



OFFICIAL REPORT  
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

# Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

Wednesday 30 March 2022

Session 6



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Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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**Wednesday 30 March 2022**

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**RURAL AFFAIRS, ISLANDS AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2022, Session 6**

**CONVENER**

Finlay Carson (Galloway and West Dumfries) (Con)

**DEPUTY CONVENER**

\*Beatrice Wishart (Shetland Islands) (LD)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

\*Karen Adam (Banffshire and Buchan Coast) (SNP)

\*Dr Alasdair Allan (Na h-Eileanan an Iar) (SNP)

\*Ariane Burgess (Highlands and Islands) (Green)

\*Jim Fairlie (Perthshire South and Kinross-shire) (SNP)

\*Rachael Hamilton (Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire) (Con)

\*Jenni Minto (Argyll and Bute) (SNP)

\*Mercedes Villalba (North East Scotland) (Lab)

\*attended

**THE FOLLOWING ALSO PARTICIPATED:**

Brian Whittle (South Scotland) (Con) (Committee Substitute)

**CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE**

Emma Johnston

**LOCATION**

The Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2)



## Scottish Parliament

### Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

Wednesday 30 March 2022

[The Deputy Convener opened the meeting at 10:00]

### Decision on Taking Business in Private

**The Deputy Convener (Beatrice Wishart):** Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the 11th meeting in 2022 of the Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee. Before we begin, I remind committee members who are using electronic devices to switch them to silent.

We have a substitute for Finlay Carson. I welcome Brian Whittle to the meeting and invite him to declare any relevant interests.

**Brian Whittle (South Scotland) (Con) (Committee Substitute):** I have no interests to declare.

**The Deputy Convener:** Our first item of business is a decision on whether to take item 3 in private. Are members agreed?

*Members indicated agreement.*

## Subordinate Legislation

### Sea Fisheries (Amendment etc) Regulations 2022

10:00

**The Deputy Convener:** Our second item of business is consideration of the Sea Fisheries (Amendment etc) Regulations 2022. I refer members to page 3 of paper 1. Under the protocol between the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government, this consent notification has been categorised as type 1, meaning that the Scottish Parliament's agreement is sought before the Scottish Government gives consent to the United Kingdom Government to make secondary legislation in devolved competence.

If any member has any comments on the consent notification, please raise your hand or type R in the chat box. Is the committee content that the provisions set out in the notification should be included in the proposed UK statutory instrument? Please raise your hand or type N in the chat box if you do not agree; otherwise I will presume that members are content.

*Members indicated agreement.*

**The Deputy Convener:** Finally, is the committee content to delegate authority to me to sign off a letter to the Scottish Government, informing it of our decision?

*Members indicated agreement.*

**Jim Fairlie (Perthshire South and Kinross-shire) (SNP):** On a point of order, deputy convener. In the exchange between the convener and me on 12 January, the convener said:

"We wrote to George Eustice and got a response. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend on the date that we asked, but I am confident that we will have him in front of us at some time in the near future."—[*Official Report, Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee*, 12 January 2022; c 31.]

Can you or the clerks advise whether the committee was subsequently able to reach Mr Eustice to ask him to give evidence? Is there any explanation of why the committee has been unable to hear from Mr Eustice, and is there any update on when we can expect to do so?

**The Deputy Convener:** We have a date. It is 18 May.

**Jim Fairlie:** So, Mr Eustice will be appearing in front of this committee on 18 May.

**The Deputy Convener:** That is my understanding.

That concludes our business in public.

10:02

*Meeting continued in private until 11:57.*



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