



OFFICIAL REPORT
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Tuesday 22 May 2018

Session 5



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Tuesday 22 May 2018

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ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM COMMITTEE
17th Meeting 2018, Session 5

CONVENER

*Graeme Dey (Angus South) (SNP)

DEPUTY CONVENER

*John Scott (Ayr) (Con)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Claudia Beamish (South Scotland) (Lab)
*Donald Cameron (Highlands and Islands) (Con)
*Finlay Carson (Galloway and West Dumfries) (Con)
*Richard Lyle (Uddingston and Bellshill) (SNP)
*Angus MacDonald (Falkirk East) (SNP)
Gil Paterson (Clydebank and Milngavie) (SNP)
*Alex Rowley (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Lab)
*Mark Ruskell (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Green)
Stewart Stevenson (Banffshire and Buchan Coast) (SNP)

*attended

CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Pauline McIntyre
Lynn Tullis

LOCATION

The Robert Burns Room (CR1)

Scottish Parliament

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Tuesday 22 May 2018

[The Convener opened the meeting at 10:22]

Decision on Taking Business in Private

The Convener (Graeme Dey): Welcome to the 17th meeting in 2018 of the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee. We have apologies from colleagues Gil Paterson and Stewart Stevenson. Before we move to the first item on the agenda, I remind everyone present to switch off mobile phones and other electronic devices, as they may affect the broadcasting system.

The first item on the agenda is for the committee to consider whether to take item 3 in private. Are we agreed?

Members *indicated agreement.*

Annual Report 2017-18

10:22

The Convener: The second item on the agenda is for the committee to consider its annual report for 2017-18. I refer members to the draft report and invite any comments.

Richard Lyle (Uddingston and Bellshill) (SNP): I have one small point. On the second page, under European Union scrutiny, the report says:

“In November and December 2017, the Committee travelled to Brussels and London”.

Was it not the committee that went to Brussels, and the convener and deputy convener who went to London?

The Convener: That is correct.

Richard Lyle: Can we amend that to keep it correct?

The Convener: Okay.

John Scott (Ayr) (Con): I welcome the report. It is very important that we continue to produce reports such as this. I welcome its content and am surprised at the amount of work that we appear to have got through. Thank you to the authors.

The Convener: Of course, it is only a reflection of some of the work that we have carried out.

Claudia Beamish (South Scotland) (Lab): I, too, welcome the report. Have we highlighted the subgroups on deposit return and air pollution that we formed? I am sorry if I missed it, but I do not think that I saw that mentioned.

The Convener: Have we referenced the subgroups that were formed?

Pauline McIntyre (Clerk): We have not.

The Convener: We have not noted everything. If members wish that to be noted, we can add it.

Claudia Beamish: I think that that would be helpful. If nothing else, it shows that there is a wide range and big body of work and that subgroups are often useful, in order to work effectively. Although they were not formal committee arrangements, they were subgroups.

The Convener: Are we agreed on that point?

Members *indicated agreement.*

The Convener: We will have to double-check the timing of when the subgroups sat, but subject to that being during the past year, we can incorporate them.

I have a small query on the graphics. There appears to be a discrepancy between the two

graphics about the number of people who gave evidence. Can we also double-check those numbers?

That said, and as nobody else has any observations, is the committee content to sign off the report, subject to those checks and appropriate changes being made, and can that be left to me, as convener, to finalise?

Members *indicated agreement.*

The Convener: At its next meeting, on 29 May, the committee will consider numerous statutory instruments and take evidence from the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform on community empowerment and environmental authorisations instruments. The committee will also consider an approach paper on the climate change bill.

10:25

Meeting continued in private until 11:42.

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