

ECONOMY AND FAIR WORK COMMITTEE

5th Meeting, 2021 (Session 6), Wednesday 22 September 2021

Evidence Session

Introduction

1. This paper has been produced for the Economy and Fair Work Committee to aid Committee members during the evidence session.
2. The discussion will focus on support for Covid-19 recovery including barriers such as the difficulties currently being faced by businesses as a result of gaps and delays in the supply chain, witnesses will appear virtually.

Witnesses

3. The Committee will hear from—
 - Charles Hammond, Chief Executive, [Forth Ports](#);
 - Ewan MacDonald-Russell, Head of Policy & External Affairs, [Scottish Retail Consortium](#);
 - Martin Reid, Director of Scotland and Northern Ireland, [Road Haulage Association](#); and
 - Andrew Richards, member of the Construction Scotland Industry Leadership Group, [Construction Scotland](#).
4. Forth Ports is one of the largest port operators in the UK and the largest port group in Scotland, operating seven strategically located ports across the country.
5. The Scottish Retail Consortium (SRC) is a trade association for Scotland's retailers. Its mission is to make a positive difference to the industry and its customers.
6. The Road Haulage Association (RHA) is a trade association dedicated solely to road haulage. The RHA campaigns on behalf of, and provides advice, training, information and business services to, its members within the UK haulage industry.
7. Construction Scotland is the name adopted by the construction sector Industry Leadership Group, one of several established by the Scottish Government to reflect key growth sectors. Construction Scotland was formed to unite, progress and grow the construction industry in Scotland.

8. Ahead of the evidence session, the Scottish Retail Consortium shared their report "[Stimulating a Sustainable Retail Recovery](#)" with the Committee which sets out the SRC's recommendations for the Scottish Government's 2022-2023 Budget.

Aim of evidence session

9. The aim of the evidence session is to—
- consider policies and actions needed to promote economic recovery; and
 - inform the Committee's input to the Scottish Government's budget for 2022-23.

**Clerk to the Committee
16 September 2021**