

Cross Party Group on Women', Families & Justice Virtual Meeting

Tuesday 29 November 2022, 6pm-7.30pm

Agenda

Agenda item 1

Apologies

Agenda item 2

Minutes of previous meeting of CPG Women, Families & Justice October 2022

- Approval
- Actions

Agenda item 3 - Financial Impact of families affected by imprisonment

Dr. Briege Nugent (Independent Researcher) - Paying the Price: The Cost to Families of Imprisonment and Release

abrdn Financial Fairness Trust funded Families Outside to hear from families directly to understand the financial impact of supporting someone in prison and on release. The research heard from 49 women, one man and a teenage girl from across Scotland, showing the role of prison in creating, sustaining and deepening poverty. The cost is overwhelmingly borne by single women on low incomes who are spending a third to all of their income to provide support. Following a decade of austerity, pandemic and now a cost of living crisis, the context families are living in is harsher than ever. This burden has been carried silently for too long, with these women paying the price; it is time their voices are heard.

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Facilitated Discussion led by Dr. Nancy Loucks & Toni Groundwater from Families Outside with below questions as a guide:

1. "How can we as a Cross-Party Group take these issues forward on behalf of families affected?"
2. "What should we be considering?"
3. "How do the current Scottish/UK Governments budget affect the families we support?"

Agenda item 4

Workplan Sign Off

Agenda item 5

Agency updates

Agenda item 5

AOCB

Date of next meeting – 21st February 2023