"The theme of this year’s event is ‘Happy 20th Birthday, Scottish Parliament.’ We come together on this day to mark the tireless contribution of women throughout Scotland and beyond in order to bolster women’s representation.

Devolution delivered the Scottish people a mandate and just look at what we have achieved - from the ground breaking Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act to the widespread campaign to end period poverty. We recently witnessed the passing of the Social Security Scotland Act which enshrines in legislation that social security is a basic human right. All parties across this Parliament have engaged in robust debates on many issues concerning women. We acknowledge the work undertaken on equality policies by women who are an example of what can be done."

Agnes Tolmie
Chair, Scottish Women’s Convention
Linda Fabiani MSP, Deputy Presiding Officer

“This event is very much a celebration of what women have achieved over the past twenty years since the Scottish Parliament was established and there is much to be proud of in terms of our both our collective and individual achievements. But it is clear there is still more to be done and I look forward to chairing what promises to be an interesting and inspiring debate about the future of equality for women in politics.”
Agnes Tolmie  
Chair, Scottish Women’s Convention

“This year marks two decades since people in Scotland campaigned for this Parliament and whilst we have come far in our struggle for equality, we have yet to reach 50% women members. The issues that women are confronted with day in and day out cannot be tackled unless policy and decision makers listen and take decisive action on women’s views, experiences and ideas. International Women’s Day celebrates our achievements, but it also reminds us how much we still have to do.”

**What do you see as the Scottish Parliament’s key achievements?**

- Enhanced rights for children.
- Tackling violence against Women
- Votes at 16
- Baby Boxes
- A voice for Scotland.
- 50/50 gender balance in cabinet

**What would you like to see achieved during the next 20 years?**

- Minority ethnic communities given more representation.
- Environmental issues tackled.
- Inclusion for all disabled people.
- A focus on older people and their value to society.
Many Thanks to our Evening Reception Sponsors

THOMPSONS
SOLICITORS
SCOTLAND

Other Sponsors

Scottish Women’s Convention is a charitable company limited by guarantee. Registered in Scotland No. SC0327308. Registered office—2nd Floor, The Albany Centre, 44 Ashley Street, Glasgow, G3 6DS. The Scottish Women’s Convention is a Charity registered in Scotland, No. SC039852