



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Justice Committee

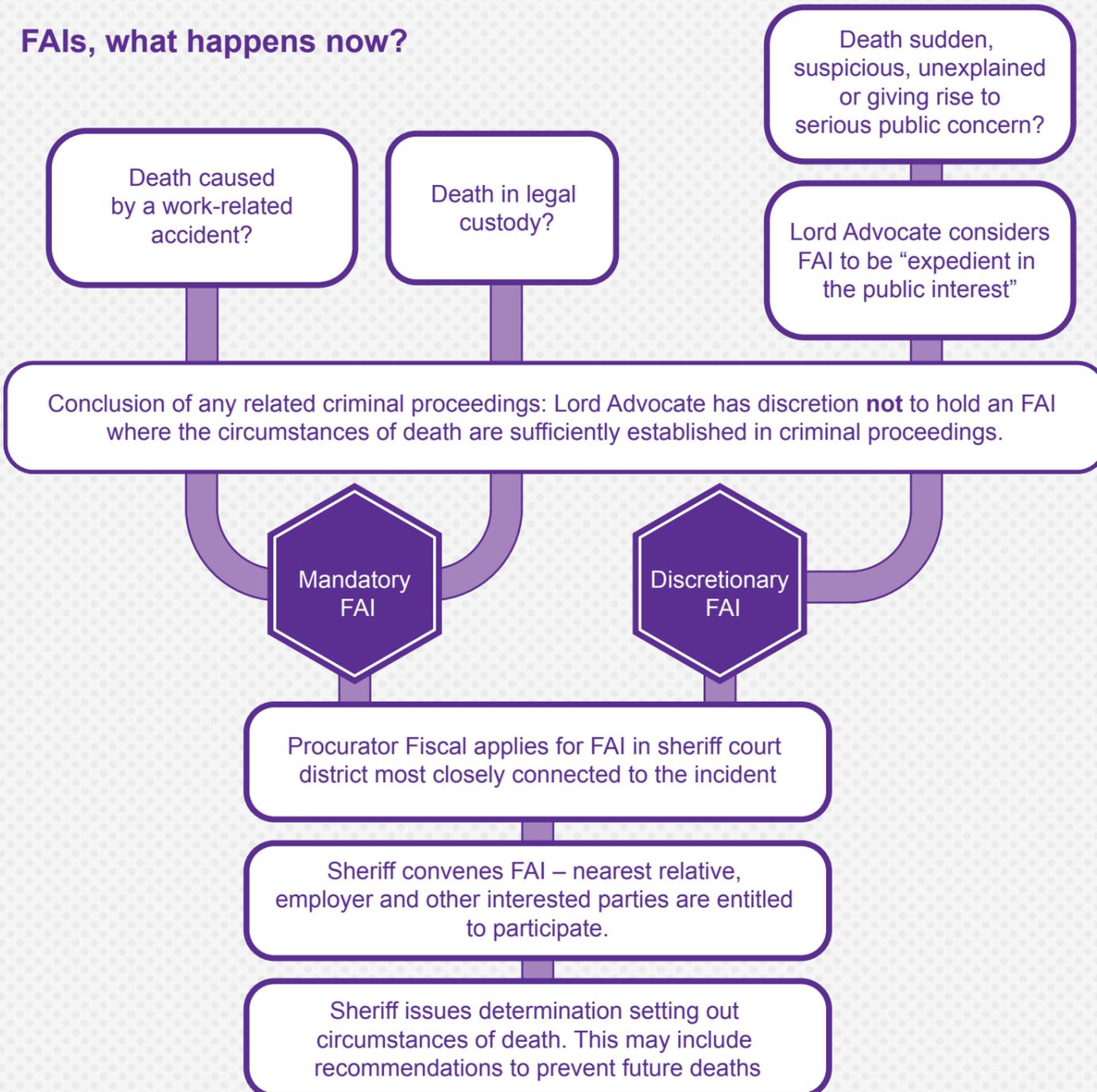
@SP\_Justice

## What changes are being proposed to Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAIs)?

The Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Bill is a Scottish Government Bill which aims to modernise the law governing when, where and how FAIs take place.

The Justice Committee will be scrutinising these proposals as the bill goes through its parliamentary stages.

### FAIs, what happens now?



## What are the proposed changes?



### What happens if a Scot dies abroad?

The bill would allow for FAI's to take place on Scots who have died abroad. However the FAI can only take place once the body has been returned to Scotland.



### Where will FAI's take place?

The bill would allow for FAI's to take place in a location other than Sheriff Courts.



### What happens to children in secure accommodation?

The bill would require that if a child dies while in secure accommodation an FAI must be undertaken.



### Will it be possible to reopen FAI's?

The bill would allow FAI's to be reopened if new evidence is provided. In cases where the evidence is considered to be significant then a completely new inquiry could be held.



### What will happen once a recommendation is made?

For those parties to whom a Sheriff has made a recommendation to undertake a course of action, the bill would require them to explain what steps they have taken to address this recommendation. If this has not been possible, they would have to explain why. However, the Sheriff's recommended action is not compulsory.



### Will the FAI process become quicker?

The bill would introduce preliminary hearings to help speed up the FAI process.



### Did you know that.....



Approximately 11,000 deaths are reported to procurators fiscal each year.



Death investigations are carried out by COPFS in **around half** of these reported cases.



There are only 50-60 FAIs per year.