

CORRESPONDENCE WITH ECONOMY, FINANCE AND FAIR WORK COMMITTEE

24 April 2019	Derek Mackay wrote to Economy, Finance and Fair Work Committee seeking approval to follow an accelerated timetable and to commence advertisement for recruitment of Chair of the Bank Board
2 May 2019	Gordon Lindhurst, Convener of the Economy, Finance and Fair Work Committee, responded to Derek Mackay confirming the Committee supported the accelerated timetable however requested that he sought oversight of the process by the Ethical Standards Commissioner.
16 May 2019	Derek Mackay responded to confirm he would write to the Commissioner and that officials would share details of the proposed process in due course.
4 June 2019	Derek Mackay wrote to the Ethical Standards Commissioner requesting her oversight of the process to recruit a Chair for the Scottish National Investment Bank.
13 June 2019	Ethical Standards Commissioner confirmed to Mr Mackay that she was unable to provide the requested oversight as the necessary legislation was not yet in place. She did however advise that should a Section 3(3) order be laid before parliament her support would then be possible.
2 July 2019	In response to the Commissioner, Mr Mackay advised that laying an order would not be possible at that time due to the status of the Bank Bill and that he had instructed an unregulated process to commence. He confirmed that the Code of Practice would be followed to ensure a fair, open and transparent process, and that future Board appointments would be regulated.
18 November 2019	Mr Mackay wrote to the Economy, Finance and Fair Work Committee confirming the appointment of Willie Watt to the role of Chair of the Bank Board.
19 December 2019	In response to Mr Mackay's letter of 18 November, the Committee asked for confirmation of how the appointment was conducted and if Mr Watt was asked to declare any interests relevant to the role.
8 January 2020	Mr Mackay replied, confirming that the recruitment process, although unregulated, followed the Ethical Standards Commissioner's Code of Practice and that all steps were taken to ensure Mr Watt was a 'Fit and Proper Person' to carry out the role of Chair of the Bank.