

## Minute note - Cross Party Group on Oil and Gas

Held on Wednesday 29 October, 18:00-19:30

Committee Room 4, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

### In attendance

#### MSPs:

Tavish Scott  
Maureen Watt  
Lewis Macdonald  
Nanette Milne  
Christian Allard  
Jenny Marra  
Chic Brodie  
Kevin Stewart

#### Non MSPs:

Alistair Hope, Shell  
Richard Crossick, Shell  
Nigel Jenkins, Decom North Sea  
Karen Seath, Decom North Sea  
Mick Borwell, Oil & Gas UK  
Neil Michie, Oil & Gas UK  
Jenny Stanning, Oil & Gas UK  
Chris Wallace, Scottish Parliament  
Jenni Ross, Scottish Parliament  
Simon Astley, Airbus Helicopters  
Tracey Exton, Application Recruitment  
Liz Meenagh, Application Recruitment  
Ola Morten Aanestad, Statoil  
Alex Yelland, Chevron

Euan Dobson, Scottish Enterprise  
Jill Moir, Talisman Sinopec  
Lyssandra Golledge, Scottish Parliament  
Irene McKinnan, Scottish Parliament  
Adam Wilson, Wood MacKenzie

### Apologies

#### MSPs:

Richard Baker  
Dennis Robertson  
Alison McInnes  
Mark Macdonald

#### Non-MSPs

Christine Jones  
Iain Brotchie, Total E&P  
Norman McLennan, SASOL  
Carol Barbone, Talisman-Sinopec  
Neil R. Anderson, Ledingham Chalmers  
Jonathan Milne, Maersk  
Susana Braz, Dana  
Alan Motion, Met Office  
James Trolland

**Tavish Scott MSP** welcomed MSPs and non MSP members to the Cross Party Group.

**Mick Borwell** opened the session with a brief overview of decommissioning from an industry perspective, including the regulatory requirements and the wide range of stakeholders affected by decommissioning. Mick highlighted the challenges of decommissioning – mainly the questions of when, what and how decommissioning should be carried out – and outlined the vast economic scale that decommissioning was forecast to cost.

**Nigel Jenkins** further expanded on the predicted scale of decommissioning, highlighting the huge opportunity that it offers, and how Scotland should aim to position itself as a centre of excellence for decommissioning. Nigel highlighted that the industry needed certainty to operate effectively, and that a tripartite approach between the operators, regulator and supply chain was vital for effective implementation.

**Alistair Hope** provided the group with some real life context, giving an overview of the work that Shell is doing in decommissioning some of their Brent platforms.

Questions were then asked by the parliamentarians present, including how Shell awarded their decommissioning work; what skills Scotland's workforce needs to establish itself as a centre for decommissioning excellence; how environmental concerns are being addressed; the cost challenge the industry is facing; and the tax allowance structure surrounding the process of decommissioning.

The group agreed the minutes of the last meeting (held 13 August 2014). **Tavish Scott reminded the group that the next meeting would be next year, where the AGM would be held.**

Tavish Scott thanked all MSPs and members for attending and the meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

Ends.