SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE FROM SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

I am responding on behalf of Andrew Henderson to your request for additional information following the last meeting of the Local Government and Regeneration Committee. The response to the committee is below

“[The Local Government Regeneration Committee would be grateful for] the Minister for Climate Change's views on whether the timetable for Scottish Parliament scrutiny of the draft is adequate and appropriate.”

The Minister for Environment and Climate Change has emphasised that the 60-day period for Parliamentary consideration of the draft RPP is set out in section 35(4) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. This provision was included in response to the desire expressed by Parliament that there should be a defined period for Parliamentary scrutiny of each RPP before the reports are finalised. Amending the Act would require primary legislation but Mr. Wheelhouse has commented that he would be happy to work with the Parliament to learn the lessons of the two RPPs to date and to consider whether there may be ways to improve the process for RPP3.

I hope this provides what you and the Committee require. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Regards,

Jim Gilmour
Climate Change Legislation Team