



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Sir Paul Grice  
Chief Executive  
Scottish Parliament

c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
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***By email only***

(RNID Typetalk calls welcome)

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29 September 2017

Dear Sir Paul,

### **Scottish Parliament: Environment and Climate Change**

I am writing on behalf of the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee to thank you and Victoria Barby, Environmental Manager, for giving evidence to the Committee on 19 September 2017. The Committee appreciates you taking the time to come and tell it about how the Scottish Parliament, as a public body, is responding to environmental and climate change challenges.

Following the meeting, the Committee has several points on which it wishes to seek further information.

During the session, you undertook to provide the Committee with further details on how the Scottish Parliament works with Members and their staff to ensure the good environmental practice implemented throughout the campus is also applied to constituency offices. You also referred to advice and support already available to Members so the Committee would be grateful if you could point to where this is held and also outline any plans you might have to improve awareness of this among constituency offices.

You indicated you would be further considering the issue of how best to ensure lights on the Scottish Parliament campus are routinely turned off by those leaving rooms or sections of the building. The Committee would appreciate an update on your further reflections in this area and more widely around how the Parliament might help promote behaviour change among all pass holders in highlighting simple steps to work more sustainably.

A query was raised with you with regard to the contract the Scottish Parliament has with its catering contractor, Sodexo, and whether there was a provision that the organisation would “prefer Scottish food to be showcased, wherever possible”. The Committee is interested in whether this contract, and

procurement practices in general, include provisions to obtain resources locally for economic and environmental benefit. You also undertook to write to the Committee as to how facilities within the campus can promote specific Scottish produce, such as artisan spirits.

During questions on the maintenance of the Scottish Parliament building, you also suggested you would write to the Committee with details of the overall cost of this, as well as future projections for renovations and maintenance.

Finally, given the focus of the evidence session last week it was not appropriate to raise other issues with you at that time. However, the Committee has been discussing how Parliament and parliamentary committees are preparing for the expected high volume of secondary legislation stemming from the UK's decision to leave the UK. Given this committee expects to scrutinise a high number of these instruments, based upon the number of environmental regulations stemming from the EU, we are interested to know what action the Parliament is taking in planning for this work.

The Committee would appreciate a response to this letter by **27 October 2017** and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Dey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Graeme Dey MSP  
Convener  
Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee