



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

5th Meeting, 2016 (Session 5)

Tuesday 27 September 2016

Present:

Mairi Evans	Mary Fee
John Finnie	Fulton MacGregor
Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)	Ben Macpherson
Liam McArthur	Margaret Mitchell (Convener)
Oliver Mundell	Douglas Ross
Stewart Stevenson	

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the—

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Private Rented Housing Panel) Regulations 2016 [draft];

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Homeowner Housing Panel) Regulations 2016 [draft];

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber and Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Composition) Regulations 2016 [draft];

Scottish Tribunals (Offences in Relation to Proceedings) Regulations 2016 [draft];

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Chambers) Regulations 2016 [draft];

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Homeowner Housing Committees) Regulations 2016 [draft];

First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Private Rented Housing Committees) Regulations 2016 [draft];

from—

Annabelle Ewing, Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs,
Scottish Government.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** Annabelle Ewing (Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs) moved—

S5M-01516—That the Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Private Rented Housing Panel) Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved;

S5M-01517—That the Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Homeowner Housing Panel) Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved;

S5M-01518—That the Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber and Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Composition) Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved;

S5M-01519—That the Justice Committee recommends that the Scottish Tribunals (Offences in Relation to Proceedings) Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved;

S5M-01523—That the Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Chambers) Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved;

S5M-01524—That the Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Homeowner Housing Committees) Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved;

S5M-01525—That the Justice Committee recommends that the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Transfer of Functions of the Private Rented Housing Committees) Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved.

The motions were agreed to.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative instruments—

Scottish Tribunals (Time Limits) Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/231);

Upper Tribunal for Scotland (Rules of Procedure) Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/232).

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

4. **Investigatory Powers Bill (UK Parliament legislation):** The Committee took evidence on legislative consent memorandum LCM(S5)2 from—

Assistant Chief Constable Steve Johnson, and Detective Superintendent Brenda Smith, Police Scotland;

Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, and Graeme Waugh, Defence, Security and Cyber Resilience Division, Scottish Government.

5. **Public petitions:** The Committee considered the following petitions and agreed in relation to—

PE1370 by Dr Jim Swire, Professor Robert Black QC, Robert Forrester, Father Patrick Keegans and Iain McKie on Justice for Megrahi: to keep the petition open pending the completion of Operation Sandwood;

PE1501 by Stuart Graham on public inquiries into self-inflicted and accidental deaths following suspicious death investigations; and PE1567 by Donna O'Halloran on investigating unascertained deaths, suicides and fatal accidents in Scotland: to write to the Lord Advocate seeking further information and to keep the petitions open;

PE1510 by Jody Curtis on the closure of police, fire and non-emergency service centres north of Dundee; and PE1511 by Laura Ross on the decision made by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to close Inverness control room: to write to Police Scotland seeking further information about the closure process and to keep the petitions open.

The meeting closed at 11.37 am.

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