The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in Committee Room 3, to consider the following agenda items:

1. **Item in Private**: The Committee will consider whether to take agenda item 3 private.

2. **Subordinate Legislation**: The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—


3. **Aquaculture Inquiry**: The Committee will consider the names of possible witnesses for the second phase of its inquiry into aquaculture.

4. **Aquaculture Inquiry (in private)**: The Committee will consider a further draft report on the first phase of its inquiry into aquaculture.

Callum Thomson
Clerk to the Transport and the Environment Committee
Room 3.5, Committee Chambers
0131 348 (8)5208
e-mail Callum.Thomson@scottish.parliament.uk
The following public papers are relevant for this meeting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Covering note on The Domestic Water and Sewerage Charges (Reduction) (Scotland) Regulations 2002, (SSI 2002/47) (Agenda item 2)</td>
<td>TE/02/8/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Copy of the Regulations (plus Executive note) (Agenda item 2)</td>
<td>TE/02/8/2</td>
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Subject: The Domestic Water and Sewerage Charges (Reduction) (Scotland) Regulations 2002, (SSI/2002/47)

Meeting No: 8th Meeting

Date: 6 March 2002

Author: Note by the Assistant Clerk

Introduction and Background

1. The Domestic Water and Sewerage Charges (Reduction) (Scotland) Regulations 2002, (SSI/2002/47) was laid on 8 February 2002. The regulations come into force on 1 April 2002. The Transport and the Environment Committee has been designated as the lead committee for the consideration of this instrument. An Executive note accompanies the order.

2. The order was laid under a "negative procedure" which means that the Parliament has the power to annul the order by resolution within 40 days, excluding recess. The time limit for Parliamentary action expires on 24 March 2002.

3. Any MSP may lodge a motion to propose to the lead committee that the order be annulled. The Committee is required to report on the instrument by 18 March 2002. Should a motion for annulment be lodged, under Rule 10.4, the Transport and the Environment Committee must debate the issue and then report to the Parliament with its decision.

4. Members who wish to lodge a motion to annul the instrument should consult the Clerks to the Chamber Desk in advance of the meeting of the Transport and the Environment Committee on Wednesday 6 March. A motion to annul should be lodged as early as possible, in order to allow the necessary arrangements to be made for a debate on the motion at the Committee meeting.

5. If members have any queries or points of clarification on the instrument which they wish to have raised with the Scottish Executive, please could these be passed to the Clerk to the Committee as soon as possible, to allow sufficient time for a response to be received in advance of the Committee meeting.

Purpose of the Instrument

6. The instrument provides for reductions in water and sewerage charges in Scotland from 1 April 2002 until 31 March 2003.

Subordinate Legislation Committee

7. The Subordinate Legislation Committee considered this instrument at its meeting on 26 February 2002. In its 13th report the Committee determined that the attention of the Parliament need not be drawn to the instrument.
Recommendation

8. The Committee is invited to agree its report on the instrument.

Alastair Macfie
Assistant Clerk to the Transport and the Environment Committee
February 2002