EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

28th Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Thursday 23 November 2017

Present:

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Deputy Convener)  Mary Fee
Gail Ross  Annie Wells

Apologies were received from Jamie Greene, Christina McKelvie (Convener), David Torrance.

The meeting opened at 9.20 am.

1. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee reviewed its work programme regarding its recent inquiry on prejudiced-based bullying and harassment of children and young people. The Committee agreed to formally refer the findings and recommendations of its report *It’s not Cool to be Cruel: Prejudiced-based bullying and harassment of children and young people in schools* (SP Paper 185), to the Independent Review of Hate Crimes Legislation being undertaken by Lord Bracadale (Lord Bracadale’s Review).

The Committee also consider and endorsed a draft submission from the Scottish Youth Parliament’s Equalities and Human Rights Committee to Lord Bracadale’s Review. It was agreed the Convener should write jointly with the Convener of the Scottish Youth Parliament’s Equalities and Human Rights Committee, Zee Timmins MYSP, to Lord Bracadale, on their respective submissions to the Review.

Furthermore, the Committee agreed to work with Scottish Youth Parliament’s Equalities and Human Rights Committee to jointly consider the outcomes of Lord Bracadale’s Review. It was also agreed the Committee would seek to take oral evidence from both the Scottish Government, and Lord Bracadale, on the outcomes of the Review as part of its 2018 work programme.

The meeting closed at 9.23 am.