

GENDER EDIT OF THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT BUDGET 2020-2021

This gender edit of the Scottish Government's Budget 2020-2021 compiles all references to women, gender and issues with implications for gender equality which appear in the document.

The Budget was introduced by Public Finance Minister, Kate Forbes MSP, who noted that the Budget for 2020-2021 would follow a "bespoke" Budget process, agreed with the Finance Committee due to the delayed UK Budget to 11 March. The Minister stated that the budget represented the best estimate of minimum level of funding that will be available to the Scottish Government using provisional forecasts.

This gender edit examines the Budget in sequence, with emphasis added by Engender.

CHAPTER 1: STRATEGIC OVERVIEW FOR THE SCOTTISH BUDGET 2020-21

"This budget of nearly £50 billion seeks to strengthen our economy and support the path to net-zero carbon emissions, **while tackling inequality** through the delivery of first-class public services and providing support for those who need it most."

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"In particular, the Scottish Budget supports priorities that will deliver across multiple outcomes, including... **investing around £645 million in the revolutionary expansion of early learning and childcare**, improving the life chances of our children, delivering better opportunities for parents and carers to balance work and family life, and setting fair work standards for those that will deliver the expansion."

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CHAPTER 4: PRE-BUDGET SCRUTINY BY PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee

"It made a number of recommendations including the use of data to support budget scrutiny and provide information on job outcomes, regional spend on RSA, and providing and **publishing gender disaggregation of companies receiving RSA** and evaluating economic development and inclusive growth."

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Equalities and Human Rights Committee

“We welcome the Equalities and Human Rights Committee’s scrutiny of the 2020-21 Budget and in particular the recognition of the value of the third sector, and the call to **protect both the equality and human rights** and the third sector budget lines. In this budget we have **increased the Equality and Human Rights budget to £30.2 million, its highest ever level**, representing our commitment to embedding equality, inclusion and human rights across all portfolios.”

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CHAPTER 5: HEALTH AND SPORT

Reducing Health Inequalities

“We will also put in place a **Women’s health plan** to tackle women’s health inequalities and create a **£1 million fund** to support women **affected by mesh complications**.”

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Priorities for a More Active Nation

“working with the Scottish Women and Girls in Sport Advisory Board to examine ways to **increase female participation**;”

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National Outcome: Reducing Health Inequalities

“Interventions, which help children and young people and **women** in particular, will help ensure that we live in communities that are inclusive, resilient and safe.”

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CHAPTER 6: COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Social Justice, Regeneration and Scottish Child Payment priorities

“In 2020-21 we will:

- introduce the **Scottish Child Payment** which will pay £10 per week, per child every 4 weeks to eligible families with children under 6 by Christmas 2020. When the programme is fully rolled out in 2022, it is estimated that 30,000 children will be lifted out of poverty;
- continue to deliver our Empowering Communities Programme to tackle poverty and inequality and **promote inclusive growth**;

CHAPTER 7: FINANCE, ECONOMY AND FAIR WORK

Employability and Training priorities

“Supporting people into sustainable jobs is critical to **inclusive growth**, with those facing the greatest barriers to employment requiring more individualised support that is effectively integrated within other services. Key contributions made by this portfolio to **tackling poverty and improving equality outcomes** and Fair Work and Business

Outcomes include... **closing the disability employment and gender pay gaps.**”

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Contribution to National Outcomes - Employability And Training

“The **Workplace Equality Fund** delivers on commitments in the Fair Work Action Plan, **Gender Pay Gap Action Plan**, Disability Employment Action Plan and the Tackling Social Isolation and Loneliness Strategy covering support for women during menopause, victims of domestic abuse, actions for tackling social isolation and encouraging businesses with innovative projects to embed fair work dimensions in the workplace. **The Flexible Workforce Development Fund** provides access to a **maximum of £15,000 of college training** (up from £10,000 in Year 1) for Scotland’s UK Apprenticeship levy-paying employers with at least 800 levy-paying employers and **circa 9,000 individuals set to benefit from up-skilling and re-training** opportunities.”

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CHAPTER 9: JUSTICE

Portfolio Responsibilities

“We remain focused on addressing gender inequality, including by **tackling all forms of violence against women and girls.**”

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Violence Against Women and Girls priorities

“The **‘Equally Safe’** strategy, first published in 2014 and updated in 2016, provides an overarching framework to **prevent and eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls.** This includes a range of measures, published in the 2017 Delivery Plan, to support the delivery of a Scottish justice system which is gender-responsive, meets the needs of victims of gender-based violence and effectively holds to account men who carry out

violence against women and girls and, where appropriate, supports positive behaviour change.”

