RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

31st Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Wednesday 28 November 2018

Present:

Peter Chapman  John Finnie
Richard Lyle  John Mason
Edward Mountain (Convener)  Gail Ross (Deputy Convener)
John Scott (Committee Substitute)  Colin Smyth
Stewart Stevenson  Maureen Watt

Apologies were received from Jamie Greene, Mike Rumbles.

The meeting opened at 10.01 am.

1. Decision on taking business in private: The Committee agreed to take item 7 and any future review of evidence for the South of Scotland Enterprise Bill in private.

2. South of Scotland Enterprise Bill: The Committee took evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

Karen Jackson, South of Scotland Economic Development Team, Team Leader, Sandra Reid, Bill Team Leader, Felicity Cullen, Scottish Government Legal Directorate, and Fraser Gough, Parliamentary Counsel, Scottish Government.

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

The Tuberculosis (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) (No. 2) Order 2018 (SSI 2018/333)

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

Edward Mountain declared an interest as a partner in a farming business.
Peter Chapman declared an interest as a partner in a farming business.

John Scott declared an interest as a partner in a farming business.

4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (Variation of Schedule 5) Order 2019 [draft] from—

   Fergus Ewing, Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy, Jen Willoughby, Head of Agricultural Holdings Team, and Julia Burgham Pearson, Scottish Government Legal Directorate, Scottish Government.

Edward Mountain declared an interest as a partner in a farming business.

Peter Chapman declared an interest as a partner in a farming business.

John Scott declared an interest as a partner in a farming business.

5. **Subordinate legislation:** Fergus Ewing (Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy) moved—

   S5M-14752—That the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee recommends that the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1991 (Variation of Schedule 5) Order 2019 [draft] be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

6. **Public petitions:** The Committee considered the following petition- PE01616 by John S Shaw, on Parking Legislation and agreed to take it into account when considering the Stage 1 Report for the Transport (Scotland) Bill.

7. **South of Scotland Enterprise Bill (in private):** The Committee reviewed the evidence it has heard on the South of Scotland Enterprise Bill at today’s meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.33 am.

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