



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

6th Meeting, 2012 (Session 4)

Tuesday 21 February 2012

Present:

Clare Adamson	Marco Biagi
Neil Bibby	Neil Findlay (Deputy Convener)
Stewart Maxwell (Convener)	Joan McAlpine
Liam McArthur	Liz Smith
Jean Urquhart	

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 5, and consideration of a draft report on the National Library of Scotland Bill at a future meeting, in private.
2. **National Library of Scotland Bill:** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs;

Carole Robinson, Bill Team Leader, and David Seers, Head of Cultural Excellence, Scottish Government;

Greig Walker, Solicitor, Economy and Transport Division, Scottish Government Legal Directorate.
3. **Report of the Review of Further Education Governance in Scotland:** The Committee took evidence from—

Professor Russel Griggs OBE.
4. **Petition PE 1414:** The Committee considered Petition PE1414 by Dougie Deans, on behalf of Unison F.E Sector, calling on the Scottish Parliament to

urge the Scottish Government to reconsider its proposed cuts to the Further Education Sector of £74million over the next four academic sessions 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15. The Committee agreed to close the petition (by division: For 7, Against 2, Abstentions 0) and to notify the petitioner of this decision.

5. **National Library of Scotland Bill (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence heard.
6. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme and agreed to hold a series of one-off evidence sessions. The Committee also agreed to hold an event on the educational attainment of looked after children on 20 April 2012.

The meeting closed at 12.26 pm.

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