First Minister’s National Advisory Council on Women and Girls

This document is the 2018 report and recommendations of this group.

Easy Read
Nicola Sturgeon is the First Minister of Scotland.

She wants to make life better for women and girls in Scotland.

A group of women helped the First Minister to find out more about life for women and girls in Scotland.

The group talk about different issues every year.
The group write a report at the end of each year.

The report is about the issues they have talked about.

**What does the report say?**

In 2018 the report said what needed to change to make things better for women and girls in Scotland.

It has recommendations.

These are things they would like to change.

**Recommendation 1:**

Have a group called ‘What Works Institute?’

It will ask questions about how to change the way people see women and girls in Scotland.
It will ask how to make sure they are treated equally and have the same rights.

**Recommendation 2:**

We need more women in parliament. This is to make sure there are a certain number of female candidates standing for election.

**Recommendation 3:**

The National Performance Framework describes the kind of Scotland we want to see.

Look at the Framework to make sure it works well for women and girls.

**Recommendation 4:**

Have a group from lots of areas to look at making Scotland equal.
Recommendation 5:
This has 3 parts:

1. It should be easy for women and girls to report sexual violence.

2. Make new laws to stop women and girls being harassed or harmed because they are female.

3. Women and girls who have been harmed need more support.

They should be able to get legal advice and legal aid. Legal Aid is to help pay for advice from a lawyer.
Recommendation 6:
This has 2 parts

1. We need to help the media understand gender.

The media are newspapers, TV, radio and films.
Gender means to identify between male and female.
Some people do not see themselves as male or female.

We need more positive stories about women in the media.

Recommendation 7
Scottish laws should include good laws and agreements from other countries about women and girls.
Recommendation 8
Have a group to make sure education and learning is equal for all girls at all stages.

Recommendation 9
Parents need to get 50 hours of free childcare every week.

Recommendation 10
Fathers need to take two months of paternity leave when they have a baby.

Paternity leave is time off work.

Recommendation 11
This has 2 parts:

1. The government must think about women and girls when they are designing public services like schools and hospitals.
2. We need to think about what is best for all women.

What happens next?

The group will talk about different things in 2019.

The group will look at how to make policies better and how to make new policies.

If you have any questions send an email to: ACWG@gov.scot