



OFFICIAL REPORT
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

Justice Committee

Tuesday 16 May 2017

Session 5



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Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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JUSTICE COMMITTEE
18th Meeting 2017, Session 5

CONVENER

*Margaret Mitchell (Central Scotland) (Con)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Rona Mackay (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (SNP)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Mairi Evans (Angus North and Mearns) (SNP)

*Mary Fee (West Scotland) (Lab)

*John Finnie (Highlands and Islands) (Green)

*Fulton MacGregor (Coatbridge and Chryston) (SNP)

*Ben Macpherson (Edinburgh Northern and Leith) (SNP)

*Liam McArthur (Orkney Islands) (LD)

*Oliver Mundell (Dumfriesshire) (Con)

Douglas Ross (Highlands and Islands) (Con)

*Stewart Stevenson (Banffshire and Buchan Coast) (SNP)

*attended

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Peter McGrath

LOCATION

The Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)

Scottish Parliament
Justice Committee

Tuesday 16 May 2017

[The Convener opened the meeting at 11:15]

Decision on Taking Business in Private

The Convener (Margaret Mitchell): Good morning and welcome to the Justice Committee's 18th meeting in 2017. We have apologies from Douglas Ross.

Under agenda item 1, I invite the committee to decide whether to take items 3 and 4 in private. Item 3 is consideration of our draft annual report and item 4 is consideration of our draft report on the draft Apologies (Scotland) Act 2016 (Excepted Proceedings) Regulations 2017. Are we agreed to take those items in private?

Members indicated agreement.

Justice Sub-Committee on Policing (Report Back)

11:15

The Convener: Agenda item 2 is feedback from the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing on its meeting of 11 May 2017. Following the verbal report, there will be an opportunity for brief comments or questions. I refer members to paper 1, which is a note by the clerk. As Mary Fee was not able to attend the meeting, I will provide the feedback.

The sub-committee met on 11 May, when it held a round-table evidence session on the role of local police commanders. It heard from local police commanders and local authorities representing a number of areas of Scotland.

The local police commander role was introduced by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The sub-committee heard that, in the main, it is working well and good progress is being made. There were examples of good practice and of effective relationships between local commanders and area commanders, as well as acknowledgement of continuing challenges.

The next meeting of the sub-committee is scheduled for Thursday 18 May 2017, when it will take evidence from Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority on the Auditor General for Scotland's 2015-16 audit of the Scottish Police Authority and on Audit Scotland's review of Police Scotland's i6 programme.

If there are no questions from members, we will move into private. The committee will next meet on 23 May, when we will take evidence on the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. We will also consider the Limitation (Childhood Abuse) (Scotland) Bill at stage 2.

11:17

Meeting continued in private until 11:24.

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