



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

9th Meeting, 2016 (Session 5)

Tuesday 15 November 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. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 5 in private.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Home Detention Curfew Licence (Amendment) (Scotland) Order 2016 [draft] from—

Annabelle Ewing, Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs, Quentin Fisher, Community Justice Division, Susan Bulloch, Community Justice Division, and Craig McGuffie, Directorate for Legal Services, Scottish Government.

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

Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan and Performance Report (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/309);

Act of Sederunt (Fees of Solicitors and Shorthand Writers in the Court of Session, Sheriff Appeal Court and Sheriff Court Amendment) 2016 (SSI 2016/316).

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

4. **Inquiry into the role and purpose of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service:** The Committee took evidence from—

Chief Superintendent Gordon Crossan, President, Association of Scottish Police Superintendents;

Rachael Weir, Vice President, and Fiona Eadie, Secretary, Procurators Fiscal Society Section of the FDA;

Stephen Murray, Branch Executive Committee member, PCS Scotland;

Calum Steele, General Secretary, Scottish Police Federation;

Michael Meehan, Law Reform Committee member, and Derek Ogg QC, Faculty of Advocates.

5. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme, including considering further its approach to the scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2017-18, and agreed (a) witnesses for its forthcoming evidence sessions on its inquiry into the role and purpose of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service; and (b) witnesses for its evidence session on the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2017-18.

The meeting closed at 12.56 pm.

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