ECONOMY, ENERGY AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

AGENDA

16th Meeting, 2008 (Session 3)

Wednesday 10 September 2008

The Committee will meet at 9.30 am in Committee Room 6.

1. **Declaration of interests:** Iain Smith MSP and Rob Gibson MSP will be invited to declare any relevant interests.

2. **Choice of Convener:** The Committee will choose a new Convener.

3. **Choice of Deputy Convener:** The Committee will choose a new Deputy Convener.

4. **Scottish Register of Tartans Bill:** The Committee will consider the Bill at Stage 2.

5. **Determining and delivering Scotland's energy future:** The Committee will take evidence from—

   Mr David Wilson, Director of Enterprise, Energy and Tourism, Jane Morgan, Deputy Director for Energy and Telecommunications, and Mr David Rennie, Head, Energy Policy Unit, Scottish Government.

6. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/246) (negative procedure) and take evidence from—

   Mr Colin Imrie, Head, Energy Consents Unit, and Debbie McCall, Energy Consents Unit Manager, Scottish Government.

7. **Work programme:** The Committee will consider its work programme.
The papers for this meeting are as follows—

**Agenda item 2**

Note by the Clerk EET/S3/08/16/1

**Agenda item 4**

Note by the Clerk EET/S3/08/16/2

**Agenda item 5**

Note by the Clerk EET/S3/08/16/3

**Agenda item 6**

Note by the Clerk EET/S3/08/16/4

*The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Amendment Regulation 2008*

**Agenda item 7**

Note by the Clerk EET/S3/08/16/5
Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee

16th Meeting, 2008 (Session 3), Wednesday, 10 September 2008

CHOICE OF CONVENER AND DEPUTY CONVENER

Introduction

1. This paper is designed to inform members of the procedure for choosing a new Convener and Deputy Convener, following the resignation of Tavish Scott, MSP and Brian Adam, MSP from the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee.

Choice of Convener

2. On the 7 June 2007, the Parliament agreed motion S3M-137, which resolved that members of the Scottish Liberal Democrat Party are eligible to be chosen as Convener of the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee.

3. The oldest member of the Committee will ask the Committee whether it agrees to him acting as a temporary convener in accordance with Standing Orders Rule 10.1.15, for the purpose of choosing a Convener. The oldest committee member will then, following the declaration of interests, invite nominations from members of the Scottish Liberal Democrat Party for the convenership. There is no requirement for nominations to be submitted in advance of the meeting or to be seconded.

4. Where only one nomination is received, members will be asked to agree to the appointment.

5. On being chosen by the Committee, the Convener will immediately take the chair and will chair the remainder of the meeting.

Choice of Deputy Convener

6. Motion S3M-137 also stated that members of the Scottish National Party are eligible to be chosen as Deputy Convener of the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee.

7. The procedure for choosing a Deputy Convener is the same as that for the Convener and will be conducted by the newly chosen Convener.

Role of Convener and Deputy Convener

8. The duties and responsibilities of the Convener and Deputy Convener of a parliamentary committee are set out in Rule 12 of Standing Orders. Further detail on the role of the Convener is provided in paragraphs 4.27 to 4.29 of the Guidance on Committees which can be found online at—

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/parliamentaryProcedure/g-committee/cg-c.htm
Action

9. Members are invited to choose the Convener and Deputy Convener.

Stephen Imrie
Clerk to the Committee
September 2008
SCOTTISH REGISTER OF TARTANS BILL – ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

1. Members will find attached in annexe A, a copy of additional evidence received in relation to the Scottish Register of Tartans Bill.

Stephen Imrie
Clerk to the Committee
September 2008
ANNEXE A

23rd July 2008

Mr David Whitton MSP
Committee Member
Economy, Energy & Tourism Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Dear Mr Whitton

The Scottish Register of Tartans Bill

As Members of the Sub-Group Committee for the Scottish Register of Tartans we very much appreciate the intentions that we feel lie behind the introduction of your Amendment. The particular issue for the requirement of a woven sample to accompany applications to the Scottish Register of Tartans has implications however, that are impractical and would also be a hindrance to the aims and objectives of the Register to which we are all agreed.

All of us are united in the conviction that weaving is the very essence of tartan and we have examined at length the risk to tartan’s future should this new Register unduly facilitate any burgeoning of non-woven registrations; this is something none of us want. We have been at great lengths to ensure that a stringent application process is in place which will safeguard the status and integrity of tartan. We believe that your Amendment is intended to uphold those same values which have been central throughout this process. However, the practical difficulties are as follows:

1. The requirement for every applicant to produce a woven sample together with the application could lead to small squares of tartan being privately woven simply in order to fulfil this requirement and this does nothing for the status of tartan at the present time. In almost all cases samples are not specially woven as a small sample only but are tartan off-cuts from the first production of the woven product. If the tartan off-cut was then rejected there would be significant financial and possible legal problems regarding the remaining fabric.

2. A tartan design that has been produced by a Company for PR and marketing purposes and which may thereafter be widely used and recognised in the public domain needs to be recorded as such in order to subsequently at some future time avoid another applicant using that same design in woven form. The recording of the design will also allow the said company to subsequently decide to extend the use of the design into the woven form at a later date.
Proof of Weaving is another important issue which has always been an alternative to providing a woven sample and should continue to do so. For example, if a tartan design is woven into Cashmere rugs submission of an off-cut sample is not practical. Proof of weaving can therefore follow the initial application to the Register.

We have worked long and hard, using an open and collaborative approach taking on board views and opinions from the broadest possible spectrum prior to achieving a pragmatic compromise and workable solution to a range of sometimes difficult issues. This comes through a fundamental and strong desire from us all to achieve an outcome that will safeguard the core traditions and cultural heritage of tartan in the public domain in perpetuity for the Nation.

We trust that the above explains to you why our key supporters of the Bill may have no alternative but to withdraw their support for the Register should your Amendment stand and this could effectively undermine the Bill. We therefore unanimously ask that you consider the withdrawal of your Amendment confident that the submission of a woven sample or proof of weaving can follow the approval of the initial application by the Keeper.

We thank you for your favourable understanding of this letter which comes with the support and backing of all the Industry Members of the Sub-Group Committee for the Scottish Register of Tartans.

NICK FIDDES
Governor, Scottish Tartans Authority

DEIRDRE A KINLOCH ANDERSON
Director, Kinloch Anderson Ltd

KEITH LUMSDEN
Registrar Director, Scottish Tartans World Register

BRIAN WILTON
Operations Director, Scottish Tartans Authority
ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE FROM DAVID MCGILL

PUBLIC REGISTER of TARTANS BILL

I have read the debate on Stage I of the above Bill and would like to make the following comments.

I own a significant number of tartan designs (which can be seen on www.internationaltartans.co.uk and www.tartansforafrica.com)

and clearly have an interest in the creation of a public register which I wholeheartedly support in principle. I am concerned however about a number of misconceptions and misunderstandings which seem to have arisen.

Tartan is not just a national symbol of Scotland. According to research I had carried out by Wisconsin University some years ago, it is arguably the most significant national icon of any country in the world. It is vitally important therefore to ensure that its unique status is preserved for the benefit of Scotland and its people.

The original petition for this Bill was actually raised by an American (Jim Anderson of California). As an importer of tartan he found his business restricted by the high import duty (on all textiles) imposed by Congress to protect the US cotton industry. He approached his State representatives and was told that they would support a Bill to have tartan removed from the list of textiles, and thus the high level of duty, if it could be interpreted as a form of national cloth for a specific and not general purpose. He was advised that this would require the support of statutory legislation from the originating country Scotland, hence his petition. It is to Mr. McGrigor's credit that he is attempting to provide this. If and when the US Congress actually remove the duty from tartan it would obviously have a hugely beneficial effect on the weaving and manufacturing industry in Scotland. Regardless of any other considerations it is important therefore for this Bill and its detailed points and definitions to be given very careful consideration. Not only is the singular nature of a supreme national icon at stake, but we risk losing a significant input to the Scottish economy if it is trivialised in any way.

Tartan is a cloth, traditionally woven in wool or silk and nowadays in cotton and man-made fibres, but is always by self-definition a cloth. A piece of paper with a tartan image printed on it is not a piece of tartan but a piece of paper. To suggest otherwise - the so-called modernists view - seems frivolous and illogical. Who would compose a piece of music which is capable of being played but never is?

The examples that have been given in evidence about the high cost of weaving swatches of cloth preventing ordinary people from designing their own tartan and the restrictions on the accessories market make no sense. The sheer number of registered tartans (6000 by the STA) indicates that hundreds, perhaps even thousands of ordinary people have designed a tartan which has been woven. And why should it be cheap in any case? The
registration of a patented device can cost hundreds perhaps even thousands of pounds in search fees alone. The registration of tartan should simply be affordable to any ordinary person and clearly is. I have managed to afford fees and samples for some fifty tartans. The current system works so why change it? There is nothing in law to prevent anyone from designing as many tartans as they wish, but to have them registered, and thus protected by statute, should be an act demonstrating commitment. And registration of course is as much about protecting the rights of the designer as preserving the integrity of our heritage. If a cost of 200.00 for providing a sample (and four metres of extra cloth) less than the cost of a computer game and half of the proposed registration fee prohibits an imaginary child from providing a woven sample, then so be it. We would all like to live in a world where everything was free, but unfortunately it is not a sound basis for statutory legislation on matters of national importance.

Reference is also made to the waste of money when a woven swatch of a newly-designed tartan is submitted for registration and found to be of a design which has been registered previously. This also makes no sense. The Scottish World Tartans Register provides a free service whereby a simple written thread-count with outline colour code is submitted by the applicant and checked against all registered tartans to prove its uniqueness. If it qualifies, it is noted pending production of a woven sample. The SWTR also provide three coloured copies of a print-out of the tartan design for 5 as part of their service. Formal registration only takes place on submission of a woven sample and payment of a fee of 50.00. There is therefore no risk whatsoever of any wasteful duplication. But because of differences in printers ink on paper and dyed wool there is a risk that there may be significant differences in the colours of the finished design: a mistake I’ve made on a few occasions. That’s why it is imperative to have the design woven into cloth for registration purposes.

The reference to a swatch of cloth is, in any event, misleading. The swatch of cloth that currently has to be lodged with the registering body cannot be the only piece of cloth woven. Who would give away their only sample and keep no record of the finished design? What would they have to show their clients or future customers? The swatch referred to is in effect only the proof that weaving has taken place and a tartan created. Since tartan is a design based on a repeating pattern: the sett, a swatch of approximately 9 x 7 is sufficient only to show a single sett at best, and gives no real impression of what the finished cloth will look like. Who would ever choose a carpet, curtains or wallpaper on the basis of a tiny sample pattern and then give it away before investing in the finished article?

Since the appearance of the same cloth can even vary depending on the garment it is used for, as a matter of policy I never order less than a fifteen-metre length of double-width cloth. This is sufficient to allow customers to see the full effect of the tartan and have it made into a range of sample products. Not only does this show commitment, but it also ensures that the weaver makes some profit from their work, rather than simply providing endless loss-making samples. And incidentally all of the twenty-plus products I have made
are hand-made in Scotland by Scottish companies, even the wrapping paper. I own tartans attributed to over thirty countries and several US States some of which have actually been bought by the Scottish Parliament and a number of local authorities. It would be a very simple matter to have the cloths woven and the products made in the sweatshops of the Far East and sent directly to the country in question, but what benefit would that be to Scotland other than to me personally. None.

As someone who has represented Scotland at sport internationally I am well aware of our good standing worldwide. We also have a reputation for distinctive, high-quality products. However, I am also aware of strong criticism about the poor quality of many Scottish products ie clothing, gifts, souvenirs, etc. purporting to be Scottish but simply cheap and poorly-made representations of Scottishness, many of which are sold in High Streets across the country. They do little or nothing to enhance Scotlands reputation.

On a purely personal note, far from allowing tartan to be designed willy-nilly in a cavalier fashion, I would impose restrictions on the definition, design and use of tartan. Just as Scotch Whisky and Harris Tweed are protected brands which are defined by their place of origin, I would apply something similar to tartan by calling it say Scottish tartan, limit its production to the UK, and give it international protection through trade-marking. This would not be protectionism in any narrow sense, or a restriction on trade, but a genuine attempt to inform consumers and maintain standards of quality whilst protecting Scotlands reputation. Why we tolerate the import of cheap, simulated goods woven and made by child-labour in the Far East is beyond comprehension? Some of them are simply copies of UK-made products and even have labels which exactly match those of UK companies who dont have the resources to pursue the matter.

From its early associations with a warrior-class, tartan nowadays is associated with friendship and fun. That, however, should not distract us from the serious nature of ensuring that its reputation is held in trust for the benefit of generations to come and that reputation should match the one we desire for Scotland itself.
Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee

16th Meeting, 2008 (Session 3), Wednesday, 10 September 2008

DETERMINING AND DELIVERING SCOTLAND’S ENERGY FUTURE – INITIAL EVIDENCE SESSION

Background

1. Members will be aware that the main inquiry to be undertaken over the coming months focuses on energy matters and specifically how to determine and deliver Scotland’s energy future. Prior to the summer recess, Members of the Committee agreed the remit and terms of reference (see Annex), and issued a call for written evidence. To date, over 70 submissions of written evidence have been received, which are now online1 and have been circulated in hard copy to Members of the Committee.

2. It is the intention of the clerk to provide Members with an approach paper at a future Committee meeting (probably 24 September) to identify emerging issues, list possible witnesses for oral evidence, highlight potential visits etc. This will enable Members to consider the approach and timetable for this inquiry in more detail. We will also circulate all the written evidence received and ask the Committee to discuss emerging issues at its next meeting on the 17 September.

3. However, to ‘set the scene’ for the inquiry, officials from the Scottish Government have agreed to give evidence at today’s meeting to brief Members on current Scottish Government policy and discuss future initiatives. This will enable members to understand current Government activities at an early stage.

4. Finally, members may wish to note that the Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change (TICC) Committee is planning to hold a seminar with an external consultant, focusing on scenario planning through the GRIP tool. GRIP allows the user to investigate the ramifications of different energy mixes in terms of emission levels, prices, sector-by-sector impacts on the economy etc. The seminar is expected to be on 30 September (p.m.).

Recommendations

5. Members are asked to question the Scottish Government officials accordingly and identify what, if any, areas they may wish further information and briefing on from officials and/or the Energy Minister.

1 Available at:
6. Members are also asked to note the GRIP seminar (see paragraph 4) and to attend jointly along with members of the TICC Committee (30 September, p.m.).

Stephen Imrie
Clerk to the Committee
September 2008
REMIT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background

Energy policy is high on the global political agenda as, of course, is the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Modern economies have been, and continue to be, built on the ability to source ‘cheap’ energy. However, oil prices have increased six-fold in the past seven years and government and society are being challenged to rethink how we use energy, and where we source it from. Additionally, in the past, many of the costs associated with energy sources have been externalised and climate change is a significant reminder that the costs of energy are wider.

In Scotland, as elsewhere, energy supports economic growth, and is essential to the social wellbeing of every person in the country, whether used for transport, domestic, public or commercial purposes. Scotland competes in the UK and European market for much of its energy. This means it is subject to shared issues such as: declining domestic oil and gas reserves; increasing demand for electricity; and energy for transport. The Scottish Government has an ambitious climate change commitment to reduce greenhouse gases; specifically the Government wants to reduce them by 80% by 2050. In addition, the European Union has set targets to reduce energy use by 20% by 2020, and meet 20% of energy needs (not just electricity) from renewables by 2020. The Scottish Government has set itself a new target to generate 50 per cent of Scotland’s electricity from renewables by 2020, with an interim target of 31 per cent by 2011.

The position on energy in Scotland is complicated as many energy matters remain reserved, but powers relating to energy efficiency, renewable energy, building regulations, transport, planning, health, sustainable development, agriculture, environment, climate change among other relevant policy areas are devolved to the Scottish Government.

Remit

Given the imperative of cutting the emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants, the remit for the inquiry is to determine, within the devolved context and the Parliament’s competences, what type of future we want in Scotland in terms of the production, distribution and more efficient use of energy, and how and when it can be delivered to meet the Scottish Government’s objectives of increasing renewable energy generation and reducing emissions. It will also consider how energy supplies can be secured at an affordable price and how economic benefits from the energy industries can be maximised.
Call for Evidence

As part of this inquiry, the Committee seeks evidence on the following three key issues—

- What type of future is needed in Scotland in terms of the production, distribution and more efficient use of energy, given the issues of price, security of supply and sustainable development?

- How can this future be delivered in Scotland and how will we meet all the various targets and obligations?

- What decisions need to be taken, by when and by whom to deliver on Scotland’s energy future?

Linked to these three key issues are the following—

- Which energy sectors offer the best prospects for economic growth and reduced carbon emissions, and how should these be secured?

- What are the hindrances to determining and developing Scotland’s energy future?

- What is needed in the sort and medium-term, particularly from the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish, UK and other governments (such as the EU), to deliver Scotland’s energy future?

