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Edward Mountain MSP

Convener

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

c/o Clerk to the Committee

Room T3.40

The Scottish Parliament

Edinburgh

EH99 1SP

8 September 2023

Dear Edward

Thank you for your letter of 4 July 2023 seeking clarity on the policy responsibilities which fall within my Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition portfolio and apologies for the delay in responding.

As requested, attached at Annex A is a table which sets out the responsibilities which I lead on as well as those within my portfolio which are delegated to junior Ministers (noting that some of these Ministers have additional responsibilities within other Ministerial portfolios).

On your specific queries, I have noted below who leads on each of the issues you have highlighted:

1. NatureScot; - *Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity (Lorna Slater)* reporting to me (on biodiversity aspects and for support on corporate governance aspects which sit within my area of responsibility) and the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (Mairi Gougeon) (on peatland restoration and wildlife aspects).
2. Fuel poverty - *Minister for Energy and the Environment (Gillian Martin)*, reporting to the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work, and Energy (Neil Gray).
3. Land reform - *Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands*.
4. Cross-government delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods - *Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance (Tom Arthur)*, reporting to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance (Shona Robison).
5. Energy Efficiency, Heat networks, heating and domestic energy transformation and the Heat in Buildings programme - *Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights (Patrick Harvie)*, reporting to me.

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On energy policy, as noted above, while the majority of this work falls within the remit of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy and sits with the Minister for Energy and Environment, responsibility for energy efficiency, heat networks, heating and domestic energy transformation and the Heat in Buildings Programme sit with the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights, as part of my portfolio.

Annex B provides clarity on Mr Gray's portfolio in terms of where the energy aspects sit and what these cover. I have marked these in italics. It also includes the responsibilities of the Minister for Small Business, Innovation & Trade, who reports to me on key aspects of the Just Transition, including the delivery of the Just Transition Fund, liaison with the Just Transition Commission, and the Just Transition Plans and monitoring frameworks, as well as other aspects of the Green Economy, which are listed (highlighted in green) with his other responsibilities.

More generally, I wish to emphasise my overall responsibility for the Just Transition brief, which is closely tied to how we meet our net zero and climate resilience ambitions. This covers our Just Transition Plans and broader approach to tackling climate change in a way that demonstrates fairness, ensures we grasp the economic opportunities of the transition, and work with those likely to be impacted to bring them on the net zero journey.

The First Minister also announced a strengthening of the Ministerial team on transport with the appointment of Fiona Hyslop MSP as Minister for Transport on 13 June 2023.

In making this announcement, the First Minister confirmed an expansion to the role of transport within Cabinet, and I now take a greater day to day role in the portfolio as Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition.

Within the transport portfolio itself, I share responsibilities with the Minister and I maintain overall strategic responsibility, with the Minister responsible for delivery and operational matters. A breakdown of transport responsibilities can also be found at Annex A.

On a general point, I acknowledge that this split in responsibilities across Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers is complex. However, if we are to deliver for the people of Scotland, as set out in our recently published policy prospectus, we need a coherent, joined up government with shared responsibilities and collaborative working across Ministerial portfolios.

I hope this is helpful.

MAIRI MCALLAN

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Annex A - Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition Ministerial portfolio responsibilities

Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero & Just Transition	Minister for Transport	Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel, & Tenants' Rights	Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity
Mairi McAllan	Fiona Hyslop	Patrick Harvie	Lorna Slater
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-government strategic coordination of net zero policy • Environmental and climate justice • Just Transition Planning and the Just Transition Fund • Climate crisis and environmental protection • Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) • Environmental Quality • Sustainable Development • Physical and Marine Environment • Flood Prevention & Coastal Erosion • Water Quality and Scottish Water • Drinking Water Quality Regulator, Private Water, Hydration Green Economy • Emissions Trading Schemes • International Climate Change • Heat and Energy Efficiency Scotland Agency • Decarbonisation of Buildings Transport • National Transport Strategy • Just transition to a net zero emission transport system • Electric and low carbon transport • 20% reduction in car kms • Low Emission Zones • Sustainable aviation • Strategic Transport Projects Review • Major transport investment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Island connectivity • Ferry services, including CMAL • Highlands and Islands Air Connectivity, including HIAL • Air route development (&) • Rail services • Future of Public Transport • Concessionary fares and bus services • Accessible transport • Roads and road safety • Major transport projects delivery • Scottish Canals • Freight industry • Maritime policy including ports and canals • Transport information • Transport resilience and major events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Travel • Future Transport Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cycling Infrastructure - Innovation Supporting Active Travel Outcomes • Energy Efficiency • Heat Networks • Heating and Domestic Energy Transformation • Heat in Buildings Programme • Building Standards * • New Deal for Tenants * • Future Generations Commissioner • Member of Cabinet Sub-Committee on Legislation • Member of Cabinet Sub-Committee on Climate Emergency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Industrial Strategy # • Green Skills # • Circular Economy, including implementation of the Deposit Return Scheme and Waste Issues • Zero Waste Scotland • Nature Recovery Targets (including Natural Environment Bill) • NatureScot % • Biodiversity (including Endangered Species) • National Parks and Natural Heritage • Plant Health ~ • Member of Cabinet Sub-Committee on Climate Emergency

- (&) Ms Hyslop is recused from matters relating to Edinburgh Airport
- *in support of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice
- # in support of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy
~ in support of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands
- % in support of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Climate Change (on biodiversity aspects and for support on corporate governance aspects, which sit within the Cabinet Secretary's area of responsibility) and Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands (on peatland restoration and wildlife aspects).

Annex B – Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy Ministerial portfolio responsibilities

Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy	Minister for Energy and the Environment	Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism and Trade
Neil Gray	Gillian Martin	Richard Lochhead
<p><u>Economic Growth Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for Business, Industry & Manufacturing • Wellbeing Economy & Inclusive Growth • Cities Investment & Strategy • City Centre Recovery Taskforce • National Strategy for Economic Transformation • Enterprise Agencies • Scottish National Investment Bank • Office of the Chief Economic Adviser • Industrial Strategy • Regional Economic Partnerships Forums • Support for Economic Transformation • Women's Employment • Women in Business & Addressing the Gender Pay gap • Supply Chain Development Programmes <p><u>Infrastructure Investment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clyde Mission • City & Regional Growth Deals • Government Investments (Prestwick, Fergusons, BiFab) <p><u>Employment & Jobs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term Labour Market Strategy • Fair Work (incl. Living Wage & Living Hours) • Employability Programmes • Effective Worker Voice, incl. Trade Unions • Workplace Equalities (incl. Gender, Disability & Race Employment) <p><u>Engagement with UK Government on Various Economy-Focused Funds</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared Prosperity Fund, Levelling up Fund, ESIF • Oil & Gas 	<p><u>Energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Policy & Strategy • Energy Consents • Hydrogen • Carbon Capture Utilisation & Storage • Industrial Decarbonisation • Offshore Wind, Wave and Tidal • Fuel Poverty <p><u>Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Health and Welfare \$ • Wildlife Management and Crime\$ • Natural Resources and Peatland\$ • Crofting\$ • Inshore Fisheries\$ • Rural Portfolio impacts of Brexit/Retained EU Law Act\$ 	<p><u>Sectoral Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism & Hospitality • Construction • Aerospace Industries • Life Sciences • Financial Services & Fintech • Space Sector • Subsidy Control Regime (formerly known as State Aid) • Enterprise, Innovation & Increasing Productivity • Scientific Engagement & Advice <p><u>Digital</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Economy, Strategy • Participation • Connectivity (inc, 100% Broadband & Connecting Scotland) <p><u>Trade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Green Ports • Trade & Inward Investment • Global Capital Investment • Trade policy & Fair Trade <p><u>Green Economy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational responsibility for the delivery of the Just Transition Fund and the Commission, Just Transition Plans and monitoring frameworks.^ • Primary lead for routine liaison with the Just Transition Commission^ • Green Growth Accelerator^ • Green Jobs for the Future^ • Green and Low Carbon Economy^ • Green Jobs Fund^ <p><u>Other</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Day Working Week • PACE

^in support of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Climate Change

\$in support of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands