

CPG Commercial Sexual Exploitation Meeting

Scottish Parliament

AGM

19th November 2019

5.30-7.30

Minutes

Apologies

Susan Moffat	Individual
Johann Lamont	MSP
Aileen Fleming	Jubilee House
Katie Brown	COSLA
Billie Wealleans	WEP Highlands & Islands
Erika Grant	Project Turnkey
Siobhan Jess	Nordic Model Now
Pam Cairns	Free to Live Trust
Roseann Cameron	Routes Out
Marlyn Glen	Individual
Kirsti Hay	VAWC Glasgow Safety Services
Francis Monaghan	Wise Women
Beverley Johnstone	Salvation Army
Janice Wilson	Soroptimist Scotland North

Attendance

Steve Rawbone	SOHTIS Volunteer
Janet Warren	Individual
Mary Beth Graham	Scottish Women's Convention
Shairi Bowes	Scottish Women's Convention
John Mason	MSP
Ann Hall	Not For Sale in Scotland
Teresa Little	Individual

Bryan Little	Individual
Linda Thompson	Women's Support Project
Alison Scott	NHS Lothian
Bella Orpen	Cardiff University
Christine Uhlig	Evangelical Alliance Scotland
Chris Ringland	Evangelical Alliance Scotland
Chris Hall	Not For Sale in Scotland
Jeremy Balfour	MSP
Rhoda Grant	MSP (Co-convener)
Ruth Maguire	MSP (Co-convener)
Joan McAlpine	MSP (Co-Convener)
Jacci Stoye	ACTS (Secretariat)

Minutes

Apologies

Apologies were read out as listed above.

Agreeing the Minutes of the previous meeting

Ruth Maguire (RM) opened the meeting and asked if the group could approve the Minutes of the previous meeting (24/9/19). They were unanimously approved.

AGM Business

Ruth Maguire thanked everyone who had contributed to the running of the CPG.

The co-conveners Rhoda Grant, Joan McAlpine and Ruth Maguire agreed to continue in their role and were proposed by Jeremy Balfour and seconded by John Mason; they were unanimously approved.

Jacci Stoye agreed to continue as Secretariat and was proposed by Ruth Maguire and seconded by Rhoda Grant and was also unanimously approved.

Ruth Maguire proposed a vote of thanks for Kate Fry, Rhoda Grant's PA, for all her hard work and Chris Hall proposed a vote of thanks for Jacci Stoye for all her hard work.

Feedback from the MSPs present on any parliamentary progress.

Jeremy Balfour asked if there had been any feedback from the parliamentary visit.

Jacci Stoye said it had been discussed at the previous meeting and that she had written a report on the visit and she would send him a copy. She asked Jeremy if he knew about the proposed 20th Anniversary Event organised by UK Feminista, which was taking place on the 5th December. This event was to be based on the parliamentary visits to Sweden, where there would be a short film of the visits and where the Minister Ash Denham, Rhoda Grant MSP, Mia De Faoite and Diane Robertson Martin CBE would be speaking. She said that the invitations had not yet been received by all the CPG members and asked if the googlepage could be used.

Ruth Maguire said she would speak the UK Feminista and suggest it.

Update on the Exhibition

Rhoda Grant confirmed that the form had been submitted.

Presentation by Bella Orpen to present the findings of her dissertation: *The Effect of Prostitution Law on Human Trafficking Inflows*

Ms Orpen gave a power point presentation looking at existing research, the prostitution debate, the theoretical model and the situation in Scotland. Her hypothesis was that making the buying of sex legal increases sex trafficking, but making selling sex legal decreases sex trafficking. She described the Nordic Model and gave the pros and cons for it.

Her empirical conclusions were that:

- making buying sex legal is associated with higher levels of trafficking.
- making selling sex legal is associated with lower levels of trafficking
- the system where buying sex is legal but selling sex is illegal is related to the highest levels of trafficking.

Ms Orpen kindly permitted every CPG member to have a copy of her power point presentation.

There were questions and comments from the group:

Linda Thompson said anonymous tip offs didn't work; it showed that customers can't differentiate between forced and not forced sexual services.

Joan McAlpine said that the Nordic Model only works if sufficient resources are put into it.

Linda Thompson told the group that the Human Trafficking Strategy is going to be reviewed; currently it is insufficiently gendered. In trafficking for CSE the person is the product and therefore the discussion about ethical lines becomes problematic. How do you engage with escort agencies, lap dancing and saunas?

Teresa Little asked about the Sugar Daddy sites in relation to Ms Orpen's presentation.

Linda Thompson said that we must develop our own Scottish Model.

Ruth Maguire agreed; an Equality Model, not a Nordic Model.

Steve Rawbone said there needs to be education for men on how they feel about women.

Linda Thompson talked about Encompass' up and coming Conference, where the focus is on the punter, not the women. The date of the Conference, entitled Outcome Four (from Equally Safe) is March 3rd. There is a consultation on prostitution which is on the government's programme of legislation for 2020. We all need to have an input into this.

Mary Beth Graham asked Ms Orpen what it was like for her to do this research in their age group (twenties). She said that feminism was contentious with some of her friends and wondered if Ms Orpen had experienced that.

Ms Orpen said she went for empirical based, not survivor based which helped, but it had been difficult at times.

John Mason asked whether it might be possible to get a Bill on the programme of legislation before 2021? There isn't time for legislation before 2021. We may get a consultation in the Spring and plan to have a report later in 2020.

Meetings for 2020

10/03/20

24/06/2020

30/09/2020

18/11/2020

All meetings are currently booked for 18.00-20.00 pm.