Cross-Party Group on Rural Policy

Wednesday 9th September at 13:00

Minute

Present

MSPs

Tim Eagle MSP
David Green MSP
Emma Roddick MSP
Lloyd Melville MSP
Max Bannerman MSP
Jamie Langan MSP
Helen McDade MSP

Invited guests

Cameron Gillies, Scottish Land and Estates
Eleanor Kay, Scottish Land and Estates
Charlotte McAulay, Scottish Land and Estates

Non-MSP Group Members

Cameron Gillies, Scottish Land and Estates

Apologies

Jenni Minto MSP
Craig Hoy MSP
Andrew Baxter MSP

Agenda item 1

Welcome and introductions

Tim Eagle MSP welcomed members and representatives of Scottish Land and Estates to the meeting.

Agenda item 2

Election of office bearers

For the position of Convenor, one nomination was received. Tim Eagle MSP was duly elected by show of hands for the role of Convenor.

For the position of Deputy Convenor, two nominations were received. Andrew Baxter MSP and Jamie Langan MSP would duly elected by show of hands to both serve as Deputy Convenors.

For the appointment of Secretariat, one request was made. Scottish Land and Estates were duly appointed by show of hands as Secretariat.

Agenda item 3

Priorities for the new parliamentary term

The CPG discussed some of the key outcomes that it will aim to deliver during Session 7. These include inviting other rural stakeholders to join the CPG, focussing on several issues impacting rural Scotland and coming up with evidence-based solutions, holding Members' business debates in Parliament on issues raised at the CPG meetings, and possible site visits.

Agenda item 4

Forward work programme

The CPG discussed some possible topics to focus on during the year ahead. These included addressing rural depopulation, access to rural bus services, rural healthcare and growing the rural economy.

Agenda item 5

AOCB and Close

No further business was discussed. The Convenor informed the CPG that he would submit the re-registration forms, and only after it has been accorded registration, would a next meeting date be agreed. The Convenor then closed the meeting at 13:25.