Present:

Neil Findlay  
Stuart McMillan (Deputy Convener)  
Graham Simpson (Convener)  
David Torrance

Apologies were received from Alison Harris.

The meeting opened at 10.06 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 4 in private.

2. **Prescription (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

   John Paul Sheridan, Obligations Committee, Law Society of Scotland;  
   Robert Howie QC, Faculty of Advocates;

   and then from—

   Douglas McGregor, Brodies LLP; Craig Connal QC, Pinsent Masons;  
   Fenella Mason, Head of Construction and Projects, Burness Paull LLP;  
   Iain Drummond, Shepherd and Wedderburn.

3. **Housing (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee considered the Scottish Government's response to its Stage 1 report and noted the commitment given to bring forward amendments at Stage 2 in relation to the delegated powers in sections 8 and 9 of the Bill.

4. **Social Security (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered the delegated powers provisions in this Bill after Stage 2 and agreed to ask questions of the Scottish Government in writing on certain powers within the Bill.
5. **Prescription (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence it heard earlier in the meeting.

The meeting closed at 12.08 pm.

Euan Donald  
Clerk to the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee  
Room T1.01  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
Tel: 0131 348 5212  
Email: euan.donald@parliament.scot