



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

32nd Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Thursday 13 December 2018

Present:

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Deputy Convener)	Mary Fee
Fulton MacGregor	Ruth Maguire (Convener)
Oliver Mundell	Gail Ross
Annie Wells	

The meeting opened at 9.23 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:**

The Committee agreed to take item 3 in private.

2. **Young Women's Lead Committee:**

The Committee took evidence on the Young Womens Lead Committee Report on Sexual Harassment in Schools from —

Dr Patrycja Kupiec, Director, YWCA Scotland - The Young Women's Movement;

Audrey Opdycke-Barnes, Member, Young Women Lead Committee;

John Swinney, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Laura Meikle, Head of Support and Wellbeing Unit, and Stuart Downes, Interim Policy Manager, Scottish Government.

3. **Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Bill:**

The Committee considered its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 2. It was discussed and agreed to take evidence on amendments to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14 or 16 and amendments to raise the age of criminal prosecution to 14 or 16, in particular to seek written evidence on the amendments from those who provided evidence at Stage 1 and to take oral evidence from agreed witnesses.

The meeting closed at 11.17 am.

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