



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

AGENDA

2nd Meeting, 2011 (Session 3)

Tuesday 25 January 2011

The Committee will meet at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 4.

1. **Low Carbon Scotland: Public Engagement Strategy:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Bob Irvine, Deputy Director, Scottish Water and Climate Change, Mary Mowat, Communications Manager, Communications Directorate, and Paul Tyrer, Principal Research Officer, Environment, Scottish Government.

2. **Transport issues related to recent severe weather conditions:**

Keith Brown MSP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Jim Barton, Chief Road Engineer and Director of Trunk Road and Bus Operations, Transport Scotland, and Frances Duffy, Director, Rail, Scottish Government.

3. **Appointment of EU Reporter:** The Committee will appoint a member to serve as EU Reporter during the pilot of an early warning system for consideration of EU legislative proposals.

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The papers for this meeting are as follows—

Agenda item 1

PRIVATE PAPER

TIC/S3/11/2/1 (P)

[Low Carbon Scotland: Public Engagement Strategy](#)

Agenda item 2

PRIVATE PAPER

TIC/S3/11/2/2 (P)

Agenda item 3

Paper by Clerk

[TIC/S3/11/2/3](#)

TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

2nd Meeting, 2011 (Session 3), Tuesday 25 January 2011

Appointment of EU Reporter

Background

1. A Chamber debate on the European and External Relations Committee (EERC) report on the impact of the Treaty of Lisbon took place on 9 December 2010 and the following motion was agreed to—

S3M-07496 Irene Oldfather (Cunninghame South) (Labour Party) on behalf of the European and External Relations Committee: Report on the impact of the Treaty of Lisbon on Scotland— That the Parliament notes the European and External Relations Committee's 4th Report 2010 (Session 3), *Inquiry into the Impact of the Treaty of Lisbon on Scotland* (SP Paper 469) and agrees to the introduction of a Parliament-wide strategy for European Union engagement and scrutiny, including the introduction on a pilot basis and if successful, permanently, of an early warning system for EU legislative proposals, as outlined in Annexe B to the Report.

2. The EU Strategy and related annexes is available on the Parliament's website at:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/europe/inquiries/euDirectives/documents/EUStrategy_Final.pdf

3. The EU Strategy outlines the enhanced role of subject committees in early engagement and in the scrutiny of emerging EU legislative proposals. Under the new arrangements, subject committees will be responsible for appointing EU Reporters and for scrutinising EU legislative proposals within their area.

4. The pilot that will test the process for consideration of EU legislative proposals in subject Committees seeks to ensure that the format, content and timing of the information received meets the needs of subject committees.

5. Implementation of the pilot requires subject committees to nominate EU Reporters to cover the period of the pilot. This will commence at the end of January 2011 with the first report on EU legislative proposals being issued to EU Reporters on 31 January. The pilot will run to dissolution. The process will be evaluated over the dissolution period and the EU Strategy and associated procedures and guidance will be finalised and in place for the next Parliamentary session.

Appointment of EU Reporters

6. The role of the EU Reporter in the pilot is to undertake the initial review of EU legislative proposals and accompanying Explanatory Memoranda with the Convener. A list of EU legislative proposals and the detailed documents will be sent to the EU Reporter and Convener (copied to the Clerk) on a weekly basis. In the review the EU Reporter and Convener will prioritise legislative proposals which should be subject to further scrutiny by the Committee and will identify those on which no further action should be taken.

7. The proposed process for consideration of legislative proposals is outlined in Annexe B of the EU Strategy. It is anticipated that subject committees will develop criteria for assessing which proposals to prioritise, with the support of the Brussels Office and SPICe. Over the period of the pilot subject committees may wish to consider focusing on those areas already prioritised through their review of the Commission's Work Programme (CWP).

Recommendation

8. The Committee is asked to nominate a member to act as an EU Reporter for the period of the pilot for consideration of EU legislative proposals.

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