



OFFICIAL REPORT
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Tuesday 9 February 2021

Session 5



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM COMMITTEE
5th Meeting 2021, Session 5

CONVENER

*Gillian Martin (Aberdeenshire East) (SNP)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*Finlay Carson (Galloway and West Dumfries) (Con)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Claudia Beamish (South Scotland) (Lab)

*Angus MacDonald (Falkirk East) (SNP)

*Mark Ruskell (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Green)

*Liz Smith (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con)

Stewart Stevenson (Banffshire and Buchan Coast) (SNP)

*attended

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Lynn Tullis

LOCATION

Virtual Meeting

Scottish Parliament

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Tuesday 9 February 2021

[The Convener opened the meeting at 09:00]

Decision on Taking Business in Private

The Convener (Gillian Martin): Good morning everyone, and welcome to the fifth meeting in 2021 of the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee. We have received apologies from Stewart Stevenson.

Before we begin, I advise members that the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform is unfortunately unable to attend our meeting. We will reschedule our planned sessions on the updated climate change plan and on the Scottish budget, which includes hearing evidence from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, at the earliest opportunity.

Agenda item 1 is a decision on whether to take items 3 and 4 in private. Are we agreed?

Members *indicated agreement.*

European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Kyoto Protocol Registry) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021

The Convener: Our next item is consideration of a notification from the Scottish Government in relation to consent to a United Kingdom statutory instrument.

Members will be aware that a revised SI protocol has now been agreed between the Scottish Government and the Parliament. The aim of the revised protocol is to enable committees to scrutinise proposals for UK SIs on all devolved matters formerly governed by European Union law. The original SI protocol applied only to scrutiny of consent to SIs that fix deficiencies under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. The new SI protocol will continue to apply to those technical changes and to ensure continuity of law, but it will also extend to proposals for SIs that introduce new regulatory or governance regimes, or implement policy choices.

The committee raised some queries with the Scottish Government in advance of the meeting and we have received a response to those. Do any members wish to comment?

As no one is indicating that they want to comment, are members content for the committee to write to the Scottish Government to confirm that it is content for consent to be given for the UK SI referred to in the notification?

Members *indicated agreement.*

The Convener: Our next meeting is scheduled for 16 February, when the committee will take evidence on the environmental implications of EU exit. We will also hear from the minister on the draft Single Use Carrier Bags Charge (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021.

As I said, we will reschedule the evidence sessions with the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform and the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, to consider the climate change plan and the Scottish budget, at the earliest opportunity.

09:03

Meeting continued in private until 09:20.

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Published in Edinburgh by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body, the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

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