



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee**

Ruth Maguire MSP (Co-Convenor)

Rhoda Grant MSP (Co-Convenor)

Room CG.07  
EDINBURGH  
EH99 1SP

Tel (Clerk): 0131 348 6924  
e-mail: [sppa.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:sppa.committee@parliament.scot)

3 June 2024

**Cross-Party Group on Commercial Sexual Exploitation Complaint**

Dear Convenors,

I write to you today further to my letter of 1 May 2024. At its meeting on Thursday 30 May 2024, the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee discussed the complaint received in relation to the Cross-Party Group on Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

The Committee's role in relation to CPGs relates to the rules set out in the [Code of Conduct](#). The complaint addresses matters that fall within the Committee's remit: the failure to submit an Annual Return and to provide advance notification of a meeting to the timescales set out in the Code.

The Committee has concluded its consideration and found that the Group has not complied with the requirements of the Code in relation to failure to submit an Annual Return within 30 days of the AGM meeting and failure to provide advance notification of the meeting held in February 2024. The Committee found there was no breach in relation to the November 2023 meeting.

The Committee noted in your correspondence of 9 May 2024 that a reminder and checking system had been implemented as a result of these failures to ensure prompt submission going forward.

The Committee has agreed not to impose sanctions on this occasion. However, the Committee highlights that it takes compliance with the Code of Conduct by Cross-Party Groups very seriously. It recognises the important role that CPGs play in

connecting MSPs with the stakeholders who have interest in and experience of issues considered by the Group.

Should any further instances of non-compliance with the Code of Conduct occur, this may result in the Committee withdrawing recognition for this CPG.

A copy of this letter and your response has been sent to the complainant. The Committee has also agreed that it will publish this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Whitfield', written in a cursive style.

Martin Whitfield MSP  
Convener  
Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee