



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

19th Meeting, 2014 (Session 4)

Wednesday 18 June 2014

Present:

Cameron Buchanan	Mark McDonald
Anne McTaggart	Alex Rowley
Stewart Stevenson (Committee Substitute)	Kevin Stewart (Convener)
John Wilson (Deputy Convener)	

Apologies were received from Stuart McMillan.

The meeting opened at 10.02 am.

1. **Flexibility and Autonomy of Local Government (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence received at its meeting on 11 June. The Committee also considered a draft report on its inquiry. Various changes were discussed and the Committee agreed to consider a revised draft report, in private, at its next meeting.
2. **Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee considered its approach to the forthcoming Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill and agreed the following—
 - its general approach to scrutiny of the Bill;
 - to write to the Scottish Government Bill Team seeking further information on the Policy Memorandum on the Bill, seeking a written response by end of the public call for written evidence period, to make this exchange public and to consider the response as part of a scene setting round-table session at the start of oral evidence;
 - a public engagement protocol for handling representations made to members about the Bill;
 - a timetable for scrutiny of the Bill;

- an online call for written evidence, to run for 14 weeks, with agreed questions;
- to issue a targeted call for written and oral evidence from specific key stakeholders;
- to consider what witnesses its wishes to take oral evidence from after the conclusion of the public call for written evidence;
- to request SPICe provide suitable analysis, briefing and advice on the various policy sections of the Bill;
- to utilise any external meetings, or fact-findings visits, undertaken by the Committee for the purposes of engaging with community groups and others on the Bill;
- to delegate to the Convener and the clerks responsibility for formulating a media strategy on the Committee scrutiny of the Bill;
- to delegate to the Convener and the clerks responsibility for agreeing any claims made under the SPCB's witnesses expenses policy;
- to hold discussions on oral evidence, in private, at future meetings, and
- to consider any further approach to scrutiny of the Bill, along with all drafts of the Stage 1 report to the Parliament, in private, at future meetings.

The meeting closed at 11.07 am.

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