



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## JUSTICE COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

18th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Tuesday 12 June 2018

Present:

George Adam  
John Finnie  
Mairi Gougeon  
Liam Kerr  
Liam McArthur

Maurice Corry  
Jenny Gilruth  
Daniel Johnson  
Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)  
Margaret Mitchell (Convener)

Apologies were received from Ben Macpherson.

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Defamation:** The Committee took evidence, in round-table format, from—
  - Campbell Deane, Partner, Bannatyne Kirkwood France & Co.;
  - Rosalind McInnes, Principal Solicitor, BBC;
  - John Paul Sheridan, Convener, Obligations Sub-Committee, Law Society of Scotland;
  - Gavin Sutter, Senior Lecturer in Media Law, Queen Mary University, London;
  - Nik Williams, Project Manager, Scottish PEN.
3. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme and agreed (a) the location and date of a business planning day to be held in the autumn; and (b) potential witnesses for future evidence sessions on post-legislative scrutiny of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

4. **Remand (in private):** The Committee considered a draft report. Various changes were agreed to and the Committee agreed to continue consideration of the draft report at its next meeting.

The meeting closed at 12.52 pm.

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