



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE

MINUTES

19th Meeting, 2013 (Session 4)

Tuesday 19 November 2013

Present:

Annabelle Ewing
Jamie Hepburn (Deputy Convener)
Ken Macintosh
Kevin Stewart

Linda Fabiani
Alex Johnstone
Michael McMahon (Convener)

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Early impacts of Welfare Reform on rent arrears:** The Committee took evidence on a research report produced by the Scottish Housing Regulator from—

Michael Cameron, Chief Executive, and Kirstie Corbett, Analysis and Research Manager, Scottish Housing Regulator.

2. **Discretionary Housing Payments:** The Committee took evidence from—

Annette Finnan, Head of Area Services (Housing), South Lanarkshire Council;

Cliff Dryburgh, Benefits Manager, City of Edinburgh Council;

Susan Donald, Benefits Manager, Aberdeenshire Council;

Lorna Campbell, Service Manager Revenues and Benefits, Dumfries and Galloway Council.

3. **Public petitions: PE01468** The Committee considered what action to take on PE01468 by Mike Dailly on behalf of the Govan Law Centre, on evictions due to under occupation deductions. The Committee disagreed (by division: For 2, Against 5, Abstentions 0) to write to the Scottish Government regarding the

petition. The Committee agreed (by division: For 5, Against 2, Abstentions 0) to a proposal that, given the prospect of a Member's Bill on this proposal, the Welfare Reform Committee takes no further action on petition 01468 and closes its consideration of it.

The meeting closed at 12.16 pm.

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