Justice Committee

Scottish Court Service recommendations for a future court structure in Scotland

Written submission from Harry M Brash

Our experience of Haddington Sheriff Court is entirely related to a very difficult last four and a half years after our daughter and her three children were abandoned by their father.

The court officials and associated legal staff were all very courteous and helpful as one would expect from such a well-run organisation. However, it is difficult to accept the extra stresses which would have been involved because of the extra travelling times which would be incurred under the new proposals if Haddington Sheriff Court is closed.

It is an obvious benefit to the social structures of communities if justice can operate as locally as possible. The present trend of closing Sheriff Courts such as Haddington is a very negative step which should be avoided at all costs.

Harry M Brash
21 May 2013