



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

32nd Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Tuesday 4 December 2018

Present:

John Finnie
Daniel Johnson
Fulton MacGregor
Liam McArthur
Shona Robison

Jenny Gilruth
Liam Kerr
Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)
Margaret Mitchell (Convener)

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 4 in private.
2. **Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

Kenny Donnelly, Procurator Fiscal, High Court, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service;

Dorothy Bain QC, Faculty of Advocates;

Grazia Robertson, Criminal Law Committee, Law Society of Scotland;

Euan McIlvride, Casework Team, Miscarriages of Justice Organisation Scotland;

Detective Chief Inspector Graeme Lannigan, Public Protection Specialist Crime Division, Police Scotland;

Kate Rocks, Head of Public Protection and Children's Services, East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership, representing Social Work Scotland.

Fulton MacGregor declared an interest as he is registered with the Scottish Social Services Council.

3. **European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018:** The Committee considered a proposal by the Scottish Government to consent to the UK Government legislating using the powers under the Act in relation to the following UK statutory instrument proposals—

The Jurisdiction and Judgments (Family) (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018;

The Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018;

The European Institutions and Consular Protection (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018.

The Committee agreed (a) to write to the Scottish Government seeking clarification of issues raised by the proposals; and (b) to delegate to the Convener responsibility for finalising its report to the Parliament on the proposals.

4. **Proposed Family Law (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee agreed to commission external research for its scrutiny of the proposed Bill at Stage 1.

The meeting closed at 12.44 pm.

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