Present:

George Adam  Cameron Buchanan
Patricia Ferguson  Gil Paterson
Stewart Stevenson (Convener)  Dave Thompson

Apologies were received from Mary Fee (Deputy Convener).

The meeting opened at 9.30 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private**: The Committee agreed to take items 4, 5 and 6 in private.

2. **Decision on taking business in private**: The Committee agreed that its consideration of a draft report on its inquiry into committee reform and issues papers on Members Interests, the Scotland Bill and committee reform should be taken in private at future meetings.

3. **Inquiry into committee reform**: The Committee took evidence from—

   Joe FitzPatrick, Minister for Parliamentary Business, Scottish Government;

   John Finnie, Business Manager, Independent/Green Group;

   James Kelly, Business Manager, Scottish Labour;

   John Lamont, Business Manager, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party;

   Alison McInnes, Business Manager, Scottish Liberal Democrats.

4. **Lobbying (Scotland) Bill (in private)**: The Committee agreed its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1.
5. **Consolidation Bills (in private):** The Committee agreed Standing Order rule changes and agreed its report for publication.

6. **Scotland Bill (in private):** The Committee considered a note by the Clerk and agreed to consider further papers at future meetings.

7. **Inquiry into committee reform (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

8. **Scotland Act 2012 (in private):** The Committee agreed Standing Order rule changes and agreed its report for publication.

9. **Printed and published (in private):** The Committee agreed Standing Order rule changes and agreed its report for publication.

The meeting closed at 11.15 am.

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