



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## STANDARDS, PROCEDURES AND PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

21st Meeting, 2015 (Session 4)

Thursday 3 December 2015

Present:

Cameron Buchanan  
Patricia Ferguson  
Gil Paterson

Mary Fee (Deputy Convener)  
Fiona McLeod  
Stewart Stevenson (Convener)

Apologies were received from Dave Thompson.

The meeting opened at 9.00 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 5 and 6 in private.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed that its consideration of its draft Stage 1 report on the Scottish Elections (Dates) Bill and its draft reports on Legislation and Hybrid Bills Standing Order Rule Changes should be taken in private at future meetings.
3. **Scottish Elections (Dates) Bill** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—  

Joe FitzPatrick, Minister for Parliamentary Business, Colin Brown, Senior Principal Legal Officer, Directorate for Legal Service, and James Newman, Policy Adviser, Directorate for Strategy and Constitution, Scottish Government.
4. **Lobbying (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered a draft Stage 1 report and agreed to finalise by correspondence.
5. **Scottish Elections (Dates) Bill** The Committee considered the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

6. **Hybrid Bills (in private):** The Committee considered a note by the Clerk and agreed Standing Order rule changes.
7. **Scotland Bill (in private):** The Committee considered an issues paper and agreed to write to the Devolution (Further Powers) Committee. The Committee also agreed that the letter would be signed off by the Convener and Deputy-Convener.

The meeting closed at 11.23 am.

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