



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

CULTURE, TOURISM, EUROPE AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

1st Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Thursday 11 January 2018

Present:

Claire Baker	Jackson Carlaw
Mairi Gougeon	Ross Greer
Rachael Hamilton	Richard Lochhead
Joan McAlpine (Convener)	Stuart McMillan
Tavish Scott	

The meeting opened at 9.23 am.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Claire Baker was invited to declare any relevant interests. No such interests were declared.
2. **Choice of Deputy Convener:** The Committee chose Claire Baker as its Deputy Convener.
3. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 4 in private.
4. **Erasmus+:** The Committee took evidence from—

Jackie Killeen, Director, British Council Scotland;

Emily Beever, Senior Development Officer, YouthLink Scotland;

Luke Humberstone, President, NUS Scotland;

Marion Spöring, Chair University Council for Modern Languages Scotland (UCMLS), Senior Lecturer in Applied Languages and European Studies, University of Dundee;

Daniel Evans, Centre Head, Commercial and Marketing, West Lothian

College.

5. **Scottish Government Reports:** The Committee considered a series of biannual reports produced by the Scottish Government in relation to EU issues. It agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work to seek further clarification on the decommitment of European Structural and Investment Fund grants, and to highlight this issue to the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee.
6. **Erasmus+:** The Committee considered the evidence heard earlier in the meeting and agreed to bring the evidence that it had gathered to date together and highlight the Committee's conclusions to the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, as well as other key stakeholders.
7. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2018-19 (in private):** The Committee agreed a letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Relations highlighting key issues to emerge from its scrutiny of the Draft Budget 2018-19.

The meeting closed at 10.55 am.

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