

ECONOMY AND FAIR WORK COMMITTEE

**16th Meeting, 2022 (Session 6), Wednesday 15
June 2022**

Town Centres and Retail

Introduction

1. This paper has been prepared for the Economy and Fair Work Committee to aid Committee members during the final evidence session of the Committee's inquiry into town centres and retail. Details of previous evidence sessions can be found [here](#).
2. The remit of the inquiry is to—

Identify the new realities of retail and ecommerce in Scotland and the resulting impact on town centres. What is the subsequent policy response needed to create living and resilient town centres?
3. The Committee launched a call for views on Tuesday 1 February which closed on Wednesday 16 March. Responses can be accessed [here](#).
4. On 24 March, the Scottish Government published its retail strategy "[Getting the Right Change](#)" with the aim of delivering successful, profitable retail businesses, creating new, better jobs and to become an exemplar for inclusive growth.

Evidence Session

5. The Committee will hear evidence from—
 - Tom Arthur MSP, Minister for Minister for Public Finance, Planning and Community Wealth;
 - Catherine Brown, Head of Retail and Cities Unit and
 - David Cowan, Head of Regeneration Unit, Scottish Government.

**Clerk to the Committee
10 June 2022**