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Dear Claire,

Following on from my evidence session at Committee in December 2023, I committed to providing updates to the Committee on the work of the Grangemouth Future Industry Board.

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January, I chaired the Grangemouth Future Industry Board, Industrial Just Transition Leadership Forum which brought together Scottish and UK Government Ministers along with Falkirk Council, Scottish Enterprise, Forth Valley College, Unions, Petroineos, Ineos as well as other industrial stakeholders. The Forum was established to provide leadership, assurance, challenge and oversight to the Grangemouth Future Industry Board in support of decarbonising the Grangemouth industrial cluster and delivering a Just Transition for Grangemouth.

Given Petroineos announcement at the end of last year, meeting was focussed primarily around the future of the Grangemouth Refinery.

The meeting heard from Petroineos regarding the latest position regarding their decision to begin preparatory works on an import terminal. Attendees discussed potential support for the refinery including recognising it's significance to the local community, the wider Scottish economy and its strategic importance to the whole of the UK.

Attendees agreed that there should be strategic collaboration to fully understand the potential local impacts, should the decision be taken to proceed with conversion to an import facility. Once this work is complete, I am happy to provide further written update to the committee. Minutes from the meeting have been published on the Scottish Government Website and can be found here.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See <a href="https://www.lobbying.scot">www.lobbying.scot</a>







Following on from the meeting, I wrote to the Minister of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to follow up on the commitment made at the meeting to consider any proposals that support the long-term sustainable future for the Grangemouth Refinery, a copy of the letter can be found here.

I would like to reiterate the Scottish Government's is committed to securing a sustainable Just Transition for the Grangemouth industrial cluster that actualises its potential to be an industry leader in low carbon technologies, recognises the importance of the workforce and maximises the opportunities for the local community. The recommendations of the committee are welcomed as Scottish Government will publish the draft Grangemouth Just Transition plan in Spring of this year.

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