



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

4th Meeting, 2017 (Session 5)

Tuesday 31 January 2017

Present:

Claudia Beamish	Alexander Burnett
Finlay Carson	Graeme Dey (Convener)
Kate Forbes	Jenny Gilruth
Maurice Golden (Deputy Convener)	Emma Harper
Angus MacDonald	Mark Ruskell
David Stewart	

The meeting opened at 10.07 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 4, 5 and 6 in private. The Committee also agreed to consider any future consideration of evidence and draft reports on the draft Climate Change Plan and Deer Management in Scotland, as well as its draft response to the Commission for Parliamentary Reform, in private at future meetings.
2. **Draft climate change plan (RPP3):** The Committee took evidence from—
  - Richard Dixon, Director, Friends of the Earth Scotland;
  - Dr Rachel Howell, Lecturer in Sustainable Development, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh;
  - Andy Kerr, Executive Director, Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI), University of Edinburgh;
  - Fabrice Leveque, Climate and Energy Policy Officer, WWF Scotland.
3. **Petitions:** The Committee considered two petitions and agreed, in relation to—

PE1601 by Andy Myles on European beavers in Scotland, to close the petition and to write to the Scottish Government requesting details of the Strategic Environmental Assessment associated with the forthcoming SSI.

PE1615 by Logan Steele on State regulated licensing system for gamebird hunting in Scotland, to write to the Scottish Government seeking information on the operation of current legislation in this area and the timescales for publication of the SNH commissioned research on gamebird licensing systems in selected other countries. The Committee will then consider what further action is required at that point.

Alexander Burnett declared an interest in relation to shooting and Angus MacDonald noted his membership of the Public Petitions Committee.

4. **Draft Climate Change Plan (RPP3) (in private):** The Committee considered evidence heard earlier in the meeting.
5. **Deer Management in Scotland (in private):** The Committee considered evidence heard at its last meeting and agreed to consider a draft response to the SNH report on Deer Management in Scotland at a future meeting.
6. **Commission for Parliamentary Reform (in private):** The Committee considered its response to the Commission for Parliamentary Reform and agreed to consider a draft letter at its next meeting.

The meeting closed at 12.51 pm.

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