RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

12th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Wednesday 25 April 2018

The Committee will meet at 9.00 am in the Mary Fairfax Somerville Room (CR2).

1. **Declaration of interests:** Kate Forbes will be invited to declare any relevant interests.

2. **Transport – Passenger representatives:** The Committee will take evidence from—
   
   Sheila Fletcher, Member, and Hussein Patwa, Member, Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland;

   Robert Samson, Senior Stakeholder Manager, Transport Focus;

   Gavin Booth, Director for Scotland, Bus Users Scotland.

3. **Salmon farming in Scotland:** The Committee will take evidence from—
   
   James Withers, Chief Executive, Scotland Food & Drink;

   Elaine Jamieson, Head of Food and Drink, Highlands and Islands Enterprise;

   Heather Jones, Chief Executive, Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre.

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Steve Farrell
Clerk to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee
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The papers for this meeting are as follows—

**Agenda Item 2**

Cover note  
PRIVATE PAPER

**Agenda Item 3**

Cover note  
PRIVATE PAPER
1. The Committee will take evidence on transport issues from the following passenger representative organisations:

- Bus Users Scotland
- Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland
- Transport Focus.

2. The Committee will discuss with these organisations general passenger issues, such as their experience of public transport services (bus and rail), the accessibility of public transport services and their priorities for improvement.

Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee clerks
April 2018
Background

1. The Rural Economy and Connectivity (REC) Committee has agreed to conduct an inquiry into salmon farming in Scotland. The inquiry aims to consider the current state of salmon industry in Scotland, identify opportunities for its future development and explore how the various fish health and environmental challenges it currently faces can be addressed.

2. On 25 April, the Committee will take evidence from the following development bodies: Scotland Food & Drink, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre.

3. A SPICe briefing on Salmon Farming in Scotland was published on 13 February 2018 and is available [here](http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/107585.aspx).

4. The Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee on 5 March 2018 wrote to the Committee detailing their conclusions on the environmental impacts of salmon farming in Scotland. The letter, which contains the report can be accessed [here](http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/107585.aspx).

5. Three evidence sessions have previously taken place. The first evidence session was held on 7 March with aquaculture research bodies. The second evidence session was held on 14 March with environmental organisations. The third evidence session was held on 18 April with regulatory bodies.


Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee clerks

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