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“In 2020-21 we will:

support a pilot to **visually record police statements in rape and attempted rape cases to reduce secondary victimisation or traumatisation through the criminal justice process;**

- build capacity of key statutory services to identify gender impacts on the justice system and address it, including **continuing to support agencies to understand the full spectrum of domestic abuse as defined within the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018;**
- support **collaborative initiatives to encourage women’s full participation in the justice system**, including overseeing the **expansion of the Scottish Women’s Rights Centre;**
- **strengthen the criminal justice response to tackle men’s behaviour** by promoting the **Safe and Together™** model and **supporting integrated behaviour change programmes for men convicted of domestic abuse offences;**
- support the **development of Barnahus Standards** which will form a framework for health, justice and local authorities to understand what is required to improve our collective response to child victims; and
- **consult on approaches to challenge men’s demand for prostitution** and support work to reduce the harms associated with it and help women to exit – recognising that **prostitution is a form of violence against women.”**

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Community Justice: Reducing Re-offending priorities

“In 2020-21 we will... support services to meet the **specific needs of women offenders;**”

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Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service priorities

“In 2020-21, we will... respond to the **growing volume and complexity** of serious organised crime and **sexual offending**, informed by the findings of the Victims’ Taskforce and the **Lord Justice Clerk’s review of the management of sexual offence cases.”**

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Community Justice: Reducing Re-offending priorities

“The sustainable development goals that help inform this activity are:

- **eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls** in the public and private spheres, **including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation**”

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What the Miscellaneous budget does

“This budget covers a wide range of spending areas including the Scottish Law Commission, the Parole Board for Scotland and the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Prisons in Scotland, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue in Scotland, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Prosecutions in Scotland, Scottish Arbitration Centre, Scottish Mediation, and third sector organisations whose work supports the victims of crime and **support for the justice contribution to tackling violence against women and girls**. It also supports work to build Scotland’s resilience, the armed forces and veterans community in Scotland;”

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“Violence Against Women and Girls Priority

“Primary National Outcome: Human Rights

Secondary National Outcomes: Communities, Health, Children

The Scottish Government **recognises violence against women as a fundamental violation of human rights; a cause and consequence of gender inequality and the attitudes that support it**. The **Equally Safe strategy** is Scotland’s strategy to take action on **all forms of violence against women and girls**. Equally Safe’s vision is of a strong and flourishing Scotland where all individuals are equally safe and respected, and **where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse – and the attitudes that help perpetuate it**. These policies ensure that **gender inequality within the justice system is addressed**, whilst maintaining the rights of the accused.

The Equally Safe strategy is Scotland’s strategy to take action on all forms of violence against women and girls.”

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Contribution to National Outcomes – Miscellaneous

“Primary National Outcome: Communities

Secondary National Outcomes: Human Rights

This budget covers a wide range of spending areas including the Scottish Law Commission, the Parole Board for Scotland and the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Prisons in Scotland, Her Majesty’s Chief

Inspector of Fire and Rescue in Scotland, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Prosecutions in Scotland, Scottish Arbitration Centre, Scottish Mediation, and third sector organisations whose work supports the victims of crime and **support for the justice contribution to tackling violence against women and girls**. It also supports work to build Scotland’s resilience, the armed forces and veterans community in Scotland.”

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Human Trafficking Priorities

“The sustainable development goals that help inform this activity are:

- **eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls** in the public and private spheres, **including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation”**

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Contribution To National Outcomes – Human Trafficking Priority

“Primary National Outcome: Communities

Secondary National Outcomes: Human Rights, Fair Work and Business, International

Our efforts to address human trafficking are strongly linked with other policy areas and strategies such as:

- Serious and Organised Crime
- Fair Work y Licensing
- **Violence Against Women and Girls**
- Procurement
- **Equalities**
- Homelessness
- Health

No single agency can address human trafficking, a partnership approach is vital in order to ensure the most vulnerable adults and children in society are protected and that those responsible are held to account. Our work with both internal and external stakeholders and partners will ensure that we raise awareness of this crime, the devastating impact it has on our communities and how we can address the conditions that foster trafficking in order to meet the overall vision of eliminating this crime. We **are reviewing our Human Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy** to ensure it remains relevant and fit for purpose amidst emerging threats and in the face of increasing numbers of victims being identified.”

