



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

RURAL AFFAIRS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

c/o Clerk to the Committee
Room T3.40
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel: (0131) 348 5240
e-mail: racce.committee@scottish.parliament.uk

25 June 2013

Dear Stewart

Mainstreaming climate change scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft budget

Background

During its scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Draft budget 2012-13 and Spending Review 2011, the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment (RACCE) Committee noted the inherent difficulties of one committee attempting to scrutinise actual spend on achieving the Scottish Government's climate change targets as set out in the [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#) ("the Act") due to policies crossing all subject committees' remits and Cabinet Secretaries' portfolios.

In its subsequent report to the Finance Committee, the RACCE Committee recommended that, in future, all committees should be required to consider climate change issues when scrutinising their own relevant Scottish Government portfolios, and to report to the Finance Committee accordingly. This recommendation was endorsed by the Finance Committee in its report to Parliament. This mainstreaming was carried out for the first time last year in committees' consideration of the draft budget for 2013-14.

Committee scrutiny of RPP2

Earlier this year, four committees of the Parliament: RACCE; Economy, Energy and Tourism; Infrastructure and Capital Investment; and Local Government and Regeneration, scrutinised the Scottish Government's Draft Second Report on Proposals and Policies (RPP2) which sets out how the Government plans to meet its emissions reduction targets. Each committee published its own report to Parliament before a joint-committee debate, on a motion agreed by all four committees, took place in the chamber. The Minister has since indicated that the final RPP2 will be published before the summer recess.

Climate change targets

The emissions reductions targets set out in the 2009 Act were missed in 2010 and, as recently announced, also in 2011. The Scottish Government is required to lay a report in Parliament on the missed target in 2011, outlining further proposals and policies for making up the shortfall in future years. This report will also be published before the summer recess.

Climate change budget mainstreaming in 2013

On April 17th 2013, the RACCE Committee agreed to repeat the mainstreaming process for the forthcoming draft budget 2014-15 and Spending Review 2013. In agreeing this, the Committee agreed to set out the context of scrutinising climate change issues within the budget and to suggest questions that committees may wish to include in any calls for written views that they may issue. This information can be found in the **Annexe**, along with information on the duty on all public bodies to contribute and report on the delivery of the climate change targets set out in the Act.

The Committee also agreed that the Clerks to the Committee, SPICe, and any adviser the RACCE Committee may appoint, will provide additional support to committees.

Therefore, during your budget scrutiny later this year, we request that all committees include in their reports to the Finance Committee, an assessment of how spending in the particular portfolio has taken account of climate change issues, and will help the Scottish Government meet the targets set out in the 2009 Act. The committees which considered the draft RPP2 (Economy, Energy and Tourism, Infrastructure and Capital Investment, and Local Government and Regeneration) may wish to follow-up relevant issues as part of this process.

The RACCE Committee would be grateful if all committees could send the Clerks to the Committee a copy of the relevant texts from your reports, at the same time as you report to the Finance Committee.

I hope that this is clear, but should you have any questions, please contact the Clerks to the RACCE Committee.

Yours sincerely

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Rob Gibson MSP, Convener

Context

At a generic level committees could consider exploring issues around delivery of Scotland's climate targets/implementation of the public bodies¹ climate duties e.g.—

- how the draft budget delivers proposals and policies that relate to their portfolio as set out in the RPP as necessary to meet Scotland's annual emission targets;
- how the draft budget supports measures aimed at making up the shortfall in emission reductions given Scotland's missed 2010 and 2011 emission targets; and
- how funding for those public bodies covered by their portfolio will help integrate action to tackle climate change in their business and service delivery functions and fulfil the duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction targets.

Subject specific questions

The following are some areas you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- to what extent does funding for Scotland's Schools for the Future programme support delivery of Scotland's emission reduction targets;
- to what extent does the skills and training budget support the opportunities associated with realising a low carbon Scotland; and
- what progress are Historic Scotland making in integrating action to tackle climate change in its operation and service delivery functions and fulfil the duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction targets.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

SPICe researchers can offer the following support to committees—

- suggestions of lines of questioning/areas that the committee may wish to explore;

¹ Part 4 of the Act places duties on public bodies relating to climate change. The duties on the face of the Act (section 44) require that a public body must, in exercising its functions, act:

- in the way best calculated to contribute to delivery of the Act's emissions reduction targets;
- in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme; and
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- support in identifying specific proposals and policies as set out in RPP2 that subject committees may wish to explore in the context of spending decisions;
- background briefings to support climate change scrutiny of specific aspects of the budget; and
- help with identifying appropriate witnesses.



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25 June 2013

Dear Murdo,

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Background

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Yours sincerely

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Rob Gibson MSP
Convener

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- how the draft budget delivers proposals and policies that relate to their portfolio as set out in the RPP as necessary to meet Scotland's annual emission targets;
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- how funding for those public bodies covered by their portfolio will help integrate action to tackle climate change in their business and service delivery functions and fulfil the duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction targets.

