



**What's Happening at Holyrood?
Anderson Strathern Parliamentary Bulletin
Monday 21 April 2008**

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

**Equal Opportunities Committee
22 April 2008**

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in Committee Room 1

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to consider in private at its next meeting the evidence it has taken on age, carers and female offenders in the criminal justice system.

2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to consider its draft annual report in private at its next meeting.

3. **Female offenders in the criminal justice system:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Dr Nancy Loucks, Independent Criminologist;

Dr Margaret Malloch, Senior Research Fellow, University of Stirling; and

Professor Gill McIvor, Professor of Criminology and Co-Director, Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research, University of Stirling.

and then from—

Dr Fergus McNeill, Scottish Consortium on Crime and Criminal Justice;

Netta Maciver, Chief Executive, Turning Point Scotland; and

Jan MacLeod, Senior Development Officer, Women's Support Project.

and then from—

the Rt Hon Elish Angiolini QC, the Lord Advocate; and

Ian Gunn, Governor-in-Charge, HMP and YOI Cornton Vale.

4. **Reporters:** The Committee will hear from its reporters.

5. **Disability inquiry (in private):** The Committee will consider a paper on the evidence it has taken on the recommendations made in the report *Removing Barriers and Creating Opportunities*.



Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 6 May 2008, it is expected that the Committee will take oral evidence from the SPCB on its equal opportunities report and consider its draft annual report.

Justice Committee 22 April 2008

The Committee will meet at 10.15 am in Committee Room 6

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instruments—

the Police (Special Constables) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/117);

Act of Sederunt (Fees for Shorthand Writers in the Sheriff Court) (Amendment) 2008 (SSI 2008/118); and

the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Prescribed Police Stations) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/128).

3. **Mainstreaming Equal Opportunities:** The Committee will consider a letter from the Convener of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee on whether committees should be obliged to report periodically on how they have built equalities considerations into their work.

4. **Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will consider whether to accept written evidence received after the deadline for submission of written evidence.

5. **Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft Stage 1 report.

Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 29 April 2008, it is expected that the Committee will consider a revised draft Stage 1 report on the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Bill.

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee 22 April 2008

The Committee will meet at 1.00 pm in Committee Room 6

1. **Inquiry into points of order:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Bruce Crawford MSP, Minister for Parliamentary Business.

2. **Cross-Party Groups:** The Committee will consider applications for recognition from three proposed Cross-Party Groups.



3. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will consider whether to take agenda item 5 in private.
4. **Audit Committee - title and remit (in private):** The Committee will consider a note by the Clerk.
5. **Work Programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.
6. **Complaint (in private):** The Committee will undertake its initial consideration of a report from the Scottish Parliamentary Standards Commissioner.
7. **Review of Volume 2, Section 8 of the Code of Conduct (in private):** The Committee will consider proposed revisions to section 8 of the Code of Conduct.

Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 13 May it is expected that the Committee will consider issues arising from its inquiry into points of order; its annual report and the budget process.

**Finance Committee
22 April 2008**

The Committee will meet at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 2

1. **Inquiry into the methods of funding capital investment projects:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Iain Duff, Chief Economist and Policy Manager, Scottish Council for Development and Industry; and

Martin Southern, Senior Consultant, BT Public Services Scotland;

and then from—

Russell Frith, Director of Audit Strategy, Audit Scotland; and

Angela Scott, Head of CIPFA in Scotland.

2. **Creative Scotland Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Financial Memorandum of the Creative Scotland Bill from—

Greig Chalmers, Head of Creative Scotland and Broadcasting Unit, and Yvonne Georgeson, Project Manager, Creative Scotland Bill, Scottish Government.

3. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether its consideration of a draft report on the Financial Memorandum of the Creative Scotland Bill at a future meeting should be taken in private.



4. Inquiry into the methods of funding capital investment projects (in private): The Committee will consider the main themes arising from the evidence sessions to date, in order to inform the drafting of its report.

Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 29 April 2008, it is expected that the Committee will take oral evidence on its inquiry into the methods of funding capital investment projects and on the Financial Memorandum of the Creative Scotland Bill.

**Subordinate Legislation Committee
22 April 2008**

The Committee will meet at 2.15 pm in Committee Room 4

1. Delegated powers scrutiny: The Committee will consider a response from the Scottish Government to points raised on the following bill—

Creative Scotland Bill at Stage 1.

2. Delegated powers scrutiny: The Committee will consider the delegated powers provisions in the following bill—

Commonwealth Games Bill as amended at Stage 2

and take oral evidence from—

Nick Brown, Bill Team Leader

David Thompson, Bill Team

Beth Elliot, Scottish Government Legal Directorate.

3. Scottish Government responses: The Committee will consider the Scottish Government's responses in relation to the following—

the Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/127); and

the Forestry Challenge Funds (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/135).

4. Draft instruments subject to approval: The Committee will consider the following—

the Transport and Works (Scotland) Act 2007 (Access to Land by the Scottish Ministers) Order 2008 (SSI 2008/draft); and

the Transport and Works (Scotland) Act 2007 (Access to Land on Application) Order 2008 (SSI 2008/draft).

