

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

20th Meeting, 2000 (Session 1)

Tuesday 30 May 2000

The Committee will meet at 9.45 am in the Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh.

1. **Item in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 5 in private.
2. **Draft Bail, Judicial Appointments etc. (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the general principles of the draft Bill from—

Jamie Gilmour (solicitor and former temporary sheriff);

Sheriff Wilkinson, Past President, and Sheriff RJD Scott, member of the Council, the Sheriffs' Association;

Anne Keenan, Deputy Director, Michael McSherry, Criminal Law Committee, and Joseph Platt, Judicial Procedure Committee, Law Society of Scotland;

Sandy Brindlay, Legal Affairs Spokesperson, Scottish Rape Crisis Network.

3. **Act of Sederunt:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—

Act of Sederunt (Fees of Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) 2000 (SSI 2000/145).

4. **Divorce, etc (Pensions) (Scotland) Regulations:** Pauline McNeill to move S1M-914— That the Justice and Home Affairs Committee recommends that nothing further be done under the Divorce, etc (Pensions) (Scotland) Regulations 2000 (SSI 2000/112).
5. **Budget process 2001-02:** The Committee will consider a revised draft report.
6. **Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.

Andrew Mylne
Clerk to the Committee, Tel 85206

The following papers are attached for this meeting:

Agenda item 2

Article by Jamie Gilmour from *Holyrood* magazine JH/00/20/6

District Courts Association Good Practice Guidelines JH/00/20/3

[Note: this document was referred to by the DCA witnesses in evidence at the 19th meeting.]

Legal Opinion obtained by District Courts Association JH/00/20/11

Letter to the Assistant Clerk from the Secretary to the Justices Committee, Falkirk Council JH/00/20/7

Sample of letter to MSPs from South Lanarkshire Council JH/00/20/8

Letter to the Assistant Clerk from North Lanarkshire Council JH/00/20/9

Agenda item 3

Note by the Clerk on SSI 2000/145 JH/00/20/5

SSI 2000/145 (members only) JH/00/20/12

Agenda item 5

Revised draft report (private paper) JH/00/20/4

Agenda item 6

Codes of practice on Surveillance, Use of Informants and Undercover Operations JH/00/20/2

Draft report JH/00/20/10

Papers not circulated:

Agenda item 3

A note by the Assistant Clerk (JH/00/19/4), SSI 2000/112 (JH/00/19/8) and an Executive Note on SSI 2000/112 (JH/00/19/12) were circulated for the 19th meeting.

SSI 2000/145 is available on the Internet at:

<http://www.scotland-legislation.hmso.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2000/20000145.htm>

Agenda item 6

In addition to the Codes of Practice circulated as JH/00/20/2, the Scottish Executive has provided:

- Code of Practice on Interception of Communications and Accessing Communications Data;
- Code of Practice on the Recording and Dissemination of Intelligence Material; and

- Public Statement on Standards in Covert Law Enforcement Techniques by the Association of Chief Police Officers and HM Customs and Excise.
- These are normally available on the National Criminal Intelligence Service website, although for technical reasons they are unavailable at present. In the meantime, copies may be obtained on request from the clerks.

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Papers for information circulated for the 20th meeting

Letter from Roderick Macpherson, Society of Messengers-at-Arms and Sheriff Officers (in reply to the letter from the Convener circulated as JH/00/17/4). JH/00/20/1

Minutes of the 19th Meeting JH/00/19/M

Note: The clerk has been sent a copy of the Digital Scotland Task Force Report, which the Executive believes may be of interest to members of the Committee. Digital Scotland is a Scottish Executive initiative which “aims to ensure that Scotland obtains and retains maximum economic and social advantage from information and communication technologies”.

The task force was chaired by Peter Peacock MSP and included representatives of the public sector, industry and academics. The report is available on the Executive website (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/digitalscotland>) or members can obtain a copy by e-mail on request from the Clerk.