



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

PUBLIC AUDIT AND POST-LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

4th Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Thursday 2 February 2017

Present:

Colin Beattie
Monica Lennon
Gail Ross

Liam Kerr (Deputy Convener)
Jenny Marra (Convener)
Ross Thomson

Also present: Liz Smith

Apologies were received from Alex Neil.

The meeting opened at 9.00 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee decided to take item 4 in private.
2. **Section 23 report - Audit of higher education in Scottish universities:** The Committee took evidence on the Auditor General for Scotland report entitled "Audit of higher education in Scottish universities" from—

John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, and Aileen McKechnie, Director of Advanced Learning and Science, Scottish Government.
3. **Section 23 report - Scotland's colleges 2016:** The Committee took evidence on the Auditor General for Scotland report entitled "Scotland's colleges 2016" from—

John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, and Aileen McKechnie, Director of Advanced Learning and Science, Scottish Government.
4. **Section 23 reports - Audit of higher education in Scottish universities and Scotland's colleges 2016:** The Committee considered the evidence received at agenda items 2 and 3 and took further evidence from—

Caroline Gardner, Auditor General for Scotland;

Antony Clark, Assistant Director, Stuart Nugent, Audit Manager, and Kirsty Whyte, Audit Manager, Audit Scotland.

The Committee agreed to write to the Education and Skills Committee to highlight issues arising from the reports. The Committee also agreed to close its consideration of both reports.

The meeting closed at 11.18 am.

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