11 Which do you think is the most important thing for committees to spend their time on? (choose you top 3 priorities, in order)

Q11 Ranking - Investigating current or topical issues.:

Q11 Ranking - Examining proposed laws presented by the Scottish Government.:

1

Q11 Ranking - Examining proposed laws presented by non-Government members (private members bills, such as the Period Products (Scotland) Bill).:

Q11 Ranking - Examining the Scottish Government's proposed spending plans (the Budget).:

Q11 Ranking - Examining the work of public bodies and commissioners:

3

Q11 Ranking - Reviewing existing laws and how well they work.:

2

Q11 Ranking - Examining petitions made by the public.:

Experiences of committee scrutiny

12 Can you highlight any pieces of committee scrutiny or work which have stood out to you as effective scrutiny, and can you briefly say why it was effective?

Please use the textbox below to provide your answer:

13 Can you describe any pieces of committee work which have been less effective or have not achieved what you expected, and briefly explain why?

Please use the textbox below to provide your answer:

The way the GRR Bill was dealt with. The witnesses called were completely one-sided. The committee barely engaged with any women's rights groups, and refused to meet with survivors of rape and sexual assault. It did not meet with any lesbian groups. The chairing and questioning was biased and at times offensive.

14 If there's anything else you'd like to say about your experience of committee scrutiny, please do so here

Please use the textbox below to provide your answer: