



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

12th Meeting, 2011 (Session 4)

Wednesday 23 November 2011

Present:

Margaret Burgess (Committee Substitute)	Kezia Dugdale
Joe FitzPatrick (Convener)	Mark Griffin
Margaret Mitchell	Kevin Stewart (Deputy Convener)
Bill Walker	

Apologies were received from David Torrance.

The meeting opened at 10.00 am.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Margaret Mitchell declared an interest as a shareholder and director of Fairfield Properties Limited, and as a member of the Educational Institute of Scotland. Mark Griffin declared an interest as a member of North Lanarkshire Council. Kevin Stewart declared an interest as a member of Aberdeen City Council. Bill Walker declared an interest as a member of Fife Council.
2. **Petition PE1320:** The Committee considered a Petition by Douglas McKenzie, on behalf of Communities Against Airfield open Cast calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to amend Planning Circular 3/2009, Notification of Planning Applications to (a) provide the same status to a planning objection to a major development from a neighbouring local authority as to one from a government agency in order to trigger a notification to Scottish Ministers and (b) state that such objections by a neighbouring local authority to major developments which represent a departure from the development plan should be a significant factor in the decision to call-in.

The Committee took evidence from—

Douglas McKenzie, Chair, and Iain Cane, Member, Communities Against Airfield Open Cast.

The Committee agreed to consider what further action it might wish to take in relation to the petition, in private, at a future meeting.

3. **Welfare Reform Bill 2011 (UK Parliament legislation) (in private):** The Committee considered a draft report to the Health and Sport Committee on legislative consent memorandum LCM (S4) 5.1. Various changes were proposed and decided upon (one by division), and the Committee agreed the draft report as amended.

The meeting closed at 11.16 am.

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