



PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

9th Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Thursday 11 May 2017

Present:

Johann Lamont (Convener)
Brian Whittle
Rona Mackay

Angus MacDonald (Deputy Convener)
Maurice Corry

Also present: Emma Harper (Agenda Item 2)

The meeting opened at 9.30 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 5 in private.
2. **Consideration of a new petition:** The Committee considered a new petition—

PE1640 by Eileen Bryant on action against irresponsible dog breeding and took evidence from Eileen Bryant, Mr Mark Rafferty, Chief Inspector, Special Investigations Unit, Scottish SPCA. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government, HM Revenue & Customs, COSLA, the British Veterinary Association, Dumfries and Galloway Council, ferry companies, Police Scotland, the port authorities, Trading Standards Scotland, Dogs Trust, the Kennel Club and the Cross-Party Group on Animal Welfare.

Rona Mackay and Emma Harper indicated that they are members of the Cross-Party Group on Animal Welfare.

3. **Consideration of new petitions:** The Committee considered the following new petitions—

PE1642 by Norma Austin Hart on sale and marketing of energy drinks to under sixteens. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government, COSLA, the Cross-Party Group on Independent Convenience Stores, Community Food and Health (Scotland), Scottish

Grocers Federation, University of Strathclyde Centre for Health Policy and the Jamie Oliver Food Foundation.

Maurice Corry declared an interest as a former senior local authority councillor for Argyll and Bute Council, and also indicated that he is a former member of the British Soft Drink Association.

PE1644 by Katherine Perlo on behalf of ethical Voice for Animals on Country sports tourism funding. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government, Scottish Tourism Alliance, Scottish Land and Estates and the Scottish Wildlife and Adventure Tourism Association.

PE1645 by James Ward on review of legal aid in Scotland. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government, Independent Strategic Review of Legal Aid, the Law Society of Scotland and the Scottish Legal Aid Board.

4. **Consideration of continued petitions:** The Committee considered the following continued petitions—

PE1545 by Ann Maxwell on behalf of Muir Maxwell Trust on residential care provision for the severely learning disabled. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government.

PE1548 by Mrs Beth Morrison on national guidance on restraint and seclusion in schools. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government.

PE1595 by Alexander Taylor on moratorium on shared space schemes. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government and the petitioner.

PE1600 by John Chapman on speed awareness courses. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government.

PE1604 by Catherine Matheson on Inquests for all deaths by suicide in Scotland. The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Mental Health.

PE1619 by Stuart Knox on diabetes continuous glucose monitoring Sensors. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government and to defer further consideration of the petition until the Committee holds its fact-finding visit.

PE1631 by Maureen McVey on child welfare hearings. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government and the Family Law Committee of the Scottish Civil Justice Council.

5. **Annual report (in private):** The Committee agreed a draft annual report for the parliamentary year from 12 May 2016 to 11 May 2017.

The meeting closed at 11.26 am.

PPC/S5/17/9/M

Catherine Fergusson
Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee
Room T3.40
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
Tel: 0131 348 5186
Email: petitions@parliament.scot