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CHAPTER 12: RURAL ECONOMY

Portfolio Priorities

“We will optimise the value and sustainability of our land and marine assets by:

- supporting inclusive and sustainable economic growth in key sectors through Ambition 2030 (for food and drink industry); Aquaculture Strategy; Scotland’s Forestry Strategy; Framework for Future Fisheries Management; Rural Skills Action Plan; and the **report of the Women in Agriculture Taskforce.**”

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Rural Services priorities

“In 2020-21 we will... **implement actions recommended by the Women in Agriculture Taskforce** including establishing a **Leadership Development Programme**, developing a **Charter for Equality** and **improving training** across the country for women involved in farming and crofting.”

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Contribution to National Outcomes - Rural services

“The budget directly contributes to developing an inclusive and sustainable economy by ensuring that... Through the provision of targeted support to enterprises and communities, by supporting repopulation of our rural and island communities and investing in the **Women in Agriculture Taskforce.**”

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CHAPTER 14: SOCIAL SECURITY AND OLDER PEOPLE

Portfolio Responsibilities

“We are **bringing together several funding streams which previously all supported some aspect of work related to violence against women and girls.** This review will enable us to more closely align future funding to support organisations to **develop and deliver work that directly contributes to delivering the ambitions of the Equally Safe strategy.**”

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Creating a Fairer Scotland priorities

“In 2020-21 we will... **continue to promote equality and human rights** through investment in organisations working to achieve **equality for women and girls (including**

preventing gender-based violence), remove barriers to positive ageing, and strengthen community engagement.”

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Promoting Equalities and Human Rights priorities

“In 2020-21 our budget will...

- support the work of the National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership, including **delivery of a participatory approach to the development of the proposed Scottish Bill of Rights** and implementation of the capacity building programme recommended by the First Minister’s Advisory Group;
- deliver and further develop the Scottish Human Rights Defender Fellowship, in conjunction with civil society partners, the University of Dundee and other contributors;
- ensure that Scotland **engages successfully with international human rights mechanisms**, including reporting performance against treaty obligations, responding to international recommendations and facilitating visits and inspections by relevant international bodies and UN Special Rapporteurs;
- **deliver on the recommendations** from the first report of the First Minister’s **National Advisory Council on Women and Girls**, including a **Gender Beacon Collaborative** and **gender-focused What Works? Institute**;
- increase support to **front-line services and wider activity to address gender-based violence and inequalities**, and **review ongoing support** for the sector;
- enhance delivery across the Race Equality Action Plan, focusing in on a small number of the most impactful actions;
- maintain Scotland’s reputation as a progressive country in terms of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex equality;
- continue work to address social isolation and loneliness through the delivery phase of our Connected Scotland strategy; and
- take forward work to maximise the positive contribution that older people make to our society, and combat ageism and discrimination against them.”

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Contribution to National Outcomes - Equalities

“Primary National Outcome: Human Rights

Secondary National Outcomes: Children and Young People, Human Rights

Human Rights and Equality are fundamental to the National Performance Framework outcomes, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which underpin them. **Every one of the outcomes can only be fully delivered through a clear understanding of human rights and equality principles**, and through their being applied consistently through

decision making and action. This underpins our commitment to ensuring there is **no regression in equality** and human rights (particularly in the context of Brexit) and indeed maintaining pace and demonstrating leadership in their full realisation.

This budget supports an ambitious shift in approach to embedding Human Rights and Equality across the Scottish Government and wider Public Sector.

Example of activities in 2020-21:

- **support the work of the National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership**, including delivery of a participatory approach to the development of the proposed Scottish Bill of Rights and implementation of the capacity building programme recommended by the First Minister’s Advisory Group; and
- **deliver on the recommendations from the first report of the First Minister’s National Advisory Council on Women and Girls**, including a **Gender Beacon Collaborative** and gender-focused **What Works? Institute**, and **take forward the initial response to the second report** of the Council.”

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CHAPTER 8: EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Learning priorities

“In 2020-21 we will... take forward our STEM education and training strategy, which will include providing bursaries for STEM career changers, support for professional learning and **action to tackle gender and other inequities in STEM;**”

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Scottish Funding Council priorities

“In 2020-21 we will continue to work with the SFC to... improve the student experience by **working with the sector to tackle gender-based violence through Equally Safe** and improve students’ mental health and wellbeing, including through the provision of additional counsellors across the sector;”

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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ABOUT ENGENDER

Engender is a membership organisation working on feminist agendas in Scotland and Europe, to increase women's power and influence and to make visible the impact of sexism on women, men and society. We provide support to individuals, organisations and institutions who seek to achieve gender equality and justice.