



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE

MINUTES

13th Meeting, 2013 (Session 4)

Tuesday 24 September 2013

Present:

Annabelle Ewing	Linda Fabiani
Jamie Hepburn (Deputy Convener)	Alex Johnstone
Ken Macintosh	Michael McMahon (Convener)
Kevin Stewart	

In attendance: Professor Paul Spicker, Budget Advisor

The meeting opened at 10.23 am.

1. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2014-15:** The Committee took evidence on the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2014-15, in round-table format, from—

Ruchir Shah, Policy Manager, SCVO;

Peter Kenway, Director, New Policy Institute;

Susan Mathers, Depute Chief Finance Officer (Revenues and Benefits), Falkirk Council;

Jacqui Kopel, Council Tax and Benefits Manager, Dundee City Council;

Paul Drury, Director of Income Generation and Development, Bethany Christian Trust;

Sarah Flavell, Director (Chair) and Benefits Advisor, Gordon Rural Action;

Peter Kelly, Director, Poverty Alliance;

Les Robertson, Institute of Revenues, Rating & Valuation and (Service Manager - Revenues) Fife Council.

2. **Fact-finding visit:** Members reported back to the Committee on a fact-finding visit to meet DWP Decision Makers at Bathgate Benefits Centre.
3. **Consideration of Draft Budget Scrutiny 2014-15 (in private):** The Committee considered evidence received to date on the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2014-15.

The meeting closed at 12.31 pm.

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