

# ECONOMY AND FAIR WORK COMMITTEE

**15<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 2021 (Session 6), Wednesday 15 December 2021**

## **Inquiry into Scotland's Supply Chain**

### **Evidence Session 6**

#### **Introduction**

1. This paper has been prepared for the Economy and Fair Work Committee to aid Committee members during the sixth evidence session of the Committee's inquiry into Scotland's supply chain.

2. The remit of the inquiry is—

to consider the short and medium-term structural challenges facing Scotland's supply chain. The Committee is interested in how the challenges and shifts in supply chains are impacting Scotland's economy. We want to consider how to build future resilience and whether there are opportunities for Scottish firms to develop domestic supply chains. We will consider the issues under the themes of People, Place and Product.

3. The inquiry is based around three central themes; people, places and products.

- **People** - why there are persistent skills gaps in certain sectors and gaps in labour supply in other sectors;
- **Places** - challenges facing Scotland's supply infrastructure, particularly as we transition to net zero, and how to build resilience;
- **Products** - issues facing Scotland's importers and exporters, how they can be supported to maximise opportunities and how to better grow Scotland's domestic supply chain.

#### **Written views**

4. The Committee launched a [call for views](#) on Tuesday 12 October. The responses have been published and can be accessed at the following link:

- [Published responses for Scotland's supply chain - Scottish Parliament - Citizen Space](#)

## Today's evidence session

5. This is the sixth evidence session of the inquiry and will focus on the identification of and support for emerging supply chain businesses in Scotland.
6. Today, the Committee will hear from—
  - [Professor Iain Bomphray](#), Director, [Lightweight Manufacturing Centre](#);
  - [Professor Keith Ridgway](#), Executive Chair, [National Manufacturing Institute Scotland](#);
  - Nick Shields, Head of Business Support Services, [Scottish Enterprise](#).

**Clerk to the Committee**  
**10 December 2021**