Present:

Bob Doris (Deputy Convener)  Mark McDonald
Aileen McLeod  Duncan McNeil (Convener)
Nanette Milne  Gil Paterson
Dr Richard Simpson  Drew Smith

Apologies were received from David Torrance.

The meeting opened at 9.57 am.

1. Health inequalities: The Committee took evidence, in round table format, from—

   Professor Carol Tannahill, Director, Glasgow Centre for Population Health;

   Graham Watt, Professor of General Practice, and Sally McIntyre, Director of Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, University of Glasgow;

   Dave Liddell, Board Member, Poverty Alliance;

   Erica Wimbush, Head of Evaluation, and Dr Gerry McCartney, Head of Public Health Observatory, NHS Health Scotland.

2. Public petitions: PE1384 The Committee considered a petition by Kim Hartley on behalf of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to demonstrate how its policies and guidelines ensure local authorities and NHS boards protect provision of quality speech and language therapy services for all people with speech/language communication support needs and/or swallowing difficulties.

   The Committee agreed to keep the petition open and to write to local authorities to seek further information.
3. Healthcare Improvement Scotland and Scottish Public Services Ombudsman: The Committee considered the evidence heard from Healthcare Improvement Scotland and Scottish Public Services Ombudsman at its meeting on 15 January 2013. The Committee agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing.

The meeting closed at 12.23 pm.

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