



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**3rd Meeting, 2015 (Session 4)**

**Tuesday 20 January 2015**

Present:

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Christian Allard             | Jayne Baxter                    |
| Roderick Campbell            | John Finnie                     |
| Christine Grahame (Convener) | Alison McInnes                  |
| Margaret Mitchell            | Elaine Murray (Deputy Convener) |
| Gil Paterson                 |                                 |

Also present: Nigel Don (item 3).

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 4 and 5 in private.
2. **Prisoners (Control of Release) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

Professor Cyrus Tata, Professor of Law and Criminal Justice, University of Strathclyde;

Peter Johnston, Convener, Risk Management Authority;

Colin McConnell, Chief Executive, Scottish Prison Service;

John Watt, Chair, Parole Board for Scotland;

Phil Thomas, Scottish National Committee, Prison Officers Association (Scotland).

3. **Serious Crime Bill (UK Parliament legislation):** The Committee took evidence on supplementary legislative consent memorandum LCM(S4) 33.2 from—

Paul Wheelhouse, Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs,  
Scottish Government;

Jim O'Neill, Senior Legal Services Manager, Scottish Prison Service.

4. **Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee further considered its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1 and agreed (a) panels of witnesses for its forthcoming evidence sessions; and (b) to undertake fact-finding visits in February.
5. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme and agreed to (a) hold a one-off round-table evidence session on agricultural crime at a future meeting; and (b) consider at its next meeting possible witnesses for this evidence session.

The meeting closed at 12.49 pm.

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