



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

31st Meeting, 2019 (Session 5)

Tuesday 17 December 2019

Present:

John Finnie
Liam Kerr
Fulton MacGregor
Liam McArthur
Shona Robison

James Kelly
Bill Kidd (Committee Substitute)
Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)
Margaret Mitchell (Convener)

Apologies were received from Jenny Gilruth.

The meeting opened at 10.01 am.

1. **Children (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

Susie Dalton, Children's Policy Lead, Scottish Women's Aid;

Sue McKellar, Improving Justice in Child Contact Project Coordinator, Scottish Women's Aid;

Megan Farr, Policy Officer, Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland;

Dr Fiona Morrison, Lecturer in Child Protection and Wellbeing, Stirling University;

Professor Kay Tisdall, Chair of Childhood Policy, University of Edinburgh;

Professor Elaine Sutherland, Professor of Child and Family Law, Stirling University;

Dr Richard Whitecross, Associate Professor in Dispute Resolution, Delict and Professional Practice, Edinburgh Napier University.

Liam McArthur indicated that his wife is a mediator with Relationships Scotland.

2. **Justice Sub-Committee on Policing:** The Committee noted a report back from the Sub-Committee meeting held on 5 December 2019.
3. **Children (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee reviewed the evidence heard earlier in the meeting. The Committee agreed to invite Yello! to give evidence at a future Committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 12.56 pm.

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