

EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

**1st Meeting, 2021 (Session 6),
Wednesday 23 June 2021**

Choice of Convener and Deputy Convener

Purpose of paper

1. This paper explains the procedure for choosing a Convener and Deputy Convener at the first meeting of the Committee.

Oldest Member

2. Standing Orders oblige all committees to choose a Convener at their first meeting. Rule 12.1.6 states that the meeting is to be chaired by the Oldest Committee Member until a Convener is chosen. The “Oldest Committee Member” is defined as the oldest member of the Committee present at the meeting and who has indicated to the Clerk that they agree to chair the meeting.

Choice of Convener

3. On 15 June 2021, the Parliament agreed to motion S6M-00393 which resolved that members of the Scottish National Party are eligible to be chosen as Convener of the Committee.¹ The Oldest Committee Member will invite a nomination from members of that party for the convenership. There is no requirement for nominations to be submitted in advance of the meeting or to be seconded.
4. Committee members will then be invited to appoint the nominated person as Convener.
5. On being chosen by the Committee, the Convener will immediately take the chair and will chair the rest of the meeting.

Choice of Deputy Convener

6. Motion S6M-00393 also stated that members of the Scottish Green Party are eligible to be chosen as Deputy Convener of the Committee.

¹ Motion S6M-00394 changed the name of the Committee to the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, adding civil justice matters to its remit.

7. The procedure for choosing a Deputy Convener is the same as that for the Convener and will be conducted by the newly-chosen Convener.

**Clerk to the Committee
17 June 2021**