RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

33rd Meeting, 2018 (Session 5)

Wednesday 12 December 2018

Present:

Peter Chapman
Jamie Greene
John Mason
Gail Ross (Deputy Convener)
Colin Smyth
Maureen Watt

John Finnie
Richard Lyle
Edward Mountain (Convener)
Mike Rumbles
Stewart Stevenson

The meeting opened at 10.02 am.

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

   Garry Clark, Development Management, East of Scotland, Federation of Small Businesses;

   Matt Lancashire, Director of Policy and Public Affairs, Scottish Council for Development and Industry;

   Margaret Simpson, Director, Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber;

   Norma Austin Hart, Chief Executive Officer, Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway.

2. **European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018**: The Committee considered proposals by the Scottish Government to consent to the UK Government legislating using the powers under the Act in relation to the following UK statutory instrument proposals—

   The Common Fisheries Policy (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018;

   The Rural Development (EU Exit) (Amendment) Regulations 2018;
The Rural Development (Implementing and Delegated Acts) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018;

The Common Provisions (EU Exit) (Amendment) Regulations 2018;

The Common Agricultural Policy (Direct Payments to Farmers) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018;

The Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018; and

The Trade in Animals and Related Products (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018.

and agreed to write to the Scottish Government to confirm it is content for consent to be given in each case.

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

3. **Public petitions:** The Committee considered the following petition—

   PE1598 by Guy Linley-Adams on behalf of Salmon & Trout Conservation Scotland on Protecting wild salmonids from sea lice from Scottish salmon farms

   and agreed to close the petition.

4. **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 11.51 am.

Steve Farrell

Clerk to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee

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