RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

19th Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Wednesday 20 June 2018

Present:

Peter Chapman
Kate Forbes
Richard Lyle
Edward Mountain (Convener)
Mike Rumbles
Stewart Stevenson

John Finnie
Jamie Greene
John Mason
Gail Ross (Deputy Convener)
Colin Smyth

Also present: John Scott MSP

The meeting opened at 10.03 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 7 in private and its consideration of its approach to its anticipated scrutiny of the Transport (Scotland) Bill; its approach to pre-budget scrutiny; and consideration of options for post-legislative scrutiny will be taken in private at a future meeting.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Digital Government (Scottish Bodies) Regulations 2018 [draft] from—

   Derek Mackay, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Constitution, Susie Braham, Head of Data Sharing and Access, and Graham Fisher, Head of Constitutional and Civil Law, Scottish Government.

Kate Forbes declared an interest as the Parliamentary Liaison Officer to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution.

Stewart Stevenson declared interests as a Professional Member of the Association for Computing Machinery and Member at the Institution of Engineering and Technology.

3. **Subordinate legislation:** Derek Mackay (Cabinet Secretary Finance and Constitution) moved—
S5M-12602—That the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee recommends that the Digital Government (Scottish Bodies) Regulations 2018 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

4. **Glasgow Prestwick Airport**: The Committee took evidence from—

   Stewart Adams, Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Miller, Non-Executive Chairman, and Ian Forgie, Director Finance, Glasgow Prestwick Airport Ltd.

   Stewart Stevenson declared an interest as an associate Member of the Highland Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association.

5. **Subordinate legislation**: The Committee considered the following instrument which is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

   The Tuberculosis (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Order 2018 (SSI 2018/164).

   and agreed to write to the Scottish Government noting its intentions to revoke the instrument and to highlight concerns about technical issues associated with the consultation on the instrument.

   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.

6. **Subordinate legislation**: The Committee considered the following negative instruments—

   The Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material (Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (SSI 2018/175)

   The Animal By-Products and Pet Passport Fees (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (SSI 2018/176)

   The Animal Health (Miscellaneous Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (SSI 2018/177)

   The Beef and Pig Carcase Classification (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2018 (SSI 2018/182)

   and agreed not to make any recommendations in relation to the instruments.
7. **Pre-Budget Scrutiny (in private):** The Committee considered its approach to its pre-budget scrutiny.

The meeting closed at 12.07 pm.

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