Subject specific questions

The following are some areas you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- what are the funding priorities to support a largely decarbonised electricity system by 2030;
- how can the budget support the development and uptake of renewable heat in Scotland; and
- to what extent does funding for the enterprise agencies support delivery of a low carbon economy for Scotland.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

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- background briefings to support climate change scrutiny of specific aspects of the budget; and
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25 June 2013

Dear Mary

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Background

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Climate change targets

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Yours sincerely

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Rob Gibson MSP, Convener

Context

At a generic level committees could consider exploring issues around delivery of Scotland's climate targets/implementation of the public bodies¹ climate duties e.g.—

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- how funding for those public bodies covered by their portfolio will help integrate action to tackle climate change in their business and service delivery functions and fulfil the duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction targets.

Subject specific questions

The following is an area you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- how have equalities issues been considered in the context of provisions in the budget aimed at securing a low carbon Scotland.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

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- suggestions of lines of questioning/areas that the committee may wish to explore;
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25 June 2013

Dear Christina

Mainstreaming climate change scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft budget

Background

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The RACCE Committee would be grateful if all committees could send the Clerks to the Committee a copy of the relevant texts from your reports, at the same time as you report to the Finance Committee.

I hope that this is clear, but should you have any questions, please contact the Clerks to the RACCE Committee.

Yours sincerely

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Rob Gibson MSP, Convener

Context

At a generic level committees could consider exploring issues around delivery of Scotland's climate targets/implementation of the public bodies¹ climate duties e.g.—

- how the draft budget delivers proposals and policies that relate to their portfolio as set out in the RPP as necessary to meet Scotland's annual emission targets;
- how the draft budget supports measures aimed at making up the shortfall in emission reductions given Scotland's missed 2010 and 2011 emission targets; and
- how funding for those public bodies covered by their portfolio will help integrate action to tackle climate change in their business and service delivery functions and fulfil the duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction targets.

Subject specific questions

The following is an area you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- how does the international development budget support action on climate change.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

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- suggestions of lines of questioning/areas that the committee may wish to explore;
- support in identifying specific proposals and policies as set out in RPP2 that subject committees may wish to explore in the context of spending decisions;
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25 June 2013

Dear Kenny

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Background

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In its subsequent report to you, the RACCE Committee recommended that, in future, all committees should be required to consider climate change issues when scrutinising their own relevant Scottish Government portfolios, and to report to you accordingly. You endorsed this approach in your subsequent report to Parliament. This mainstreaming was carried out for the first time last year in committees' consideration of the draft budget for 2013-14.

Committee scrutiny of RPP2

Earlier this year, four committees of the Parliament: RACCE; Economy, Energy and Tourism; Infrastructure and Capital Investment; and Local Government and Regeneration, scrutinised the Scottish Government's Draft Second Report on Proposals and Policies (RPP2)¹ which sets out how the Government plans to meet its emissions reduction targets. Each committee published its own report to Parliament before a joint-committee debate, on a motion agreed by all four committees, took place in the chamber. The Minister has since indicated that the final RPP2 will be published before the summer recess.

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The Committee also agreed that the Clerks to the Committee, SPICe, and any adviser the RACCE Committee may appoint, will provide additional support to committees.

As well as writing to all relevant other committees, we are sending you this letter to highlight the mainstreaming approach to you and to draw your attention to an issue which the Finance Committee may wish to consider as part of its own scrutiny of the budget documents. This information is included in the Annexe to this letter.

I hope that this is clear, but should you have any questions, please contact the Clerks to the RACCE Committee.

Yours sincerely

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Subject specific questions

The following is an area you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- to what extent does the Scottish Public Pensions Agency manage the greenhouse gas emission risks associated with the investment portfolio and boost investment in developing a low carbon economy.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

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- suggestions of lines of questioning/areas that the committee may wish to explore;
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- how the draft budget supports measures aimed at making up the shortfall in emission reductions given Scotland's missed 2010 and 2011 emission targets; and
- how funding for those public bodies covered by their portfolio will help integrate action to tackle climate change in their business and service delivery functions and fulfil the duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction targets.

Subject specific questions

The following are some areas you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- to what extent do spending programmes on the NHS estate reflect Scotland's commitments to reduce emissions;
- what progress is the NHS making in implementing climate change duty on public bodies;
- what role can the NHS play in boosting active travel levels in Scotland?; and
- how does funding for the 2014 Commonwealth Games support Scotland's progress in reducing climate emissions.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

SPICe researchers can offer the following support to committees—

- suggestions of lines of questioning/areas that the committee may wish to explore;

¹ Part 4 of the Act places duties on public bodies relating to climate change. The duties on the face of the Act (section 44) require that a public body must, in exercising its functions, act:

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- support in identifying specific proposals and policies as set out in RPP2 that subject committees may wish to explore in the context of spending decisions;
- background briefings to support climate change scrutiny of specific aspects of the budget; and
- help with identifying appropriate witnesses.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

RURAL AFFAIRS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

c/o Clerk to the Committee
Room T3.40
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tel: (0131) 348 5240
e-mail: racce.committee@scottish.parliament.uk

25 June 2013

Dear Maureen

Mainstreaming climate change scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft budget

Background

During its scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Draft budget 2012-13 and Spending Review 2011, the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment (RACCE) Committee noted the inherent difficulties of one committee attempting to scrutinise actual spend on achieving the Scottish Government's climate change targets as set out in the [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#) ("the Act") due to policies crossing all subject committees' remits and Cabinet Secretaries' portfolios.

