



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

1st Meeting, 2013 (Session 4)

Tuesday 8 January 2013

Present:

Roderick Campbell
Christine Grahame (Convener)
Jenny Marra (Deputy Convener)
David McLetchie
Sandra White

John Finnie
Colin Keir
Alison McInnes
Graeme Pearson

The meeting opened at 10.01 am.

1. **Decisions on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 6 to 9 in private.
2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Knife Dealers (Licence Conditions) (Scotland) Order 2012 [draft] from—

Kenny MacAskill, Cabinet Secretary for Justice.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** Kenny MacAskill (Cabinet Secretary for Justice) moved—

S4M-05254—That the Justice Committee recommends that the Knife Dealers (Licence Conditions) (Scotland) Order 2012 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative instruments—

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Metal Dealers' Exemption Warrants) Order 2012 (SSI 2012/324);

Act of Sederunt (Fees of Sheriff Officers) (Amendment) (No. 2) 2012 (SSI 2012/341).

The Committee agreed to make no recommendations in relation to the instruments.

5. **Police and fire and rescue service reform:** The Committee noted correspondence from the Scottish Police Authority (SPA), the Chief Constable of Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. The Committee agreed to write to the SPA and the Chief Constable requesting the issues outstanding be resolved as soon as possible and, in any case, by the SPA meeting on 18 January. The Committee further agreed to schedule an additional meeting to consider the issues if they remain unresolved by that date.
6. **Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee inquiry into post-legislative scrutiny (in private):** The Committee agreed its response to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's inquiry into post-legislative scrutiny.
7. **Scottish Law Commission reports (in private):** The Committee agreed the points it wished the Convener to raise on its behalf at the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee's forthcoming evidence session on this issue.
8. **Parliamentary responsibilities under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 (in private):** The Committee agreed to write to the Parliamentary Bureau requesting that it consider the establishment of a committee to consider policing matters. The Committee also agreed to consider the operation of the fire and rescue service provisions in the Act on a regular basis as part of its business programme.
9. **Connection between school exclusions and offending (in private):** The Committee reviewed the evidence received and agreed to: (a) write to the Education and Culture Committee highlighting the issues raised and (i) ask that these be considered during its Stage 1 consideration of the forthcoming Children and Young People Bill, and (ii) invite it to consider holding a joint committee debate on the issue; (b) write to the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning highlighting concerns raised regarding the Scottish Government's exclusion policy; and (c) copy both letters to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice for information.

The meeting closed at 11.30 am.

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