

Local Government and Communities Committee

Common Good Property and Funds

Correspondence from Dr Lindsay Neil to the Clerk of 13 January 2018

Dear Sirs/Madames

One further point has struck me needing clarification:

Andy Wightman MSP asked how the larger burghs eg. Edinburgh would be able to manage representation from several community Councils each with knowledge of their own areas. The issue was left 'hanging'.

The simple answer to that and how it might work is for several community council areas to appoint one representative to act on behalf of all in a particular zone. The actual number of such representatives would be equal to the number of councillors engaged on Common Good Fund management. The overarching unitary authority could dictate which and how many representatives there should be and apportion numbers/zones.

Only the cities would need this problem addressed; the majority of burghs (I emphasise not "former" burghs)* would be more straightforward. The overall aim is to simplify and make LA work easier.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Lindsay Neil

* The use of 'former' applied to burghs is wrong and is a perfect example of a 'woozle'. It should be discouraged where possible.