



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

3rd Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Tuesday 24 January 2017

Present:

Mairi Evans
Fulton MacGregor
Ben Macpherson
Oliver Mundell
Stewart Stevenson

Mary Fee
Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)
Liam McArthur
Douglas Ross

Apologies were received from John Finnie and Margaret Mitchell (Convener).

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 5 and 6 in private. The Committee also agreed that consideration of a draft report on the legislative consent memorandum on the Criminal Finances Bill should be taken in private at a future meeting.
2. **Demand-led policing - service of first and last resort:** The Committee took evidence, in round-table format, from—

Amy Dalrymple, Head of Policy, Alzheimer Scotland;

Cameron Black, Care Van and Care Shelter Manager, Bethany Christian Trust;

Dr Peter Bennie, Chair of the Scottish Council, British Medical Association;

Malcolm Graham, Assistant Chief Constable, Strategic Development, Police Scotland;

David Liddell OBE, Director, Scottish Drugs Forum;

Calum Steele, General Secretary, Scottish Police Federation;

Bob Leslie, Chair of the Mental Health Sub-Group, Social Work Scotland.

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

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 Scottish Government and 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 the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service seeking further information and to keep the petitions open.

4. **Justice Sub-Committee on Policing:** The Committee noted a report back from the Convener of the Sub-Committee on its meeting held on 12 January 2017.
5. **Limitation (Childhood Abuse) (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered written evidence received and agreed proposed witnesses for its scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1.
6. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme and noted correspondence (a) from the Commission on Parliamentary Reform in relation to its call for written views on how the Scottish Parliament is performing; and (b) from HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland in relation to its consultation on its Scrutiny Plan 2017-18.

The meeting closed at 12.30 pm.

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