JUSTICE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
9th Meeting, 2020 (Session 5)
Tuesday 3 March 2020

Present:
Dr Alasdair Allan  James Kelly
Liam Kerr  Fulton MacGregor
Rona Mackay (Deputy Convener)  Liam McArthur
Margaret Mitchell (Convener)  Shona Robison

Apologies were received from John Finnie.

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Alasdair Allan had no relevant interests to declare.

2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 8 in private.

3. **Sentencing (Pre-Consolidation Amendments) Bill (UK Parliament legislation):** The Committee considered the legislative consent memorandum lodged by Humza Yousaf (LCM(S5)32) and agreed that the Scottish Parliament should give its consent to the relevant provisions in the Sentencing (Pre-Consolidation Amendments) Bill.

4. **Preparations for Brexit:** The Committee noted correspondence from Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service.

5. **Justice Sub-Committee on Policing:** The Committee agreed to write to the Parliamentary Bureau to propose that Shona Robison becomes a member of the Justice Sub-Committee on Policing.

6. **Children (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered a key issues paper to inform its Stage 1 report.

   Liam McArthur indicated that his wife is a mediator with Relationships Scotland.
7. **Defamation and Malicious Publications (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee agreed its approach to Stage 1 oral evidence taking.

8. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government in relation to correspondence received from the Fire Brigades Union Scotland.

The meeting closed at 11.50 am.

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