



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

4th Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Thursday 2 March 2017

Present:

Johann Lamont (Convener)  
Maurice Corry  
Brian Whittle

Angus MacDonald (Deputy Convener)  
Rona Mackay

The meeting opened at 9.19 am.

1. **Consideration of a continued petition:** The Committee considered the following continued petition—

PE1605 by Peter Gregson, on behalf of Kids not Suits, on whistleblowing in the NHS - a safer way to report mismanagement and bullying and took evidence from Paul Gray, Director-General Health and Social Care and Chief Executive, NHS Scotland and Shirley Rodgers, Director of Health Workforce and Strategic Change, Scottish Government. The Committee agreed to refer the petition to the Health and Sport Committee under Rule 15.6.2 of Standing Orders.

Maurice Corry indicated that he was previously chair of the Argyll and Bute Integrated Joint Board.

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

PE1631 by Maureen McVey on Child Welfare Hearings and took evidence from Maureen McVey, June Loudon, Secretary, Grandparents Apart and Scott McVey. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government, the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service, the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration, the Sheriffs' Association, the Scottish Child Law Centre and the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland.

PE1632 by Amanda Macdonald on concessionary transport for carers. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government, COSLA,

Enable Scotland, the Coalition of Carers in Scotland and Carers UK. The Committee also agreed to meet informally with the petitioner.

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

PE1581 by Duncan Wright, on behalf of Save Scotland's School Libraries, on save Scotland's school libraries. The Committee agreed to invite the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills to give evidence at a future meeting.

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

PE1603 by Mairi Campbell-Jack and Douglas Beattie, on behalf of Quaker in Scotland and Forces Watch, on ensuring greater scrutiny, guidance and consultation on armed forces visits to schools in Scotland. The Committee agreed to invite the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills and COSLA to give evidence at a future meeting and to request a briefing from the Ministry of Defence.

PE1604 by Catherine Matheson on inquests for all deaths by suicide in Scotland. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government and Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

PE1619 by Stuart Knox on access to continuous glucose monitoring. The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government.

PE1622 by Stephen Duff on make failure to recycle a criminal offence. The Committee agreed to close the petition under Rule 15.7 of Standing Orders on the basis that the action called for is not supported by the Scottish Government and COSLA, and that progress in this area is being met through the Scottish Household Recycling Charter.

PE1624 by Akri Jones on definition of adultery. The Committee agreed to close the petition under Rule 15.7 of Standing Orders on the basis that the issue raised by the petitioner was considered during the passage of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Scottish Government has no intention to consult or legislate on this issue in the current session of the Scottish Parliament.

Maurice Corry declared an interest as a local authority councillor for Argyll and Bute in relation to PE1581.

The meeting closed at 10.59 am.

**PPC/S5/17/4/M**

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