

Minute Note – Cross Party group on Oil and Gas

Held on Wednesday 27 September, 13:00 – 14:00

Committee Room 5, The Scottish Parliament, EH99 1SP

In Attendance

MSPs:

Gillian Martin (Chair)	Neil Anderson, Ledingham Chalmers LLP
Liam McArthur	Fiona Johnston, SEPA
Tavish Scott	David Ogilvie, SEPA
Lewis Macdonald	Peter Finnie, SEPA
Alexander Burnett	Grace O’Keeffe, Office of Alexander Burnett MSP
	Judith Sijstermans, Office of Gillian Martin
	Emma Swift, Office of Lewis Macdonald

Non- MSPs

Adam Davey, Oil & Gas UK
Jenny Stanning, Oil & Gas UK
Rebecca Groundwater, Oil & Gas UK
Christine Currie, OPITO
Craig Stevens, PwC
Gareth Williams, SCDI
John Taylor
Kevin Swann, Woodmac
Mark Whittet, Scottish Energy News
Norman McLennan, RICS
Tim Smith, BP

Apologies

MSPs:

Jackie Baillie
Non-MSPs David Rennie, Scottish Enterprise
David Rennie, Scottish Enterprise
Rebecca Bell, RSPB
Shirley Allen, Pinset Masons LLP
Samantha Silvers, TAQA
Susan Smart, ECITB
Nicholas Scott-Gray, Montrose Port Authority
James Bream, Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce
Rhonda Miller, Total
Linsey Wilson, Scottish Government

At the start of the meeting, the election of the office bearers of the Cross-Party Group took place:

- Lewis Macdonald MSP nominated as co-convener – vote: Agreed
- Alexander Burnett MSP nominated as co-convener – vote: agreed
- Tavish Scott MSP nominated as a co-convener – vote: agreed
- Gillian Martin MSP nominated as Co-Convener – vote: Agreed

As such Lewis Macdonald MSP, Alexander Burnett MSP, Tavish Scott MSP and Gillian Martin MSP were elected as the group's Co-Conveners. It was agreed that Rebecca Groundwater on behalf of Oil & Gas UK would continue to provide the secretariat for the group.

Gillian Martin, (GM) then welcomed MSPs and non-MSP members to the Cross Party Group and opened the meeting. GM went on to introduce Adam Davey, (AD) Business Intelligence Manager at Oil & Gas UK and outlined that the meeting would be a presentation by Adam on the Economic Report which had been launched at Offshore Europe and would then be opened up into a question and answer session.

AD set out why the industry needs to secure further investment to avoid decline, noting work on efficiency, the potential for investors and growth in merger and acquisition activity. AD noted that the UK tax regime can help to positively differentiate the UK from other areas and Transferable Tax History, one of our budget asks, will help to drive investment.

He continued by explaining the industry's general position Brexit, our asks of the UK Government regarding the Industrial Strategy and how this all linked to MER UK and Vision 2015.

GM then moderated a Q&A session which covered topics such as the difference between the North Sea and the Norwegian approach, the correlation between the slowdown in production and what we hear from operators, the energy policy and budget asks, whether shale gas is included in the figures, and how to raise the industry's PR. It was also noted that it would be useful for Oil & Gas UK to show the non-energy use of oil and gas.

GM then thanked all attendees for their input before formally closing the meeting. The next meeting of the Oil & Gas CPG will be on Wednesday 15 November, 18:00-19:30, Committee Room 5.