LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

7th Meeting, 2020 (Session 5)

Wednesday 26 February 2020

Present:

Jeremy Balfour
Sarah Boyack (Deputy Convener)
James Dornan (Convener)
Annabelle Ewing
Kenneth Gibson
Graham Simpson
Andy Wightman

Also present: Sandra White

The meeting opened at 9.00 am.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Jeremy Balfour had no relevant interests to declare.

   Kenneth Gibson indicated that he has a flat that is rented by a third party and is affected by a cladding issue, in relation to items 3, 5 and 6.

2. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take items 6 and 7 in private.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Energy Efficiency (Domestic Private Rented Property) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 [draft] from—


4. **Subordinate legislation:** Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning moved—

   S5M-20854—That the Local Government and Communities Committee recommends that the Energy Efficiency (Domestic Private Rented Property) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 [draft] be approved.
The motion was agreed to.

5. **Building regulations and fire safety in Scotland:** The Committee took evidence on this matter, with an emphasis on the issue of 'zero valued homes' from—

   Phil Diamond, Chartered Building Surveyor, Diamond and Co;

   Matthew Jupp, Principal, UK Finance;

   Keith Denholm, Director at Allied Surveyors, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors;

   Brian Smith, Partner with Simpson & Marwick Solicitors, Law Society of Scotland;

   Derek MacDonald, Joint Managing Director of Newton Property Management, Property Managers Association Scotland.

6. **Building regulations and fire safety in Scotland (in private):** The Committee considered the evidence heard earlier in the meeting and agreed to write to the Scottish Government, UK Government, Association of British Insurers and Homes for Scotland on issues raised during discussion. The Committee also agreed to invite the Scottish Government and the UK Government to give oral evidence at a future meeting.

7. **Community Wellbeing (in private):** The Committee considered its next steps in relation to its digital engagement exercise on community wellbeing, and agreed to write to COSLA and the Scottish Government on themes raised. The Committee also agreed to consider further work on issues raised by respondents to the engagement at a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.51 am.

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