



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

32nd Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Tuesday 7 November 2017

Present:

George Adam	Maurice Corry
Mary Fee	John Finnie
Mairi Gougeon	Liam Kerr
Fulton MacGregor	Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)
Ben Macpherson	Liam McArthur
Margaret Mitchell (Convener)	

Also present: Claire Baker (item 2), and James Kelly, Member in Charge of the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) (Scotland) Bill (item 2).

The meeting opened at 10.17 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 3 in private.
2. **Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

Anthony Horan, Director, Catholic Parliamentary Office, Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland;

Reverend Ian Galloway, Church of Scotland Church and Society Council;

Chris Oswald, Head of Policy, Equality and Human Rights Commission;

Ephraim Borowski, Director, Scottish Council of Jewish Communities;

Debbie Figures, Development Assistant, Scottish Women's Convention;

Desmond Ziolo, Glasgow Bar Association;

Alan McCreadie, Head of Research, Law Society of Scotland;

Stewart Regan, Chief Executive Officer, Scottish Football Association;

Neil Doncaster, Chief Executive, Scottish Professional Football League;

Professor Fiona Leverick, Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice,
University of Glasgow.

George Adam declared an interest as Convener of St Mirren Independent Supporters Association.

3. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2018-19 (in private):** The Committee considered its approach to the scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2018-19 and agreed (a) to focus its scrutiny on the budget for the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service; (b) to invite relevant stakeholders to provide written evidence in advance of publication of the Draft Budget 2018-19; and (c) to invite the Lord Advocate to provide oral evidence to the Committee.

The meeting closed at 12.55 pm.

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