In its subsequent report to the Finance Committee, the RACCE Committee recommended that, in future, all committees should be required to consider climate change issues when scrutinising their own relevant Scottish Government portfolios, and to report to the Finance Committee accordingly. This recommendation was endorsed by the Finance Committee in its report to Parliament. This mainstreaming was carried out for the first time last year in committees' consideration of the draft budget for 2013-14.

Committee scrutiny of RPP2

Earlier this year, four committees of the Parliament: RACCE; Economy, Energy and Tourism; Infrastructure and Capital Investment; and Local Government and Regeneration, scrutinised the Scottish Government's Draft Second Report on Proposals and Policies (RPP2) which sets out how the Government plans to meet its emissions reduction targets. Each committee published its own report to Parliament before a joint-committee debate, on a motion agreed by all four committees, took place in the chamber. The Minister has since indicated that the final RPP2 will be published before the summer recess.

Climate change targets

The emissions reductions targets set out in the 2009 Act were missed in 2010 and, as recently announced, also in 2011. The Scottish Government is required to lay a report in Parliament on the missed target in 2011, outlining further proposals and policies for making up the shortfall in future years. This report will also be published before the summer recess.

Climate change budget mainstreaming in 2013

On April 17th 2013, the RACCE Committee agreed to repeat the mainstreaming process for the forthcoming draft budget 2014-15 and Spending Review 2013. In agreeing this, the Committee agreed to set out the context of scrutinising climate change issues within the budget and to suggest questions that committees may wish to include in any calls for written views that they may issue. This information can be found in the **Annexe**, along with information on the duty on all public bodies to contribute and report on the delivery of the climate change targets set out in the Act.

The Committee also agreed that the Clerks to the Committee, SPICe, and any adviser the RACCE Committee may appoint, will provide additional support to committees.

Therefore, during your budget scrutiny later this year, we request that all committees include in their reports to the Finance Committee, an assessment of how spending in the particular portfolio has taken account of climate change issues, and will help the Scottish Government meet the targets set out in the 2009 Act. The committees which considered the draft RPP2 (Economy, Energy and Tourism, Infrastructure and Capital Investment, and Local Government and Regeneration) may wish to follow-up relevant issues as part of this process.

The RACCE Committee would be grateful if all committees could send the Clerks to the Committee a copy of the relevant texts from your reports, at the same time as you report to the Finance Committee.

I hope that this is clear, but should you have any questions, please contact the Clerks to the RACCE Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Rob Gibson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Rob Gibson MSP, Convener

Context

At a generic level committees could consider exploring issues around delivery of Scotland's climate targets/implementation of the public bodies¹ climate duties e.g.—

- how the draft budget delivers proposals and policies that relate to their portfolio as set out in the RPP as necessary to meet Scotland's annual emission targets;
- how the draft budget supports measures aimed at making up the shortfall in emission reductions given Scotland's missed 2010 and 2011 emission targets; and
- how funding for those public bodies covered by their portfolio will help integrate action to tackle climate change in their business and service delivery functions and fulfil the duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction targets.

Subject specific questions

The following are some areas you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- how government transport spend can best support progress in delivering Scotland's climate targets; and
- what are the funding priorities within the homes and communities budget to help reduce emissions from housing.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

SPICe researchers can offer the following support to committees—

- suggestions of lines of questioning/areas that the committee may wish to explore;
- support in identifying specific proposals and policies as set out in RPP2 that subject committees may wish to explore in the context of spending decisions;
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- help with identifying appropriate witnesses.



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25 June 2013

Dear Christine

Mainstreaming climate change scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft budget

Background

During its scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Draft budget 2012-13 and Spending Review 2011, the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment (RACCE) Committee noted the inherent difficulties of one committee attempting to scrutinise actual spend on achieving the Scottish Government's climate change targets as set out in the [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#) ("the Act") due to policies crossing all subject committees' remits and Cabinet Secretaries' portfolios.

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I hope that this is clear, but should you have any questions, please contact the Clerks to the RACCE Committee.

Yours sincerely

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Subject specific questions

The following is an area you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- to what extent does Scottish Government spend on each of the following bodies support the delivery of Scotland's emission reduction targets:
 - Scottish Court Service;
 - Scottish Prison Service;
 - Police Scotland; and
 - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

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25 June 2013

Dear Kevin

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Subject specific questions

The following are some areas you may wish to explore specific to your committee—

- what progress are local authorities making in integrating action to tackle climate change in their operation and service delivery functions and fulfil the public body duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act; and
- what role do dedicated funding streams like the Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Fund and Low Carbon Vehicle Procurement Programme play in supporting delivery of Scotland's climate targets.

SPICe support on climate change mainstreaming

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