



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

18th Meeting, 2020 (Session 5)

Wednesday 26 August 2020

Present:

Peter Chapman

Emma Harper

Angus MacDonald

Graham Simpson (Committee
Substitute)

Stewart Stevenson

John Finnie

Richard Lyle

Edward Mountain (Convener)

Colin Smyth

Maureen Watt (Deputy Convener)

Apologies were received from Oliver Mundell, Mike Rumbles.

In attendance: Stuart McMillan

The meeting opened at 8.30 am.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Graham Simpson (Committee substitute) did not declare any interests.
2. **Agriculture Bill (UK Parliament legislation):** The Committee took evidence on legislative consent memorandum LCM-S5-38a Agriculture Bill from—

Fergus Ewing, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Tourism, and George Burgess, Deputy Director, Food & Drink, Scottish Government.

The Committee agreed to recommend in its report that the Parliament should agree the draft motion as set out in the legislative consent memorandum (LCM). It also agreed to write to the Scottish Government seeking further information on issues related to the Bill's provisions.

Edward Mountain declared an interest as a farmer.

Peter Chapman declared an interest as a farmer.

Stewart Stevenson declared an interest as an owner of a small agricultural holding.

3. **Construction and procurement of ferry vessels in Scotland:** The Committee took evidence from—

Paul Wheelhouse, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands, and Fran Pacitti, Director of Aviation, Maritime, Freights and Canals, Scottish Government;

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture, Dermot Rhatigan, Deputy Director, Manufacturing & Industries Economic Development Directorate, and Derek Glover, Finance Business Partner, Scottish Government;

Tim Hair, Turnaround Director, Ferguson Marine Port Glasgow Ltd.

The meeting closed at 12.04 pm.

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