



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

16th Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Tuesday 2 May 2017

Present:

Mairi Evans
John Finnie
Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)
Liam McArthur
Oliver Mundell
Alexander Stewart (Committee Substitute)

Mary Fee
Fulton MacGregor
Ben Macpherson
Margaret Mitchell (Convener)
Stewart Stevenson

Apologies were received from Douglas Ross.

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 3 in private.
2. **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 Police Scotland's 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 Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service seeking further information on its interaction with coroners in England and Wales 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 (SFRS) to close Inverness control room, to keep the petitions open pending the publication of HM Fire Service Inspectorate in Scotland's report on the way in which the SFRS is conducting its operations, and of a final report of an internal audit review of the Command and Control Futures Programme deliverables.

3. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme and agreed (a) to write to the Scottish Government requesting an update on progress in relation to brain injury and the criminal justice system; (b) to hold an evidence session on the operation of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; (c) to hold an evidence session on remand; and (d) to seek evidence in due course on Scottish Government proposals on drug driving.

The meeting closed at 10.29 am.

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