



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

22nd Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Wednesday 28 June 2017

Present:

Peter Chapman	John Finnie
Christine Grahame (Committee Substitute)	Rhoda Grant
Jamie Greene	Richard Lyle
John Mason	Edward Mountain (Convener)
Gail Ross (Deputy Convener)	Mike Rumbles
Stewart Stevenson	

Apologies were received from Fulton MacGregor.

The meeting opened at 9.00 am.

1. **Update on Forth Replacement Crossing and other major transport infrastructure projects:** The Committee took evidence from—

Keith Brown, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work, Alisdair Graham, Head of Planning and Design, David Climie, Project Director, Forth Replacement Crossing Team, and Lawrence Shackman, Project Manager, Forth Replacement Crossing Team, Transport Scotland, Scottish Government;

Michael Martin, Project Director, Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors.

Peter Chapman declared an interest as a farmer.

2. **Common Agricultural Policy Payments:** The Committee took evidence from—

Fergus Ewing, Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy and Connectivity, Eddie Turnbull, Head of Agriculture and Rural Communities Information Systems, Annabel Turpie, Chief Operating Officer, Rural Payments

Operation, and Andrew Watson, Deputy Director for Agricultural Policy Implementation, Scottish Government.

Edward Mountain declared an interest as a farmer.

Peter Chapman declared an interest as a farmer.

Stewart Stevenson declared an interest as an owner of a small agricultural holding.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative instrument—

The Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (SSI 2017/177)

and agreed not to make any recommendations in relation to the instrument.

4. **Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee considered the Bill at Stage 2.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Amendment 7 was agreed to (by division: For 6, Against 5, Abstentions 0).

Amendment 5 was moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn.

Amendment 6 was not moved.

The following provisions were agreed to without amendment: sections 1, 4 and 6.

The following provisions were agreed to as amended: sections 2, 3, and 5 and the long title.

The Committee completed Stage 2 consideration of the Bill.

The meeting closed at 11.58 am.

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