



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

5th Meeting, 2012 (Session 4)

Tuesday 21 February 2012

Present:

Joe FitzPatrick (Convener)	Anne McTaggart
Margaret Mitchell	John Pentland
Kevin Stewart (Deputy Convener)	David Torrance
Bill Walker	

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 4 and 5 in private.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following instrument which is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Local Government Election Expenses) (Scotland) Order 2012 (SSI 2012/16).

The Committee noted the instrument.

3. **Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

Councillor Barbara Grant, Community Safety Spokesperson, COSLA;

Bob Jack, Spokesperson on Community Safety, Justice, Police & Fire, Society of Local Authority Chief Executives;

Chief Constable Kevin Smith, President, Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland;

Councillor Iain Whyte, Chair, Scottish Police Authorities Conveners Forum;

Andrew Laing, Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland;

Professor John McNeill, Police Complaints Commissioner for Scotland;

Gillian Campbell, Director of Human Resources, Scottish Police Services Authority;

Chief Superintendent David O'Connor, President, Association of Scottish Police Superintendents;

Donald Urquhart, Chair, Scottish Community Safety Network;

Calum Steele, General Secretary, Scottish Police Federation;

George McIrvine, Vice-Chair, UNISON Scottish Police Committee;

Professor Nicholas Fyfe, Director, Scottish Institute for Policing Research, University of Dundee;

Councillor Bob Band, Scottish Fire Conveners Forum;

Alex Clark, Chair, Chief Fire Officers Association Scotland;

John Duffy, Scottish Secretary, Fire Brigades Union.

4. **Proposed building repairs bill (in private):** The Committee considered the statement of reasons and welcomed the undertaking given by the member in charge to write to all business improvement districts in Scotland, seeking their views on the draft proposal. The Committee agreed that it was satisfied with the reasons given by the member for not consulting on the draft proposal.
5. **Public services reform and local government: strand 1 - partnerships and outcomes (in private):** The Committee considered and agreed its approach to the inquiry.
6. **Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence received.

The meeting closed at 6.15 pm.

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