RURAL AFFAIRS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

7th Meeting, 2010 (Session 3)

Wednesday 17 March 2010

The Committee will meet at 10.45 am in Committee Room 3.

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—

   the Seed Potatoes (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/71).

2. **Crofting Reform (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee will take evidence on the Bill at Stage 1 from—

   Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Minister for Environment, Bruce Beveridge, Deputy Director, Rural Communities Division, Iain Dewar, Bill Team Leader, Rural Communities Division, and Heather Wortley, Solicitor, Legal Directorate, Scottish Government.

3. **Crofting Reform (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee will consider the evidence heard earlier in the meeting.

Peter McGrath
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The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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The papers for this meeting are as follows—

**Agenda Item 1**

The Seed Potatoes (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/71)  RAE/S3/10/7/1

**Agenda Item 2**

SPICe briefing paper (private)  RAE/S3/10/7/2

Correspondence from the Scottish Government (re-issued from 10 March meeting)  RAE/S3/10/7/3

**For Information**

Recent Developments  RAE/S3/10/7/4
RURAL AFFAIRS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE’S REMIT

Note by the Clerk: Each time an agenda and papers for a meeting are circulated to members, a short paper like this one will also be included as a means of alerting members to relevant documents of general interest which they can follow up through the links included.

**Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003**

On 16 December 2009, the Committee agreed a specification for commissioned research on the implementation of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. The contract for the work has now been awarded to a team led by Dr Calum Macleod from the University of Highlands and Islands Centre for Mountain Studies. The purpose of the research is to contribute to post-legislative scrutiny of the Act, examining current use of the access and right to buy provisions, barriers to their more widespread use, and proposals from stakeholders on how the provisions or their implementation might change in future. The project will be completed by autumn 2010. More information about the Centre for Mountain Studies can be viewed online at:

http://www.perth.ac.uk/specialistcentres/cms/Pages/default.aspx

**Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009**

DEFRA has launched a consultation on the proposals for the enforcement of the new marine licensing system in Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 which sets out a framework to regulate marine development works and activities. The closing date for responses is 1 June 2010. More information on the consultation can be read online at:


**The Crown Estate**

The Crown Estate has published its Scotland Bulletin for winter 2010. It can be viewed online at:

http://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/scotland_bulletin_winter_2010.pdf