

Minutes

Link to July meeting email [here](#)

1. Welcome and apologies

- a. Attendance: [Claire](#), [Andrew](#), [Lauren](#), [Ken](#), [Paolo](#), [Cayden](#), [Luca](#), [Clara](#), [Debra](#), [Baha](#), [Chiara](#), [Jim](#), [Vali](#), [Parami](#), [Merle](#)
- b. Apologies: [Neil](#), [Carol](#), [Kirstie](#), [Mhairi](#)

2. Agreement of previous meeting minutes [link](#)

Guest Speaker! Florence Oulds (she/her) Policy & Public Affairs Officer at the Equality Network

Florence spoke about what the Equality Network does as an organisation, and about the current context for trans people in Scotland and the UK.

She discussed the Supreme Court judgement and the new Code of Practice, and most importantly, the impacts these developments are having on trans people's lives and rights. Discussion with the Group then centred on what can be done to support trans lives and rights, including lobbying politicians to influence their views regarding more inclusive policy approaches and how guidance impacts on public bodies interpreting how to apply the guidance.

- <https://www.transparentsees.scot/>

3. Team Updates (list of roles [here](#)):

a. Treasurer

- i. Expenses: [£28.80 postage June meeting](#)
- ii. Donations: /
- iii. Balance: [£1,786](#)
- iv. To check: All community meal expenses paid? [Still to be paid](#) Cost of new pop-up banner that is being sourced - likely to be c.£100

b. Social Media & website (Lauren): [promoting Farmer's Market & then Pride, followed by Uyghurs in August](#)

c. Regional/Country focus (Clara) - [see later item](#)

d. Prisoner of Conscience/Individual At Risk (Mhairi) - [no updates](#)

e. *Not currently active: Theme Focus US Death Penalty*

4. Updates from previous activities

- a. [AIUK Conference in Brighton](#) - [Claire](#), [Paolo](#), [Clara](#), [Baha](#) attended, & [Sue & Hollie](#) from [Edinburgh](#) - great Scotland turnout! ; thanks to [Paolo](#) for organising Scotland stall - great to be represented & share our work

5. Updates from local groups (Daytime / Glasgow Uni / AIUK)

- a. [See newsletter](#)

6. Uyghur campaign: August = Uyghur solidarity month

- a. People encouraged to learn 1 word/day for the month of August. Glasgow West group's Uyghur word is "affection" (mehr)
- b. Arts & crafts stall at Kelvinbridge Farmers' Market **Sat 11th July** (10am start, 9:15/9:30 arriving for set up → 3pm) to encourage people to come and create

something (fabric banner e.g. "We need mehr [*Uyghur word*] solidarity") so we can talk to them about the Uyghur rights crisis; will also have petition / letters to local MPs

- i. 9.30am start: Clara (all day), Paolo (leave 12.30)
- ii. 11-1pm: Merle
- iii. 12pm: Cayden, Lauren
- iv. & Carol, Emma (Uni)
- v. Thanks Paolo for adding the event to our part of AIUK's Community Platform - all encouraged to sign up to it!
<https://community.amnesty.org.uk/t/arts-and-crafts-in-solidarity-with-uyghur/1606?u=paolog71>

& Our unique link for our page:

<https://community.amnesty.org.uk/invites/yDcmckxwg5> - it will automatically add you to the Glasgow West group

Community video explainer video, a quick 2 minute YouTube clip helping people understand and visualise the Community:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vs-Aa2xiflw>

7. Urgent Appeals - Merle # of letters written during meeting: [] Tally for the year: []
& Uyghur Word Creation!

8. Pride! AIUK [Pride Pack](#) - Debra looking through the pack, preparing our stall petition for **18th July** Pride in Glasgow), sharing other accessible actions, ordering leaflets/bunting

- a. Clara to email Glasgow Pride to ask about transparency / email (based on concerns re their sponsorship last year)
 - i. Team work! Clara emailed Pride Outside who said they think Pride is sponsored by Coca Cola this year → Lauren made letter re Coca Cola → Claire edited to ask re. transparency in general as not actually listed any sponsors yet → Andrew emailed → no reply yet from Pride!
- b. Campaigns: LGBTQIA+ books being unavailable/banned in libraries and schools ; BBC trans being minimised/unfairly represented ; look for international IAR case also
- c. Clara (with car), Claire, Debra, Luca
 - i. 9.30am-10am: Clara, Debra
 - ii. 10am-11.30am: Debra & Luca
 - iii. 11.30am-1pm: Debra
 - iv. 11am start of march - Boathouse at Glasgow Green: Clara, Paolo, Claire

9. Updates from Scottish Activism Rep (Paolo) / Scotland-wide WhatsApp group chat

- a. **Joint fundraiser walk/cycle Canal Glasgow --> Edinburgh, starting Sunday 2.08.26 - all welcome!**
 - along the towpath of the Forth and Clyde and Union Canals, total distance is 60 miles
 - head off from Glasgow (Maryhill locks) to Edinburgh via Kilsyth Sunday → Falkirk Monday → ?Linlithgow

- Group Just Giving page → AIUK Charity:
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/scottishamnestygroups-canalwalk>
 - We are looking at setting up an information stall on a small table at Auchinstarry (Kilsyth) and the Falkirk Wheel 'en route'.
 - Falkirk Wheel stall will be set up by Barrie's niece
 - Looking for volunteer to bring stall/materials (leaflets/banners) to Auchinstarry for when everyone gets there, probably mid afternoon on the Sunday (Ken?!).
 - [Claire to give Barrie Ken's number](#)
 - The closing date for the challenge is the end of October and you can take part any time between now and then, e.g. can do different legs on different weekends - if you do that, great to let everyone know when you will be doing it so others can join you.
- b. **Berry picking fundraiser** - Perth Amnesty have a stall at Thomas Thomson's fruit farm in Blairgowrie where people can pick as many blueberries as they want & make a donation to Amnesty. The stall dates and times are:
 Tuesday 1st September - 9-1.30
 Sunday 20th September - 9-12
- c. **Scotland-wide Gathering** - end of September, in Edinburgh - date tbc

AOB

Next meeting - Thurs 13th August 2026

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- **“Persuasive Conversation Activation Session” 26.04.06 - next steps?**
 - [Persuasive Conversations Resources](#) - Suggestion: do a training & canvassing session with our group to encourage people to contact their new MSP to discuss HR Bill / other HR issues e.g. Thursday Aug meeting - Training 7-8, then to Kelvingrove Park for an hour?
& Encourage all to join the recurring training sessions - link here:
<https://calendly.com/events-amnesty>
- [Glasgow West 2026 Planner.docx](#)
- **Discussion/brainstorm:**
 - How can we get new active members?
 - How can we keep active members?
 - Any suggestions for the current/new role-holders on how to conduct their role?

Potential Speakers for 2026:

- [Refugee Action - potentially joint event with Daytime group - awaiting update from Graham in Daytime Group]
- Clara: journalist from Somalia - Clara to check his availability and if needs transport/accommodation
- Ebba: Palestinian researcher: <https://sgsahblog.com/2025/01/27/activist-ethnography-in-palestine/>
- [Amicus: after find out about Death Penalty network - admin@amicus-alj.org - Allan]