

# **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 20 June 2006

Session 2

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

**18<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2006, Session 2**

### CONVENER

\*Bristow Muldoon (Livingston) (Lab)

### DEPUTY CONVENER

\*Fergus Ewing (Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber) (SNP)

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr Sylvia Jackson (Stirling) (Lab)

\*Paul Martin (Glasgow Springburn) (Lab)

\*David McLetchie (Edinburgh Pentlands) (Con)

\*Michael McMahon (Hamilton North and Bellshill) (Lab)

\*Mike Rumbles (West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine) (LD)

Tommy Sheridan (Glasgow) (SSP)

\*Ms Maureen Watt (North East Scotland) (SNP)

### COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTES

Colin Fox (Lothians) (SSP)

Mr Bruce McFee (West of Scotland) (SNP)

John Farquhar Munro (Ross, Skye and Inverness West) (LD)

Dr Elaine Murray (Dumfries) (Lab)

Murray Tosh (West of Scotland) (Con)

\*attended

### CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Martin Verity

### SENIOR ASSISTANT CLERK

Alastair Macfie

### ASSISTANT CLERK

Rebecca Lamb

### LOCATION

Meeting Room Q1.03



## Scottish Parliament

### Local Government and Transport Committee

*Tuesday 20 June 2006*

[THE CONVENER *opened the meeting at 14:00*]

#### Item in Private

**The Convener (Bristow Muldoon):** We commence today's Local Government and Transport Committee meeting, which is being held in the new surroundings of room Q1.03 in Queensberry House. I welcome members to the committee and I intimate that apologies have been received from Sylvia Jackson and—mistakenly, I was about to say Fergus Ewing—Tommy Sheridan. Paul Martin has indicated that he will attend the meeting but he must first attend part of another committee's proceedings.

Item 1 is consideration of whether to take in private item 4, which is a draft report on our freight transport inquiry. The committee's normal procedure is to consider draft reports in private prior to their being completed. At that stage, the report will become a public document and will be published. Is it agreed that we take item 4 in private?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

## Regulatory Framework Inquiry

14:01

**The Convener:** Item 2 is on the Subordinate Legislation Committee's draft report on its inquiry into the regulatory framework in Scotland, which recommends that Scottish statutory instruments should be subject to a new system of scrutiny called the Scottish statutory instrument procedure. All the Parliament's committees have been invited to comment on the recommendations.

A series of questions has been provided to help people to respond to the consultation. Given that the questions are quite substantial, it might be advisable to take time to consider them carefully. We can put the item back on the committee's agenda shortly after the Parliament recommences in September, when we can have a substantial debate on the various points. There is probably broad agreement that the way in which statutory instruments are considered needs to be improved, but we should consider the recommendations further rather than respond today. We have until 22 September to do so. After we have done that, we can publish our views to help to inform the Subordinate Legislation Committee on how it should take the issue forward.

Do members have any comments? If not, I take it that members are agreed that, as I have proposed, we should continue our consideration of the issue after the recess. I encourage members to consider the recommendations in detail over the recess, during which I am sure everyone will be working very hard.

**Mike Rumbles (West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine) (LD):** Is that an attempt to get us to read the report? I see.

**Ms Maureen Watt (North East Scotland) (SNP):** More summer reading.

**David McLetchie (Edinburgh Pentlands) (Con):** Does Mike Rumbles have trouble sleeping?

**The Convener:** We will put the item on the agenda after the recess.

## Subordinate Legislation

### Police Pensions Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/285)

14:04

**The Convener:** Item 3 is consideration of an item of subordinate legislation, which is the Police Pensions Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

No points on the regulations have been raised by members or by the Subordinate Legislation Committee and no motion to annul the regulations has been lodged. Are members agreed that we have nothing to report on the regulations?

**Members** *indicated agreement.*

**The Convener:** We move into private session.

14:04

*Meeting continued in private until 16:19.*

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**Tuesday 27 June 2006**

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