- How can demand for energy be reduced in Scotland?

- How can the energy sector deliver the kind of reductions in greenhouse gas emissions that the Scottish Government wants to see?

- How can energy supplies be secured at a price which is affordable?

- How can economic benefits from Scotland’s energy industries and the development of clean technologies be maximised?

- What are examples of best practice in Scotland and elsewhere, particularly focussing on low-carbon solutions and covering electricity, heat and transport?
SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

SSI title and number: The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/246)

Type of Instrument: Negative – Standing Orders Rule 10.4

Date Laid: Friday 13 June 2008

Date circulated to Members: Friday 5 September 2008

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee deadline to report on SSI: 25 September 2008

Background

1. The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2008 (SSI 2008/246) amend the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2000 (SI 2000/320) (“the principal Regulations”). The principal regulations transpose European Council Directives 85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment which relate to applications under sections 36 or 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct, extend or operate a generating station with a capacity of more than 50 megawatts (or a hydro of marine development of over 1MW) or to install or keep installed an electric line above ground.

2. These Regulations implement the amendments to European Council Directive 85/337/EEC made by Article 3 of Directive 2003/35/EC of the European Parliament and European Council, which provides for public participation in relation to the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment. These Regulations propose to strengthen public and community participation in the consultation and decision-making procedures in relation to the consents process. The Regulations are consistent with one of the objectives of the Planning Act 2006, which was to increase public and community participation at an early stage of the planning process with a view to improving the quality of applications and the speed of the consents process.

3. The additional costs linked to the new procedures will be borne primarily by the Scottish Ministers, but also to a certain extent by developers. However, the Executive Note points out that many of the propose amendments are already being carried out by Scottish Ministers and the
additional costs are not considered significant in the context of the overall costs of an application.

4. Copies of the SSI, an explanatory note (which is not part of the Regulations) and the Executive Note are attached. The latter provides more information on the policy intent of the Regulations.

5. Officials from the Scottish Government’s Energy Consents Unit will be present to answer any questions that Committee members might have on this SSI.

6. No motion to annul had been lodged in relation to this instrument.

Subordinate Legislation Committee Report

7. The Subordinate Legislation Committee did not have any comments to make in relation to this instrument.¹

Action

8. The Committee is invited to consider whether it wishes to make any recommendation in relation to the instrument. The instrument is not subject to amendment.

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee

16th Meeting, 2008 (Session 3), Wednesday, 10 September 2008

COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME - UPDATE

Background

1. Given that this is the first meeting after the summer recess, members of the Committee may find it useful to consider the current work programme of the Committee. This paper sets out the current commitments.

Recommendation

2. Members of the Committee are asked to consider the current work programme and discuss any changes or additions they wish to make. Members may wish to note that it is the Clerk’s intention to provide a comprehensive approach paper for the energy inquiry at one of the next meetings in order that the timetable for this inquiry can be discussed in more detail.

Current commitments

3. The current commitments of the Committee over the period to summer 2009 are as follows:

Inquiries
4. The Committee has now launched its energy inquiry (to be discussed in greater depth at the next committee meeting). A substantial volume of written submissions have been received and the Committee will now need to discuss next steps (e.g. emerging themes, oral evidence sessions, informal meetings, site visits etc). The broad timetable for this inquiry is September 2008 to May 2009, with oral evidence sessions from later this year onwards.

Budget scrutiny
5. As with all subject committees, the Committee will be expected to scrutinise the economy, energy and tourism elements of the proposed 2009/10 budget. If this work follows the pattern of previous years, it is envisaged that a small number of evidence-taking sessions will be arranged during October/early November, with the finalisation of the Committee’s report to the Finance Committee by mid November 2008. Peter Wood has been appointed to act as the Committee’s budget adviser.

Legislation
6. The Committee will have completed Stage 2 of the scrutiny of the Scottish Register of Tartans Bill during today’s meeting. At this stage, it is not expected that the Committee will be required to scrutinise any new Scottish Government legislation or legislative consent memoranda for UK Parliament legislation until at least the New Year.
Hearings
7. Given that the past and current inquiries of the Committee have been on tourism and energy issues respectively, the Committee has already committed itself to a series of one-off evidence sessions on enterprise/economic matters in order to keep abreast of developments. The current commitments relate to:

- The work and recommendations of the Regulatory Reform Group (set for 17 September 2008);
- The ‘credit crunch’ and the impact on the Scottish economy (set for 24 September 2008);
- A yearly meeting with representatives of the Scottish Government’s Council of Economic Advisers (set for 8 October 2008);
- The public policy framework that supports international trade. This is the subject of external research commissioned by the Committee (hearing set for 24 September or, more likely, 8 October 2008).

