Present:

Graeme Dey (Convener)                        Kate Forbes
Jenny Gilruth                                 Maurice Golden (Deputy Convener)
Emma Harper                                  Angus MacDonald
Mark Ruskell                                  David Stewart

Apologies were received from Claudia Beamish, Alexander Burnett and Finlay Carson.

The meeting opened at 10.01 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private**: The Committee agreed to take items 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 in private.

2. **Budget scrutiny of the Scottish Government's draft budget 2017-18**: The Committee took evidence from—

   Jo Green, Chief Officer, Performance and Innovation Portfolio, Lin Bunten, Head of Regulatory Services, and David Faichney, Flood Act Business Change Manager, Scottish Environment Protection Agency.


4. **Draft climate change plan (RPP3) (in private)**: The Committee considered its approach to the inquiry.

5. **Deer management (in private)**: The Committee agreed its approach to the forthcoming report from Scottish Natural Heritage on the review of deer management in Scotland.
6. **Biodiversity: Scotland's progress to 2020 (in private):** The Committee considered its response to the Scottish Government and will consider this again at next week's meeting.

7. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee agreed its work programme. This will be published on the Committee’s website in due course.

The meeting closed at 12.33 pm.

Lynn Tullis  
Clerk to the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
Tel: 0131 348 5240  
Email: ecclr.committee@parliament.scot.