



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**13th Meeting, 2016 (Session 5)**

**Tuesday 20 December 2016**

Present:

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

Apologies were received from Oliver Mundell.

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 6 and 7 in private.
2. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2017-18:** The Committee took evidence on the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2017-18 from—

Rt Hon James Wolffe QC, Lord Advocate;

David Harvie, Crown Agent and Chief Executive, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service.

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

Michelle Macleod, HM Chief Inspector of Prosecution in Scotland;

Dawn Lewington, Assistant Inspector, HM Inspectorate of Prosecution in Scotland.

4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative instrument—

Lyon Court and Office Fees (Variation) (Devolved Functions) Order 2016 (SSI 2016/390).

The Committee agreed to make no recommendation in relation to the instrument.

5. **Justice Sub-Committee on Policing:** The Committee considered and noted a report back from the Sub-Committee meeting on 15 December 2016 from the Convener of the Sub-Committee, and agreed issues for the Sub-Committee to consider in future discussions on its work programme.
6. **Railway Policing (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1 and agreed (a) to note the outline timetable for consideration of the Bill at Stage 1; (b) to issue a call for written evidence on the Bill; and (c) to consider potential witnesses to invite to give oral evidence at a later date.
7. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme, including its approach to future EU engagement, and agreed (a) to write back to the Convener of the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee stating that it does not propose to gather evidence and to report back to that Committee specifically on EU engagement or the implications of leaving the EU for Scotland within the 10 February deadline proposed in the Convener's letter; (b) to hold a round-table evidence session early in the new year in relation to policing and non-criminal work; and (c) to hold a working lunch with the Scottish Law Commission in February.

The meeting closed at 1.05 pm.

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