



Frontline Feminists Scotland

WOMEN'S VOICES MATTER

The newsletter that amplifies women's voices Issue Nov 2022

News

Today JK Rowling announced the launch of Beira's (Byra) Place, a new service providing support, advocacy and information for women survivors of sexual violence aged 16 and over in Edinburgh and the Lothians.

Visit their website for full details:

[Beira's \(Place Home - Beira's Place \(beirasplace.org.uk\)\)](https://beirasplace.org.uk)

Read Suzanne Moore's interview with JK Rowling here;

[An Exclusive Interview with JK Rowling about her New Project \(substack.com\)](https://substack.com)

Defending Women's Spaces

Karen Ingala Smith launched her new book, "Defending Women's Spaces" earlier this month. Watch the vital feminist conversation between Karen and Julie Bindel.

<https://youtu.be/w7z1Jd6cFcc>

Women's Place UK is asking people to sponsor a copy of Defending Women's Spaces to be sent to MPs/ MSPs/MIs and MSs. There had already been 500 sponsored during 16 days of action. Funds from each copy go directly to support Nia, [About nia - NIA | Ending Violence Against Women and Girls \(niaendingviolence.org.uk\)](https://niaendingviolence.org.uk)

[Sponsor a copy of "Defending Women's Spaces" and help us make sure that every MP gets the book - Woman's Place UK \(womansplaceuk.org\)](https://womansplaceuk.org)

UN Intervention

On request from MBM we forwarded a letter to all opposition leaders requesting they follow the advice of the UN Special Rapporteur and demand the pause of gender reform and review the way forward. Below is links to both the UN Rapporteurs letter and Frontline Feminists Letter.

UN Rapporteurs letter – [OL GBR \(14.2022\) \(ohchr.org\)](#)

Frontline Feminists Scotland's letter - [469ee9_2a9bc0b99b4f44e0b32b6abd1028df1a.pdf \(frontlinefeministsscotland.com\)](#)

Murray Blackburn Mackenzie (MBM) has kept up the pressure on the Scottish Government. You may be aware that five national women's organisations wrote to the UN to challenge the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Girls position that the Scottish Government's should pause the progress on the Gender Reform Bill. MBM has published a letter, signed by a number of women's activists groups including Frontline Feminists, supporting the UN Special Rapporteur. Below is all three letters.

UN Special Rapporteur's letter - [OL GBR \(14.2022\) \(ohchr.org\)](#)

Letter from 5 National Organisations - [469ee9_caa497b557594a80aad91f2cb1a82d07.pdf \(frontlinefeministsscotland.com\)](#)

Letter from MBM and sister organisations - [LETTER-TO-UNSRVAW-051222-FINAL.pdf \(murrayblackburnmackenzie.org\)](#)

Action

Petition to condemn the Hague Conference draft protocol and the Verona Principle as they aim at organising cross-border reproductive exploitation. Please consider signing.

[Petition to condemn the Hague Conference draft protocol and the Verona Principles as they aim at organising cross-border reproductive exploitation \(google.com\)](#)

For your information there is currently a Scottish Government Pledge to embed trauma informed principles and practice in Scotland to support anyone affected by psychological trauma. You may wish to highlight to your MSP that this is in contradiction to the threat to single sex service provision and the housing of males in female prisons in particular.

[NES Trauma Informed - Pledge your support \(transformingpsychologicaltrauma.scot\)](#)

Feminists aren't Fearties Award

This is new for the newsletter and was prompted by the amazing intervention by a woman at the Zero Tolerance conference, see link below.

This intervention followed Zero Tolerance's decision to ask participants not to discuss single sex services or the definition of a woman. We believe that if this discussion had been managed this would have been the ideal time.

Regardless of anyone's opinion on the subject the violence against women's (VAW) sector is about to enter a significant period of change should the Gender Reform Bill pass, and therefore women's experience of protection and recovery. The VAW sector cannot go into this blind. Services will continue to have responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 that potentially, as has been raised continuously, will clash with the Gender Reform Bill in its current form.

We raise a glass to you sister!

[\(50\) Nicola Sturgeon heckled by gender critical woman at Zero Tolerance event - YouTube](#)



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

NO TO SELF ID DEMO

Scottish Parliament
Wednesday 21st December
1-2pm

#NoToSelfID

For Women Scotland

SCOTTISH FEMINIST NETWORK

If you would like to submit something to be included on the website and in the newsletter please send to frontlinefeministsscotland@gmail.com.