

Agenda for the Cross Party Group on Video Games Technology

Thursday 8th March 2012 at 5.30pm in Committee Room 5

Group Purpose: To provide a forum for Members of the Scottish Parliament, developers as well as other stakeholders and interested parties to engage directly with each other in order to raise awareness of the opportunities and challenges facing the industry and to help better inform the development of policy in this area.

- 1. Introduction from Joe FitzPatrick MSP** (*inc. John Swinney, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth*)
- 2. Speakers:**
 - i.** 'State of the Industry' – Dr Richard Wilson, *TIGA*.
 - ii.** Developer(s) – To be confirmed.
 - iii.** Graeme Downie, *NESTA – Communications Manager for S&NI*.
 - iv.** Linda McPherson, *Scottish Enterprise - Creative Industries Director*.
 - v.** Morgan Petrie, *Creative Scotland -Technology, Digital Media and Market Development Portfolio Manager*.
- 3. Open Discussion** – Members will be able to raise any particular issues. Potential areas for discussion might include:
 - i.** Games Tax Relief.
 - ii.** Enhancing R&D tax relief/credits.
 - iii.** A Creative Content Fund.
 - iv.** Prototype funding (e.g. Abertay).
 - v.** Building links to equity investors/FDI.
 - vi.** Business mentoring.
 - vii.** Training and education.
- 4. Future Work Programme** – The group will agree topics to cover in future meetings, including whether we may wish to make a visit to a developer or education institution.
- 5. Joint Treasury Submission** – The group may wish to consider whether it would like to make a collective submission to the Chancellor ahead of his budget statement on 23 March (*we would need to move very fast on this*).
- 6. Future Meeting** – The date of the next meeting of the CPG on Video Games Technology will be clarified at a later date. It is hoped that this could take place in September 2012 before the Parliament's October recess or in early November 2012, shortly after recess.