



OFFICIAL REPORT
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

Criminal Justice Committee

Tuesday 22 June 2021

Session 6



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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CONTENTS

	Col.
INTERESTS	1
CONVENER	2
DEPUTY CONVENER	3
DECISION ON TAKING BUSINESS IN PRIVATE	4

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

1st Meeting 2021, Session 6

CONVENER

*Audrey Nicoll (Aberdeen South and North Kincardine) (SNP)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Russell Findlay (West Scotland) (Con)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Katy Clark (West Scotland) (Lab)

*Jamie Greene (West Scotland) (Con)

*Fulton MacGregor (Coatbridge and Chryston) (SNP)

*Rona Mackay (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (SNP)

*Pauline McNeill (Glasgow) (Lab)

*Collette Stevenson (East Kilbride) (SNP)

*attended

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Stephen Imrie

LOCATION

Virtual Meeting

Scottish Parliament

Convener

Criminal Justice Committee

Tuesday 22 June 2021

[Rona Mackay opened the meeting at 09:30]

Interests

Rona Mackay (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (SNP): Good morning, and welcome to the first meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee in session 6 of the Scottish Parliament. As the oldest member of the committee, I have the pleasure of convening the meeting for the first two items of business. I take the opportunity to welcome all committee members. I look forward to working with you on the committee.

I remind everyone present to switch their mobile phones to silent. No apologies have been received for the meeting.

The first item on the agenda is for each committee member to declare any interests that they have that are relevant to the work of the committee. Background information on the declaration of interests is provided in paper 1.

I have no relevant interests to declare. I invite members, in alphabetical order, to declare any interests.

Katy Clark (West Scotland) (Lab): I do not have any relevant interests to declare.

Russell Findlay (West Scotland) (Con): As a journalist, I reported extensively on policing and organised crime. I am also married to a police officer.

Jamie Greene (West Scotland) (Con): I have no relevant interests to declare.

Fulton MacGregor (Coatbridge and Chryston) (SNP): I am a registered social worker, and I was a practising criminal justice social worker for approximately five years before my election to Parliament in 2016.

Pauline McNeill (Glasgow) (Lab): My husband was formerly a member of the criminal bar, but he is no longer practising. I do not think that that is a relevant interest, but I would like to declare it.

Audrey Nicoll (Aberdeen South and North Kincardine) (SNP): I have no relevant interests to declare.

Collette Stevenson (East Kilbride) (SNP): I have no relevant interests to declare.

09:32

Rona Mackay: Under agenda item 2, the committee's first task is to choose a convener—the procedure is explained in paper 2. The Parliament has agreed that only members of the Scottish National Party are eligible for nomination as convener of the committee, and I understand that Audrey Nicoll is the party's nominee.

Audrey Nicoll was chosen as convener.

Rona Mackay: That was unanimous. Congratulations, Audrey, on your appointment. I hand the chair over to you.

The Convener (Audrey Nicoll): Thank you very much, Rona. I also thank my fellow committee members for their agreement to my nomination as convener of the Criminal Justice Committee. I very much look forward to working with you all and getting our committee business under way.

Deputy Convener

09:33

The Convener: The committee's next task is to choose a deputy convener. The Parliament has agreed that only members of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party are eligible for nomination as deputy convener of the committee. I understand that Russell Findlay is that party's nominee for the post.

Russell Findlay was chosen as deputy convener.

The Convener: That was unanimous. Congratulations on your appointment, Russell.

Russell Findlay: Thank you.

Decision on Taking Business in Private

09:34

The Convener: [*Inaudible.*] If anyone disagrees, please type N in the chat box.

We are agreed to take item 5 in private. Thank you.

That completes the public part of our business. The next meeting of the committee will be scheduled for after the summer recess. Details will be sent to members and published in the *Business Bulletin*.

09:35

Meeting continued in private until 10:41.

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