



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

AGENDA

9th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Tuesday 13 March 2018

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in the Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2).

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 3 in private.
2. **Remand:** The Committee will take evidence from—

 Sheriff Gordon Liddle, President, Sheriffs' Association;

and then from—

 Leanne McQuillan, President, Edinburgh Bar Association;

 Gillian Mawdsley, Policy Executive, Law Society of Scotland;

 Professor Neil Hutton, University of Strathclyde.
3. **Management of Offenders (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1.

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The papers for this meeting are as follows—

Agenda item 2

Paper by the clerk - remand

J/S5/18/9/1

Private paper - remand

J/S5/18/9/2 (P)

[Written submission from the Sheriffs' Association](#)

[Written submission from the Law Society of Scotland](#)

[Supplementary written submission from the Law Society of Scotland](#)

[Written submission from Professor Neil Hutton](#)

[All written submissions received](#)

Agenda item 3

Private paper - Management of Offenders (Scotland) Bill

J/S5/18/9/3 (P)

[Management of Offenders \(Scotland\) Bill and accompanying documents](#)

Justice Committee

9th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5), Tuesday 13 March 2018

Remand

Note by the clerk

Introduction

1. At its meeting on [19 December 2017](#), the Committee agreed to hold a round-table evidence session on remand, in order to explore issues around the use of remand in Scotland as well as the experience of prisoners held on remand. The round-table evidence session took place on [16 January](#). The Committee heard from the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland, the Scottish Prison Service, and the Scottish Working Group on Women's Offending.
2. After that session, the Committee agreed to do further work on remand.

Justice Committee consideration

3. At its meeting on [6 February](#), the Committee heard from Community Justice Scotland, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), Safeguarding Communities – Reducing Offending (Sacro), and Social Work Scotland. This evidence session explored issues around the reasons for remanding a person into custody; the information available to the court to inform its decision on remand; and the availability of alternatives to remand, such as bail supervision, across Scotland.
4. At its meeting on 13 March, the Committee will take evidence from the Sheriffs' Association, and then from the Edinburgh Bar Association, the Law Society of Scotland, and Professor Neil Hutton from the University of Strathclyde. The purpose of this evidence session is to further explore the decision-making process around bail and remand.
5. All written submissions received to date can be found on the Committee's [remand webpage](#). Written submissions for the session on 13 March have been received from the Sheriffs' Association, the Law Society of Scotland and Professor Neil Hutton. Any late submissions received will also be posted on that webpage.
6. At its meeting on 20 March, the Committee will take evidence from organisations working with prisoners held on remand and their families, in order to consider further the experience of prisoners held on remand. The Committee will hold a further evidence session at its meeting on 27 March with third sector organisations to consider the role of such organisations in providing and supporting alternatives to remand.