



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

29th Meeting, 2014 (Session 4)

Tuesday 18 November 2014

Present:

Christian Allard

John Finnie

Alison McInnes

Elaine Murray (Deputy Convener)

Sandra White

Roderick Campbell

Christine Grahame (Convener)

Margaret Mitchell

John Pentland

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2015-16:** The Committee took evidence on the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2015-16 from—

Andrew Alexander, Head of Access to Justice, Law Society of Scotland;

Alan McCloskey, Director of Operations, Victim Support Scotland;

Catherine Dyer, Crown Agent and Chief Executive, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service;

Fiona Eadie, Secretary, Procurators Fiscal Society Section, FDA Union;

Brian Carroll, Branch Secretary in the Scottish Court Service, Public and Commercial Services Union;

Eric McQueen, Chief Executive, and Cliff Binning, Chief Operations Officer, Scottish Court Service;

Martin McKenna, Acting Deputy Director, Scottish Tribunals Service and Parole Unit, Scottish Government.

Roderick Campbell indicated that he is a member of the Faculty of Advocates.

3. **Prisoners (Control of Release) (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1 and agreed: (a) proposed witnesses; and (b) to issue a call for written evidence.
4. **Subordinate legislation (in private):** The Committee considered its approach to consideration of the Public Services Reform (Inspection and Monitoring of Prisons) (Scotland) Order 2014 [draft] and agreed to take evidence from a number of witnesses prior to formal consideration of the draft Order.

The meeting closed at 12.47 pm.

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