RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

6th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Wednesday 21 February 2018

Present:

Peter Chapman
Jamie Greene
Fulton MacGregor
Edward Mountain (Convener)
Mike Rumbles
Stewart Stevenson

John Finnie
Richard Lyle
John Mason
Gail Ross (Deputy Convener)
Colin Smyth

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Implications for Scotland of the UK leaving the EU – Agriculture and Fisheries:** The Committee took evidence from—

   Martin Kennedy, Vice President, NFU Scotland;

   Andrew Midgley, Policy and Research Manager, Scottish Land and Estates;

   Vicki Swales, Head of Land Use Policy, RSPB Scotland;

   Dr Carmen Hubbard, Senior Lecturer, Agriculture, School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, Newcastle University;

   Professor Michael Keating, Professor of Politics, University of Aberdeen;

   Simon Collins, Executive Officer, Shetland Fishermen's Association, Scottish Fishermen's Federation;

   James Cook, Director, Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation;

   Dr James Harrison, Senior Lecturer in International Law, the University of Edinburgh;
Calum Duncan, Head of Conservation Scotland, Marine Conservation Society;

Andrew Charles, Vice Chair, Scottish Seafood Association.

Edward Mountain declared an interest as a farmer.

Peter Chapman declared an interest as a farmer.

Stewart Stevenson declared an interest as an owner of a small agricultural holding.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative instrument—

   The Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2018 (SSI 2018/22)

   and agreed not to make any recommendations in relation to the instrument.

The meeting closed at 12.42 pm.

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