5. Instruments subject to annulment: The Committee will consider the following—



the Specified Products from China (Restriction on First Placing on the Market) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/148);

the Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Quota and Third Country Fishing Measures and Restriction on Days at Sea) (Scotland) Order 2008 (SSI 2008/151);

the Plant Health Fees (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/153);

the Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/154);

the Animals and Animal Products (Import and Export) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/155);

the Smoke Control Area (Exempt Fireplaces) (Scotland) Order 2008 (SSI 2008/157);

the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/147);

the Sea Fishing (Control Procedures for Herring, Mackerel and Horse Mackerel) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2008 (SSI 2008/156); and

the Scotland Act 1998 (Agency Arrangement) (Specification) Order 2008 (SI 2008/1035).

6. Instruments not laid before the Parliament: The Committee will consider the following—

the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 (Commencement) (Scotland) Order 2008 (SSI 2008/150);

the Management of Offenders etc. (Scotland) Act 2005 (Commencement No.5) Order 2008 (SSI 2008/149); and

the Serious Crime Act 2007 (Commencement No.1) (Scotland) Order 2008 (SSI 2008/152).

7. Mainstreaming equal opportunities: The Committee will consider a letter from the Convener of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee on whether committees should be obliged to report periodically on how they have built equalities considerations into their work.

Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 29 April 2008, it is expected that the Committee consider the delegated powers in the Glasgow Commonwealth Games Bill and the Scottish Register of Tartans Bill. The Committee will also consider Scottish Statutory Instruments and other documents subject to parliamentary procedure.



Education, Lifelong Learning and Culture Committee
23 April 2008

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in Committee Room 6

1. **School Estates:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Paul Stallan, Education Design Champion and Director, Architecture and Design Scotland; and Representative, Association of Directors of Education in Scotland;

and then from—

Louise Wilson, National Officer (Employment Relations), The Educational Institute of Scotland; Alan Small, Vice Chair, YouthLink Scotland Working Group on Youth Work and Schools; John McKnight, Chairperson, Community Learning and Development Managers Scotland Group; and Judith Gillespie, Development Manager, Scottish Parent Teacher Council.

2. **Panjabi language examination:** The Committee will consider a response from the Scottish Qualifications Authority on the provision of a Panjabi language examination at S1-S6 level in Scottish schools.

Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 30 April 2008, it is expected that the Committee will take evidence on the Creative Scotland Bill.

Health and Sport Committee
23 April 2008

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in Committee Room 1

1. **Decision on item in private:** The Committee will consider whether to take item 5 in private.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the draft Mental Health (Cross-border Visits) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 from—

Shona Robison MSP, Minister for Public Health, Fiona Tyrell, Branch Head, Mental Health Division and David Smith, Solicitors Health and Community Care Division, Scottish Government.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** Shona Robison MSP, Minister for Public Health, to move S3M-1598—

That the Health and Sport Committee recommends that the draft Mental Health (Cross-border Visits) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 be approved.

4. **Pathways into Sport:** The Committee will take evidence from Craig Brewster, Manager, Inverness Caledonian Thistle.



5. **Scottish Government's Consultation on Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a Lasting Legacy for Scotland:** The Committee will consider its response to the consultation exercise.

6. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee will consider an approach paper on its inquiry into mental health services in the context of its overall work programme.

Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 30 April 2008, it is expected that the Committee will consider its approach to its Pathway into Sport inquiry and its work programme.

**Local Government and Communities Committee
23 April 2008**

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in Committee Room 5

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will take evidence on the Non-Domestic Rating (Telecommunications and Canals) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2008 (SSI 2008/84) from—

John Swinney MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, Laura Sexton, Senior Policy Adviser, Non-Domestic Rates Team and Zahid Deen, Head of Telecoms Policy Team, Scottish Government.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** Jim Tolson MSP to move motion S3M-1726—

Jim Tolson: The Non-Domestic Rating (Telecommunications and Canals) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2008— That the Local Government and Communities Committee recommends that nothing further be done under the Non-Domestic Rating (Telecommunications and Canals) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2008 (SSI 2008/84).

3. **SPP3 Housing (Revision):** The Committee will take evidence from—

Stephen Garland, Head of Planning Infrastructure and Enforcement, Nicola Hay, Senior Planner, Brad Gilbert, Head of Housing Supply Unit and Jackie Wilkins, Head of Strategic Planning, Scottish Government.

4. **Petition PE 903: Eco Villages:** The Committee will consider correspondence from the Scottish Government on PE 903.

5. **Mainstreaming equal opportunities:** The Committee will consider a letter from the Convener of the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee on whether committees should be obliged to report periodically on how they have built equalities considerations into their work.

Proposed future business

At future meetings it is expected that the Committee will consider a draft report on the 2007 elections. The Committee is also planning to carry out a inquiry into child poverty later in the year.



**Rural Affairs and Environment Committee
23 April 2008**

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in Committee Room 2

1. **Flooding and flood management inquiry (in private):** The Committee will consider a draft report.

Proposed future business

At its next meeting on 30 April 2008, the Committee expects to take oral evidence on its rural housing inquiry and to consider (in private) a revised draft report on flooding. Further evidence on rural housing will be taken at meetings in May and June.

**Scottish Commission for Public Audit
23 April 2008**

The Commission will meet at 10.30 am in Committee Room 4

1. **Economy, efficiency and effectiveness examination of Audit Scotland:** The Commission will consider potential follow up work by the auditors of Audit Scotland on the economy, efficiency and effectiveness examination of Audit Scotland's fees and charges, and will take evidence from—

Jubayeth Hussain, Partner, HW Chartered Accountants.

2. **Finance Committee review of the budget process:** The Commission will consider correspondence from the Finance Committee on its review of the budget process.