

# **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 18 March 2008

Session 3

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE

### 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2008, Session 3

#### CONVENER

\*Andrew Welsh (Angus) (SNP)

#### DEPUTY CONVENER

\*Eaine Murray (Dumfries) (Lab)

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

\*Joe FitzPatrick (Dundee West) (SNP)

\*James Kelly (Glasgow Rutherglen) (Lab)

\*Liam McArthur (Orkney) (LD)

\*Tom McCabe (Hamilton South) (Lab)

Alex Neil (Central Scotland) (SNP)

#### COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTES

Roseanna Cunningham (Perth) (SNP)

Ross Finnie (West of Scotland) (LD)

Murdo Fraser (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con)

Peter Peacock (Highlands and Islands) (Lab)

\*attended

#### CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Susan Duffy

#### SENIOR ASSISTANT CLERK

Mark Brough

#### ASSISTANT CLERK

Allan Campbell

#### LOCATION

Committee Room 4



## Scottish Parliament

### Finance Committee

*Tuesday 18 March 2008*

[THE CONVENER *opened the meeting at 14:04*]

### Creative Scotland Bill: Financial Memorandum

**The Convener (Andrew Welsh):** Good afternoon and welcome to the Finance Committee's eighth meeting in 2008 in the third session of the Scottish Parliament. I ask everyone to turn off their mobile phones and pagers.

Our first item is consideration of our approach to the financial memorandum to the Creative Scotland Bill, which was published last Thursday. As members will see from their papers, it is suggested that we adopt level 2 scrutiny, which would involve seeking written evidence from the Scottish Arts Council, Scottish Screen and possibly the relevant trade unions, as well as from Anne Bonnar, who has recently been appointed as transition director of the project. We would then take evidence from Scottish Government officials and produce a report for the lead committee.

Do members agree to adopt level 2 scrutiny?

**Members indicated agreement.**

## Mainstreaming Equal Opportunities

14:05

**The Convener:** Our second item is consideration of a letter from the convener of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee on whether committees should be obliged to report periodically on how they have built equalities considerations into their work. I point out that the previous Finance Committee's annual reports always included a section on mainstreaming equalities, and I assume that the committee will want to continue that practice in this year's annual report. Are members agreed?

**Members indicated agreement.**

**The Convener:** The letter asks us whether we support the principle of committees reporting on mainstreaming equal opportunities near the end of the session and in annual reports generally and, if so, whether we think that a rule change is necessary to ensure that such reporting takes place. I presume that we are quite content in that respect.

**Members indicated agreement.**

**The Convener:** I will therefore ask the clerk to draft a response to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee. That letter will, of course, be circulated by e-mail to all members.

As previously agreed, we move into private session for item 3, which is consideration of our approach to a review of the budget process.

14:06

*Meeting continued in private until 14:29.*



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**Tuesday 25 March 2008**

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