



Engaging with The Scottish Parliament

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The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**VHS Online Meeting
25 June 2020**

Community Outreach

Work with third sector partners to enable community-based, grass-roots participation from front-line staff and service users



Bring 'lived experience' to committee deliberations, resulting in better informed scrutiny.

Lockdown Arrangements

- **16 virtual committee meetings over four days each week**
- **Parliament sitting twice during July**
- **Hybrid-style Chamber meetings**
- **MSPs either participate from the Chamber or remotely.**
- **Extended FMQs.**
- **Looking to introduce remote voting**
- **Aim: 3 sitting days per week by Sept**
- **MSPs / clerks still available through Recess**





What do Committees do?

Scrutinise and hold to account the Scottish Government

Conduct Inquiries

Consider legislation (Bills  Acts)

Report to the Scottish Parliament (with recommendations for SG Action)

Bill and Enquiries



Committee: Health & Sport

Item: Social Care Inquiry

Time-frame: Report by Dec 2020

Summary: re-scoped inquiry into the future of social care; informed in light of COVID-19. Focus on care at home settings (cared for, family members, carers, personal assistants, etc.)

****Targeted engagement and outreach ****

Committee: Justice

Item: Hate Crime and Public Order Bill

Time-frame: 24 July

Summary: lived experience, insight and opinion into the proposed provisions of the Bill; esp. age as a new factor in hate crime.

Committee: Equalities & Human Rights

Item: Disproportionate impact of COVID-19 and Lockdown on groups and individuals

Time-frame: Open-ended

Summary: seeking to determine whether some individuals and groups have been disproportionately negatively impacted by:

- a) COVID-19
- b) some of the measures taken to deal with it.

Engaging During Lockdown

- Social media
- SP website – call for views
- scottishparliament.tv
- COT Newsletter
- MSPs directly
- Committees directly





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