

# **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 21 March 2006

Session 2

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE

### 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2006, Session 2

#### CONVENER

\*Des McNulty (Clydebank and Milngavie) (Lab)

#### DEPUTY CONVENER

\*Mr John Swinney (North Tayside) (SNP)

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms Wendy Alexander (Paisley North) (Lab)

\*Mr Andrew Arbuckle (Mid Scotland and Fife) (LD)

\*Mark Ballard (Lothians) (Green)

\*Derek Brownlee (South of Scotland) (Con)

\*Jim Mather (Highlands and Islands) (SNP)

\*Mr Frank McAveety (Glasgow Shettleston) (Lab)

\*Dr Elaine Murray (Dumfries) (Lab)

#### COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTES

Robin Harper (Lothians) (Green)

Janis Hughes (Glasgow Rutherglen) (Lab)

Alex Neil (Central Scotland) (SNP)

John Scott (Ayr) (Con)

Iain Smith (North East Fife) (LD)

\*attended

#### CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Susan Duffy

#### SENIOR ASSISTANT CLERK

Rosalind Wheeler

#### ASSISTANT CLERK

Kristin Mitchell

#### LOCATION

Committee Room 5



## Scottish Parliament

### Finance Committee

*Tuesday 21 March 2006*

[THE CONVENER *opened the meeting at 10:02*]

#### Item in Private

**The Convener (Des McNulty):** I welcome everyone to the ninth meeting in 2006 of the Finance Committee. I remind members to turn off pagers and mobile phones. I welcome back Mark Ballard, following his paternity leave. I am afraid that the rest of it will continue for many years.

**Mark Ballard (Lothians) (Green):** Thank you for that kind thought.

**The Convener:** So far, you have just had a break. We have received apologies from Wendy Alexander, who is in double trouble, I suppose.

Agenda item 1 is to consider whether to take in private at next week's meeting a paper from our adviser on the Executive's management of public finances. As members will recall, we asked Arthur Midwinter to undertake some initial research for us. The paper will provide the background to potential future evidence-taking sessions. Do members agree to take the item in private?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

**The Convener:** As has been previously agreed, we now go into private session to discuss our final two items, which are a draft report on our deprivation inquiry and a draft report on the Planning etc (Scotland) Bill.

10:03

*Meeting continued in private until 12.31.*



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