

Criminal Justice Committee

**15th Meeting, 2022 (Session 6),
Wednesday, 27 April 2022**

Report of the Misogyny and Criminal Justice in Scotland Working Group

Note by the clerk

Introduction

1. The independent [Misogyny and Criminal Justice in Scotland Working Group](#) was established to consider how the Scottish criminal justice system deals with misogyny. This included looking at whether there are gaps in the law that could be addressed by a specific criminal offence to tackle such behaviour.
2. The Group also considered whether a statutory aggravation and/or a stirring up of hatred offence in relation to the characteristic of sex should be added to the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) legislation by regulation at a future date.
3. The Working Group published its report: [Misogyny – A Human Rights Issue](#), on 8 March 2022. The Scottish Government published its [written response to the report](#) on 21 April 2022.
4. The Committee will take evidence on the Working Group's report, as well as the Scottish Government's response.

Participants

5. The Committee will hear from Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, Chair of the Working Group and author of the report, and Bill Brash, Group Team leader of the Misogyny Working Group.

Format

6. Members of the Committee and the witnesses will be attending the meeting in person.

**Clerks to the Committee
April 2022**