

EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Wednesday 24 October 2007

Session 3

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EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

7th Meeting 2007, Session 3

CONVENER

*Karen Whitefield (Airdrie and Shotts) (Lab)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Rob Gibson (Highlands and Islands) (SNP)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Aileen Campbell (South of Scotland) (SNP)

*Ken Macintosh (Eastwood) (Lab)

*Christina McKelvie (Central Scotland) (SNP)

*Mary Mulligan (Linlithgow) (Lab)

*Jeremy Purvis (Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale) (LD)

*Elizabeth Smith (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTES

Richard Baker (North East Scotland) (Lab)

Hugh O'Donnell (Central Scotland) (LD)

Shirley-Anne Somerville (Lothians) (SNP)

*attended

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Eugene Windsor

SENIOR ASSISTANT CLERK

Nick Hawthorne

ASSISTANT CLERK

Andrew Proudfoot

LOCATION

Committee Room 3

Scottish Parliament

Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee

Wednesday 24 October 2007

[THE CONVENER *opened the meeting at 10:00*]

Decision on Taking Business in Private

The Convener (Karen Whitefield): I welcome members to the seventh meeting in 2007 of the Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee. I hope that you have all had a good recess and have recharged your batteries for the period that lies ahead.

The first item on the agenda is to decide whether to take item 3 in private. Item 3 is consideration of an approach paper for the committee's stage 1 handling of the Graduate Endowment Abolition (Scotland) Bill. Members will understand that, because we will discuss potential witnesses, it will be appropriate to discuss the matter in private. Do members agree with that approach?

Members *indicated agreement.*

The Convener: We will return to the item later in the morning.

Subordinate Legislation

University of the West of Scotland Order of Council 2007 (SSI 2007/426)

10:01

The Convener: The next item on the agenda is subordinate legislation. We will consider Scottish statutory instrument 2007/426, which is subject to the negative procedure. No motion to annul the instrument has been lodged and the Subordinate Legislation Committee has, after receiving clarification from the Scottish Government on a number of minor points, determined that it does not need to draw the instrument to Parliament's attention. Unless any member has comments to make, we will move straight to the question. Do members have any comments?

Mary Mulligan (Linlithgow) (Lab): I have not so much a comment as a question, but as there is nobody in attendance to answer it I am not sure whether it is worth putting. The Executive note on the instrument states:

"The University has agreed to develop a naming protocol that would see the location of the various campuses reflected in the naming structure".

I am not sure how that would work. Would it be possible to get a note on how that would happen in practice?

The Convener: That is probably a good point to pick up on, particularly in the light of the correspondence that we received from Hugh Henry MSP and the leader of the Labour group on the local authority in Paisley, who both expressed concerns, and in the light of the cross-party concerns that the identity of the University of Paisley would be lost by the name change. Since we have not received correspondence on the matter from others, it is perhaps best to note the correspondence and write to the minister to seek clarification on the matter that Mary Mulligan highlights and ask how the identities of the various campuses will be reflected following the name change.

If members do not have more questions and are content with the course of action that I have outlined, do we agree to make no recommendation on the instrument?

Members *indicated agreement.*

The Convener: That brings the public part of the meeting to an end. It has been a very short meeting in public this morning. The committee's next meeting will be on 7 November.

10:04

Meeting continued in private until 10:16.

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