



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

6th Meeting, 2016 (Session 4)

Tuesday 9 February 2016

Present:

Christian Allard	Roderick Campbell
John Finnie	Christine Grahame (Convener)
Alison McInnes	Margaret Mitchell
Elaine Murray (Deputy Convener)	Gil Paterson

Apologies were received from Margaret McDougall.

The meeting opened at 10.06 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 2 in private.
2. **Armed Forces Bill (UK Parliament legislation) (in private):** The Committee considered a draft report on the legislative consent memorandum (LCM) on the Armed Forces Bill (LCM(S4) 39.1). The Committee agreed to write to the Fire Brigades Union seeking further information on concerns it had raised in relation to the LCM and to consider a revised draft report at a future meeting.
3. **Commission on Women Offenders** The Committee took evidence from—

Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Scottish Government;

Colin McConnell, Chief Executive, Scottish Prison Service.
4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exclusions and Exceptions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2016 [draft] from—

Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Scottish Government.

5. **Subordinate legislation:** Michael Matheson (Cabinet Secretary for Justice) moved—

S4M-15427—That the Justice Committee recommends that the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exclusions and Exceptions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2016 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

6. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 (Consequential Provisions) Order 2016 [draft] from—

Paul Wheelhouse, Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs, and Walter Drummond-Murray, Civil Law and Legal System Division, Scottish Government.

7. **Subordinate legislation:** Paul Wheelhouse (Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs) moved—

S4M-15423—That the Justice Committee recommends that the Courts Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 (Consequential Provisions) Order 2016 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

8. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Advice and Assistance and Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions and Contributions) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016 [draft] from—

Paul Wheelhouse, Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs, and Denise Swanson, Civil Law and Legal System Division, Scottish Government.

Roderick Campbell declared an interest as a member of the Faculty of Advocates.

9. **Subordinate legislation:** Paul Wheelhouse (Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs) moved—

S4M-15426—That the Justice Committee recommends that the Advice and Assistance and Civil Legal Aid (Financial Conditions and Contributions) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

The meeting closed at 11.49 am.

J/S4/16/6/M

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