



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

PUBLIC AUDIT AND POST-LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

16th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Thursday 7 June 2018

Present:

Colin Beattie

Willie Coffey

Liam Kerr (Deputy Convener)

Alex Neil

Bill Bowman

Iain Gray

Jenny Marra (Convener)

The meeting opened at 9.00 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 4, 5 and 6 in private and consider its draft report on its post-legislative scrutiny of the biodiversity and biodiversity reporting duties in private at future meetings.

2. **Post-legislative Scrutiny Biodiversity and Biodiversity Reporting Duties:** The Committee took evidence from—

Roseanna Cunningham, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, and Hugh Dignon, Head of Wildlife Management and Protected Areas, Scottish Government;

Sally Thomas, Director of Policy and Advice, Scottish Natural Heritage.

3. **Section 22 reports:** The Committee took evidence on the Auditor General for Scotland's reports entitled "The 2016/17 audit of Edinburgh College" and "The 2016/17 audit of New College Lanarkshire" from—

Caroline Gardner, Auditor General for Scotland;

Helen Russell, Senior Audit Manager, and Mark MacPherson, Senior Manager, Audit Scotland;

Lucy Nutley, Director, Public Services Audit, Mazars.

4. **Section 22 reports (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence received at agenda item 3 and took further evidence from—

Caroline Gardner, Auditor General for Scotland;

Helen Russell, Senior Audit Manager, and Mark MacPherson, Senior Manager, Audit Scotland;

Lucy Nutley, Director, Public Services Audit, Mazars.

The committee agreed to take oral evidence from the chair of the board, the principal and the financial director of the New College Lanarkshire and from the Scottish Funding Council.

5. **Post-legislative Scrutiny Biodiversity and Biodiversity Reporting Duties (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence received as part of its post-legislative scrutiny of the biodiversity and biodiversity reporting duties.
6. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee agreed its approach to developing its work programme.

The meeting closed at 10.45 am.

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