RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

28th Meeting, 2019 (Session 5)

Wednesday 9 October 2019

Present:

Peter Chapman
Jamie Greene
Angus MacDonald
Mike Rumbles
Stewart Stevenson

John Finnie
Emma Harper
Edward Mountain (Convener)
Colin Smyth
Maureen Watt (Deputy Convener)

Apologies were received from Richard Lyle.

The meeting opened at 10.35 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee agreed to take item 5 in private.

2. **European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018:** The Committee agreed that the following instruments have been laid under the appropriate procedure—

   Seed, Propagating Material and Common Agricultural Policy (EU Exit) (Scotland) (Amendment) Regulations 2019


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

   Seed, Propagating Material and Common Agricultural Policy (EU Exit) (Scotland) (Amendment) Regulations 2019

The Committee agreed to make no recommendations in relation to the instruments.

4. **Implication of Brexit for the fisheries sector in Scotland:** The Committee took evidence from—

   Elspeth Macdonald, Chief Executive Officer, Scottish Fishermen's Federation;

   Alistair Sinclair, National Coordinator, Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation;

   Professor James Harrison, Professor of Environmental Law, the University of Edinburgh;

   Calum Duncan, Head of Conservation Scotland, Marine Conservation Society;

   Jimmy Buchan, Chief Executive Officer, Scottish Seafood Association;

   Elaine Whyte, Executive Secretary, Clyde Fisherman's Association;

   Mike Park, Chief Executive Officer, Scottish White Fish Producers Association;

   Ivan Bartolo, Regulatory Affairs Advisor, Seafish;

   Alastair McNeill, Chair, West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group.

5. **Proposed National Islands Plan (in private):** The Committee agreed its approach to its consideration of the proposed National Islands Plan.

   The meeting closed at 12.23 pm.

   Steve Farrell  
   Clerk to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee  
   Room T3.60  
   The Scottish Parliament  
   Edinburgh  
   Tel: 0131 348 5211  
   Email: steve.farrell@parliament.scot