



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Michelle Ballantyne MSP
Convener Economy, Energy and Fair
Work Committee

**Rural Economy and Connectivity
Committee**
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Dear Michelle,

Thank you for your letter of 8 July regarding the Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee's inquiry on the impact of COVID-19 on Scotland's economy which will look at the [report](#) of the Scottish Government's Advisory Group on Economic Recovery (AGER) during its next phase.

During a work programme discussion in June 2020, the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee agreed to have a strong focus on the Scottish Government's response to COVID-19 as part of evidence sessions with Scottish Government Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers. For example, the Committee will address points on digital connectivity made by AGER in its evidence session with the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands on 19 August.

The Committee agreed that generally green recovery issues should be woven into all relevant pieces of work. The Committee also agreed to focus its pre-budget, financial scrutiny work on the implications of COVID-19 for the Scottish budget related to connectivity and the rural economy. A call for views on this inquiry will be launched shortly.

Kind regards

Edward Mountain
Convener