1. What are the advantages or otherwise in establishing the Bank as a public limited company?

2. What in your view are the fundamental characteristics of a national investment bank?  
Since the banking crisis 2009 it has been extremely difficult to obtain finance for building projects if you are an SME. Certain bridging companies will finance small projects e.g. two housing units, however these tend to be expensive and funding for larger projects is not available.

3. Is the level of capitalisation proposed sufficient for the Bank to deliver its desired impact? Please expand.

4. What is your view on the proposed costs in the set up and day-to-day running of the Bank?

5. What governance arrangements ought to be in place?  
New banks should only enter into a funding situation provided the builder has a reasonable funding input.

6. How can we ensure the market is ready for the investment opportunities the Bank can offer?  
House building in general is being generated by the larger PLC’s who do not require banking finance, however smaller builders now require finance from an alternative source as approaching the mainstream banks is not an option. From 1992-2010 I
constructed 4 developments consisting of 76 flats for the buy-to-let where the finance was available from the mainstream banks.

7. What ethical and equalities considerations do you think should inform the Bank’s ethos and decision making?

8. It is proposed that the Scottish Government will set the strategic direction of the Bank but the body itself decide on its investment approach. What is your view on this “mission-led” approach?

9. Is there any other aspect of the Bill you wish to address? Please elaborate.

No