National Planning Framework 2
8. The Committee has committed itself to being part of the parliamentary process to scrutinise relevant sections of the Scottish Government’s National Planning Framework 2 when this is introduced. The timetable for this work is expected to be late October through to December 2008.

Major events
9. The Committee is already committed to organising two major events in the Scottish Parliament, namely:

- A yearly event with the Scottish Trades Union Congress. The next event is scheduled for February 2009, possibly on the theme of the ‘social partnership models’ of the countries in the ‘arc of prosperity’. Further details will be brought forward to the Committee for more formal consideration in the coming weeks.
- The 5th Business in the Parliament Conference, jointly organised with the Scottish Government, is set for May/June 2009. Two possible broad themes have been identified: namely skills or innovation.

Other meetings/briefings
10. The Committee is invited to agree formally to the following:

- An informal meeting with senior representatives of the Office of Fair Trading on ‘credit crunch’ related issues (proposed for 2 October 2008, 13h00-14h30);
• An evening reception, jointly with the Tourism Minister, for the Scottish Tourist Guides Association (proposed for 27 November 2008, 18h00-20h00 approx.).

Ramifications of current commitments
11. The ramifications of the current commitments alone indicated a broadly weekly pattern of committee meetings, at least in the period September to December 2008. The intention is for these to continue to be on a Wednesday morning, with a 9.30am start as the norm unless otherwise advised (e.g. because the agenda is ‘light’ on that day).

Future meetings and key dates
12. Members may find the following useful in terms of planning of diaries.

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<tr>
<td>10 September</td>
<td><strong>Committee meeting:</strong></td>
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| 17 September | **Committee meeting:**
Briefing from representatives of the Regulatory Reform Group (TBC)
Consideration of written evidence for the energy inquiry
Consideration of the Scottish Government’s response to tourism report (TBC) |
| 18 September | Possible date for the Chamber debate on the Committee’s tourism inquiry report. NB. Alternatively, may be 24 September |
| 24 September | **Committee meeting:**
Hearing on credit crunch/Scots economy and next steps (TBC)
Approach paper – energy inquiry (timetable, choice of witnesses, visits etc)
Briefing from Peter Wood on budget scrutiny and consideration of priorities/timetable for evidence-taking (TBC) |
| 24 September | Possible date for Chamber debate on the Committee’s tourism inquiry report. NB. Alternative is 18 September |
| 1 October   | **Committee meeting (TBC). May to be cancelled**
Potential date for visits as part of energy inquiry |
| 2 October   | Proposed informal meeting with representatives of the Office of Fair Trading (13h00-14h00) (TBC) |
| 8 October   | **Committee meeting:**
Briefing from Council of Economic Advisers (TBC).
Briefing from COGENT SI on international trade research (TBC). |
| 29 October  | **Committee meeting:**
Evidence-taking: Scottish Government’s 2009-10 budget proposals (TBC)
Consider approach to NPF 2 scrutiny (TBC) |
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| 5 November   | Committee meeting
NPF2 evidence taking (TBC).
Finalise draft report on the Scottish Government's 2009-10 budget proposals (TBC) |
| 12 November  | Committee meeting:
NPF2 evidence taking (TBC).
Finalise draft report on the Scottish Government's 2009-10 budget proposals (TBC) |
| 19 November  | Committee meeting:
NPF2 evidence taking (TBC)
Energy inquiry evidence-taking (TBC) |
| 26 November  | Committee meeting:
Finalise draft report on the NPF 2 (TBC)
Energy inquiry evidence-taking (TBC) |
| 27 November  | Proposed evening reception with the Scottish Tourists Guide Association (18h00-20h00) (TBC) |
| 3 December   | Committee meeting:
Finalise draft report on the NPF 2 (TBC)
Energy inquiry evidence-taking (TBC) |
| 10 December  | Committee meeting (TBC)
Energy inquiry evidence-taking (TBC) |
| 17 December  | Committee meeting (TBC)
Energy inquiry evidence-taking (TBC) |

Stephen Imrie
Clerk to the Committee
September 2008