



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

8th Meeting, 2016 (Session 4)

Tuesday 1 March 2016

Present:

Christian Allard

John Finnie

Margaret McDougall

Margaret Mitchell

Gil Paterson

Roderick Campbell

Christine Grahame (Convener)

Alison McInnes

Elaine Murray (Deputy Convener)

Also present: Neil Findlay (item 1).

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Police Scotland:** The Committee took evidence on internal communications at Police Scotland, and Police Scotland's policies and procedures in relation to the protection of staff who report wrongdoing or malpractice within the organisation from—

Chief Constable Philip Gormley, Police Scotland;

Andrew Flanagan, Chair, and John Foley, Chief Executive, Scottish Police Authority.

2. **Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee considered the Bill at Stage 2 (Day 1).

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

70 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)

72 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)

73 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)

74 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)

75 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)

76 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)
77 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)
78 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)
79 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)
80 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)
81 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)
82 (For 3, Against 6, Abstentions 0)
1 (For 2, Against 7, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn: 69, 71, 4, 67 and 3.

Amendment 68 was not moved.

The following provisions were agreed to without amendment: sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9.

The following provisions were agreed to as amended: schedule 1 and sections 7 and 8.

The Committee ended consideration of the Bill for the day section 9 having been agreed to.

Roderick Campbell declared an interest as a member of the Faculty of Advocates.

3. **Petition PE1370:** The Committee considered the petition by Dr Jim Swire, Professor Robert Black QC, Robert Forrester, Father Patrick Keegans and Iain McKie on Justice for Megrahi. The Committee agreed to write to Police Scotland seeking further information regarding the progress of Operation Sandwood, to keep the petition open and to recommend that a future justice committee gives further consideration to it.
4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative instruments—

Police Service of Scotland (Senior Officers) (Performance) Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/51);

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Metal Dealers and Itinerant Metal Dealers) (Verification of Name and Address) Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/73);

Restriction of Liberty Order etc. (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/89).

The Committee agreed to make no recommendations in relation to the instruments.

The meeting closed at 1.05 pm.

J/S4/16/8/M

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