



27 August 2019

Citizens' Assembly of Scotland announces launch of member recruitment drive

The Conveners of the Citizens' Assembly of Scotland, Scotland's Constitutional Future, today (27 August 2019) announced the exercise to recruit members for Scotland's first Citizens' Assembly is now underway.

The Assembly, convened by David Martin and Kate Wimpres, will randomly recruit more than 100 members, aged 16 and over, who are broadly representative of the adult population in Scotland today. Their role will be to attend the Assembly's six weekend-long meetings to consider a range of evidence relevant to Scotland's constitutional future and to agree, shape, and contribute to discussion and develop a formal list of recommendations in a report to the Scottish Government.

The members, intended to be a 'mini-public', will be profiled against a range of criteria to ensure they are broadly representative according to geography, age, gender, ethnic group, educational qualifications, limiting long term conditions/disability and political attitudes towards Scottish independence, the UK's membership of the EU and Scottish Parliament voting preferences.

Recruiters will sample locations across Scotland, visiting households selected at random in each area. Occupants will be taken through a questionnaire to assess their eligibility and willingness to become Assembly members. In line with the Assembly's commitment to transparency, the names and home regions of members will be made public.

Kate Wimpres, Convener of the Citizens' Assembly of Scotland said: "The Assembly is a milestone democratic process for Scotland and for me it is a privilege to be able to be a part of it. We hope the public feel the same way. Indeed, we have had many people get in touch already to volunteer, however, it is essential the member base is as representative of modern Scotland as possible, so we have taken a robust approach to recruitment."

Convener David Martin continues: "Member recruitment is the first major step in the Assembly's work and our approach will be thorough and transparent. The process is now underway and across Scotland a broad range of people will be getting a knock at the door over the coming weeks. We hope they take the opportunity to listen and consider taking a role in shaping the discussion on Scotland's constitutional future."

More information on the Citizens' Assembly of Scotland and the member recruitment process can be found on www.citizensassembly.scot

Ends



Notes to editors

- The Citizens' Assembly of Scotland, Scotland's Constitutional Future was announced in Parliament by the First Minister on 24 April 2019
- The Assembly is a group of more than 100 Scottish citizens who will come together to agree and make recommendations on the future of Scotland through the process of deliberative democracy
- The group will consider the following broad questions:
 - What kind of country are we seeking to build?
 - How can we best overcome the challenges we face, including those arising from Brexit?
 - What further work should be carried out to give people the detail they need to make informed choices about the future of the country?

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