



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Official Report

STANDARDS, PROCEDURES AND PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Thursday 13 September 2012

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CONTENTS

	Col.
INTERESTS.....	463
CROSS-PARTY GROUP	464
DECISION ON TAKING BUSINESS IN PRIVATE	465

STANDARDS, PROCEDURES AND PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE
11th Meeting 2012, Session 4

CONVENER

*Dave Thompson (Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch) (SNP)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Helen Eadie (Cowdenbeath) (Lab)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*John Lamont (Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire) (Con)

*Margaret McCulloch (Central Scotland) (Lab)

*Fiona McLeod (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (SNP)

Paul Wheelhouse (South Scotland) (SNP)

*attended

THE FOLLOWING ALSO PARTICIPATED:

Roderick Campbell (North East Fife) (SNP) (Committee Substitute)

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Gillian Baxendine

Alison Walker

LOCATION

Committee Room 6

Scottish Parliament

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

Thursday 13 September 2012

[The Convener *opened the meeting at 09:31*]

Interests

The Convener (Dave Thompson): Good morning, everybody, and welcome to the 11th meeting of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee in 2012. I remind members to turn off mobile phones and BlackBerrys.

Item 1 is a declaration of interests. I welcome Fiona McLeod to her first meeting as a member of the committee, and invite her to declare any relevant interests.

Fiona McLeod (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (SNP): Thank you, convener. I draw members' attention to my entry in the register of members' interests, and in particular to the fact that I am chair of the Scottish Library and Information Council, which is an advisory body to Government.

The Convener: Thank you and welcome.

I also welcome Roderick Campbell, who is attending the committee as a substitute. He has previously declared his interests, so he does not need to do so again.

I take this opportunity to thank Bob Doris, Paul Wheelhouse and Margaret Burgess for their contributions to the committee over the past while. I am not sure whether it is my fault or not, but it is unfortunate to lose three committee members all in one go. [*Laughter.*] I will do my best to ensure that it does not happen again.

Cross-party Group

09:32

The Convener: There is one proposed cross-party group on today's agenda—the proposed cross-party group on postal issues. Members have a paper on the group's application and will see from it that all the criteria for registration have been met.

As members have no questions about the group, do we agree to accord recognition to the proposed cross-party group on postal issues?

Members indicated agreement.

Roderick Campbell (North East Fife) (SNP): I am a member of the group, so it would be inappropriate for me to agree or disagree.

The Convener: Thank you, Rod. There is no real problem as long as you declare your membership.

The committee has approved the cross-party group. Thank you for that.

Decision on Taking Business in Private

09:33

The Convener: The third item on the agenda invites the committee to agree to take items 4, 5 and 6 in private. Item 4 is draft standing orders rule changes under the Scotland Act 2012, item 5 is consideration of the committee's work programme, and item 6 is consideration of a note by the clerk on our review of cross-party groups. Does the committee agree to take those items in private?

Members *indicated agreement.*

The Convener: Thank you. That ends the public part of the meeting.

09:33

Meeting continued in private until 11:02.

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