

A graphic at the top of the page showing several hands of various colors (blue, purple, teal) raised in the air, symbolizing participation or support.

## Scottish election 2026

### Draft email to Scottish parliament candidates from local meetings

**Subject: Quaker priorities ahead of the Scottish election**

Dear [Candidate name],

As you stand for election to the Scottish parliament in 2026, we are writing on behalf of [name of local Quaker meeting] to share some of the concerns and priorities that shape Quaker engagement with public life in Scotland.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you, either during the election period or once the new parliament is formed, to discuss these issues and to hear your perspectives. [Optional: suggest a format, e.g. online meeting / small in person discussion / visit to our meeting house.]

Quakers are a faith community with a long history of working for peace, justice and social reform. Our approach to politics is rooted in our values of peace, equality, truth, simplicity and sustainability. We seek to contribute constructively to democratic life by encouraging honesty about difficult choices, long term thinking, and respectful dialogue.

At this time of significant challenge, we are particularly concerned about growing inequality, the accelerating impacts of climate breakdown, and declining trust between the public and political institutions. From a Quaker perspective, priorities for the next Scottish parliament include:

- **Decisive and fair action on climate change**, addressing both emissions reduction and adaptation, and ensuring the costs of transition are shared justly.
- **Honesty and integrity in public decision making**, with clear communication about trade-offs, constraints, and long-term consequences.
- **Commitment to peace, justice and human dignity**, especially for those most affected by poverty, inequality, and exclusion. This includes a compassionate approach to justice and the prisons crisis, the promotion of peace education in our schools, and redirection of military spending.

[Optional: add one or two sentences here about local concerns, experiences or issues relevant to your area or meeting.]

If you would be open to a conversation, please contact [name and contact details].

Thank you for your time, and for your willingness to serve in public life.

In friendship,

[Name]

[Role, if appropriate – e.g. Clerk]

[Local Quaker meeting / organisation]

[Contact details]