



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Co-Signatories of the Sustainable  
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Dear Co-Signatories

### **Committees of the Scottish Parliament support for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Scotland**

Thank you for your open letter of 25 January to the Committees of the Scottish Parliament on the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Scotland. I write in my capacity as chair of the Conveners Group of the Scottish Parliament.

One purpose of the Conveners Group is to act as a forum for all Committee Conveners to meet and take a strategic view on the operation of the Committees and promote practices to drive and improve their performance, particularly in relation to their scrutiny function. When the Group met to discuss your letter during our meeting on 22 March, we noted that whilst individual Committees might wish to provide their own responses, we also wished to write to you collectively.

It was clear from our discussion that all Conveners were keen to ensure that the SDGs are reflected as a key element of the scrutiny their Committees undertake. A key focus of the work of the Committees is to scrutinise Scottish Government policy and legislation and, in doing so, ultimately contribute to ensuring and maintaining a better society for all citizens of Scotland and for future generations. It is clear that maintaining a strong commitment to the SDGs is a key driver in achieving that outcome.

During our discussion, Conveners were keen to point out a number of areas where SDGs have been shown to be a key strand of their scrutiny work. Amongst many other examples, some key pieces of work which would fall into this area include ending homelessness, the gender pay gap, poverty and school attainment, scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft climate change plan, the preventative health agenda and a Committee dedicated to equalities and human rights issues.

You can find out further information on these inquires and many more on the Committee webpage here:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/committees.aspx>

I look forward to following the outcome of the joint campaign.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christine Grahame'.

**Christine Grahame MSP**  
**Chair, Convener's Group**