

# **ECONOMY AND FAIR WORK COMMITTEE**

**9<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 2023 (Session 6), Wednesday  
22 March 2023**

## **Just Transition for the Grangemouth area**

### **Note by the Clerk**

#### **Background**

1. There is currently a target of 2045 for Scotland to cut greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero. Industry is the second highest carbon emitting sector in Scotland after transport and the Scottish Government aims to reduce emissions by around a third by 2030.
2. The transition to net zero is known as a “just transition”. The Just Transition Commission has defined this as where—  
  
“Governments design policies in a way that ensures the benefits of climate change action are shared widely, while the costs do not unfairly burden those least able to pay, or whose livelihoods are directly or indirectly at risk as the economy shifts and changes.”
3. At its meeting on 14 December 2022, the Committee agreed to undertake an inquiry exploring policy to support a Just Transition with an initial focus on the Grangemouth area. The first evidence session of the inquiry was held on 22 February 2023.

#### **Remit**

4. The agreed remit for this inquiry is to consider how we can support, incentivise and de-risk this transition in a way that benefits businesses and people.
5. Key areas that the Committee expects to explore are:
  - what planning and engagement has started for the transition to net zero;
  - economic and employment benefits of a net zero transition;
  - the skills that we’ll need to support the transition over the next two decades;
  - how can we measure the transition; and

- how can we ensure the learning from the Grangemouth; transition supports the wider transition across Scottish industry.

## Call for Views

6. The Committee [launched a call for views](#) on 20 December which closed on 14 February.
7. Written responses [can be found here](#).

## Witnesses

8. The purpose of the evidence session today is to consider how public policy and funding can be used to unlock private capital to finance a just transition.
9. The Committee will hear from—
  - Heather Buchanan, Co-founder, [Bankers for Net Zero](#);
  - [James Close](#), Head of Climate Change, [NatWest Group](#); and
  - [Ben Howarth](#), Sustainability Officer, [ABI](#).

**Economy and Fair Work Committee Clerks  
17 March 2023**