

PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

ECONOMY AND FAIR WORK COMMITTEE: REQUEST TO MEET IN ABERDEEN

Request

1. The Economy and Fair Work Committee (EFWC) asks the Parliamentary Bureau to approve its request to meet in Aberdeen on Monday 6 November 2023, as part of its inquiry into a just transition for the North East and Moray.

Number of participants

2. It is expected that all nine Committee members will attend the meeting and three members of the clerking team. In-person support will also be provided by SPICe, Security, the Parliament Communications Office (PCO), and the Participation and Communities Team (PACT).

Purpose

3. The EFWC recently [launched an inquiry into a just transition to net zero for the North East and Moray](#). The purpose of the inquiry is to consider how the transition can be supported, incentivised and de-risked in a way that benefits both companies and individuals and is the second part of a wider piece of work. Part one [concluded in June 2023](#) and focused on the Grangemouth area.
4. The Committee will—
 - Explore the skills landscape in the area and its preparedness for the transition to net zero.
 - Scrutinise how policy is supporting the development and adoption of emerging technologies that present opportunities for the area.
 - Scrutinise the Scottish Government's Just Transition Fund, specific to this area and the effectiveness of participatory budgeting and whether this provides a model for community engagement in a Just Transition.
 - Consider the Scottish National Investment Bank's role in leveraging in private capital to support a just transition.
5. The meeting in Aberdeen will be the first formal evidence session of part 2 of the inquiry. Members are yet to agree witnesses, but it is expected that the session will include bodies such as the Just Transition Commission, the Aberdeen City Region Deal Joint Committee, local authorities and community councils from across the region.
6. Additionally, work is underway with PACT to arrange engagement activities around the formal meeting.

7. Aberdeen has been selected as the location for the formal committee meeting due to its transport links with the wider area and the readily available hotel accommodation and suitable meeting spaces.
8. If agreed, this will be the first external meeting held by the EFWC in the current session.

Venue

9. The Aberdeen Town House has been provisionally booked as the venue for the formal meeting and will be provided free of charge by Aberdeen City Council. This is a well-known civic space in the city centre. It is suitable in terms of public access and meets security and broadcast requirements.

Programme

10. To ensure members and staff can be at the venue in time for the morning engagement sessions, it will be necessary for most to travel to Aberdeen on the Sunday and stay overnight.

Date	Time	Activity
Sunday 5 November	Evening	Travel to Aberdeen and stay overnight.
Monday 6 November	Morning	Engagement events with community groups and other local organisations.
	Afternoon	Formal Committee meeting.
	Evening	Return to constituencies.

Method of travel

11. The proposed meeting will take place on a Monday to minimise the impact on parliamentary business. It is anticipated that most members and staff will use public transport to attend. Some members have indicated they will use their own vehicles.

Conveners Group

12. The Conveners Group will consider this request and the associated costs at its meeting on 20 September. All costs will fall within the current financial year and sufficient budget is available to cover them.

Conclusion

13. The Bureau is invited to approve the request by the Economy and Fair Work Committee to meet in Aberdeen on Monday 6 November as part of its inquiry into a just transition for the North East and Moray.

**Economy and Fair Work Committee Clerks
August 2023**