



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

20th Meeting, 2020 (Session 5)

Friday 4 September 2020

Present:

Sarah Boyack (Deputy Convener)      Keith Brown  
Andy Wightman                              Alexander Stewart  
Jeremy Balfour (Committee Substitute)

Also present: Graham Simpson

Apologies were received from Gail Ross, Annie Wells.

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Keith Brown was invited to declare any relevant interests. Keith Brown had no relevant interests to declare.
2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 6 and 7 in private.
3. **Building Regulations and Fire Safety in Scotland:** The Committee took evidence from—

Kevin Stewart, Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning, and Stephen Garvin, Head of Building Standards, Scottish Government.

4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Rent Arrears Pre-Action Requirements (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 [draft] from—

Kevin Stewart, Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning, Yvette Sheppard, Team Leader, Better Homes, and James Hamilton, Solicitor, Housing and Local Government, Scottish Government.

5. **Subordinate legislation:** Kevin Stewart, Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning moved—

S5M-22417—That the Local Government and Communities Committee recommends that the Rent Arrears Pre-Action Requirements (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

6. **Building Regulations and Fire Safety in Scotland (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence heard earlier.

The Committee agreed to invite the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland to give evidence at a future meeting.

7. **Work programme (in private):** The Committee considered its work programme.

The Committee agreed to write to a range of organisations to seek information on the support and assistance provided to individuals who have no recourse to public funds.

The meeting closed at 12.22 pm.

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