



## PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

2nd Meeting, 2015 (Session 4)

Tuesday 27 January 2015

Present:

Jackson Carlaw	Kenny MacAskill
Angus MacDonald	John Pentland (Convener)
David Torrance (Deputy Convener)	John Wilson

Also present: Neil Findlay, John Scott.

Apologies were received from Hanzala Malik.

The meeting opened at 10.32 am.

1. **Consideration of a current petition:** The Committee considered—

[PE1533](#) by Jeff Adamson, on behalf of Scotland Against the Care Tax, on abolition of non-residential social care charges for older and disabled people and take evidence from Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport, and Mike Liddle, Integration and Reshaping Care Division, Scottish Government. The Committee agreed to consider a paper by the Clerk at its next meeting.

2. **Consideration of a new petition:** The Committee considered—

[PE1546](#) by John Crossan on collecting Poll Tax arrears. The Committee agreed to close the petition, under Rule 15.7, on the basis that the petitioner no longer wishes to pursue the petition.

3. **Consideration of current petitions:** The Committee considered—

[PE1098](#) by Lynn Merrifield, on behalf of Kingseat Community Council and [PE1223](#) by Ron Beaty on school bus safety. In relation to PE1223, the Committee agreed to write to Transport Scotland and to defer further consideration of the petition until the evaluation report is available in late summer.

[PE1493](#) by Peter John Gordon on a Sunshine Act for Scotland. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government.

[PE1521](#) by George Eckton and Jane O'Donnell on no more Page 3 in the Scottish Sun and Scottish Parliament. The Committee agreed to close the petition, under Rule 15.7, on the basis that the representations requested have been made and in light of the responses received, the Committee does not feel it can take the petition any further.

[PE1525](#) by Catherine Fraser on access to justice. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government.

[PE1530](#) by Spencer Fildes, on behalf of the Scottish Secular Society, on guidance on how creationism is presented in schools. The Committee agreed to refer the petition, under Rule 15.6.2, to the Education and Culture Committee to consider under its remit.

[PE1534](#) by Clare Symonds, on behalf of Planning Democracy, on equal rights of appeal in the planning system. The Committee agreed to refer the petition, under Rule 15.6.2, to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee to consider under its remit.

[PE1517](#) by Elaine Holmes and Olive McIlroy on behalf of the Scottish Mesh Survivors - "Hear Our Voice" campaign, on polypropylene mesh medical devices. The Committee agreed to reschedule the evidence session with Adam Slater. The Committee also agreed to invite the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport, the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, the Chair of the Independent Review of Transvaginal Mesh Implants and the European Commission to give evidence at a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.46 am.

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