



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

15th Meeting, 2013 (Session 4)

Thursday 9 May 2013

Present:

Marco Biagi (Deputy Convener)	James Dornan (Committee Substitute)
Mary Fee (Convener)	John Finnie
Alex Johnstone	John Mason
Siobhan McMahon	

Apologies were received from Dennis Robertson.

The meeting opened at 9.15 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 2 in private.
2. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2014-15 (in private):** The Committee agreed an approach to scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2014-15, with an emphasis on disability, and agreed to seek to appoint an adviser.
3. **Petitions: PE1169 and PE1372** The Committee agreed to (a), given the UK Government's review and new industry guidelines, refer petition PE1169 on display of sexually graphic magazine covers to the Public Petitions Committee requesting that a watching brief be kept on the issue and that the petitioner be invited to monitor and report any developments and (b) resume consideration of PE1372 on access to justice in environmental matters once further information, expected in late 2013 or early 2014, is available.
4. **Women and work:** The Committee took evidence from—

Lynsey Calderwood, Marks and Start Project Officer, One Parent Families Scotland;

Patricia Cleghorn, Principal and founder, Orchid;

Debbie Duncan;

Claire Falconer;

Carol Fox, Director and Solicitor, Fox and Partners;

Jacqueline Hogg;

Kassandra Hughes;

Allison Johnstone;

Lynn McLachlan, Director Business Banking Glasgow, Royal Bank of Scotland;

Tanveer Parnez, Director of National Development, BEMIS;

Dr Caroline Wallace, Senior Science Policy Advisor, Society of Biology;

Professor Lesley Yellowlees, Vice-Principal and Head, College of Science & Engineering/President, Royal Society of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh.

The meeting closed at 11.21 am.

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