

INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

19th Meeting, 2014 (Session 4)

Wednesday 18 June 2014

The Committee will meet at 10.00 am in the David Livingstone Room (CR6).

- 1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 4 in private.
- 2. **Broadband:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Nicola Sturgeon, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, and Colin Cook, Deputy Director for Digital Strategy and Programmes Division, Digital Directorate, Scottish Government.

3. **Prestwick Airport:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Nicola Sturgeon, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, Sharon Fairweather, Director of Finance, Transport Scotland, and John Nicholls, Director - Aviation, Maritime, Freight and Canals, Transport Scotland, Scottish Government.

4. **Draft Budget Scrutiny 2015-16:** The Committee will consider its approach to the scrutiny of the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2015-16.

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ICI/S4/14/19/A

The papers for this meeting are as follows—

Agenda Item 2

Background Note ICI/S4/14/19/1

PRIVATE PAPER ICI/S4/14/19/2 (P)

Agenda Item 3

Background Note ICI/S4/14/19/3

PRIVATE PAPER ICI/S4/14/19/4 (P)

Agenda Item 4

PRIVATE PAPER ICI/S4/14/19/5 (P)

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Broadband and Digital Infrastructure

Background

1. In its report on <u>Broadband Infrastructure in Scotland</u> (2012), the Committee said that it intended to take a keen interest in the implementation and delivery of the Government's digital strategy, and welcomed the Cabinet Secretary's offer to provide regular written and oral updates over the course of the Parliamentary session.

Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee consideration

- 2. On 12 June 2013 the Committee took an update on the progress of the Scottish Government's broadband roll-out project from the Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, and covered issues pertaining to the roll-out of broadband and digital services in Scotland.
- 3. The Official Report can be accessed at the following link:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r =8754&mode=pdf

- 4. On 7 May 2014 the Committee had the opportunity to hear from the Director General of DG Connect at the European Commission, Robert Madelin, on the European Digital Agenda, and topics pertaining to broadband roll-out, connectivity, and digital participation.
- 5. The Official Report can be accessed at the following link:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r =9159&mode=pdf

Next Steps

6. The Committee will take a further update on broadband and digital matter from the Cabinet Secretary at its meeting on 18 June 2014.

Kelly Forbes Assistant Clerk 10 June 2014

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Prestwick Airport

Background

- 1. Glasgow Prestwick Airport is an international airport handling both passenger and freight traffic. It is located 1.2 miles northeast of the town of Prestwick in South Ayrshire.
- 2. The airport is wholly owned by Scottish Ministers, who purchased it from previous owners Infratil (Prestwick Aviation Holdings Ltd) on 23 November 2013. Scottish Ministers established a holding company (TS Prestwick HoldCo Ltd) to purchase the shares in Prestwick Aviation Holdings Ltd. The holding company provides strategic oversight and ensures appropriate corporate governance arrangements are in place to monitor activities at the airport.
- 3. The Scottish Government acquisition of Prestwick Airport was predicated upon the protection of the 3,200 jobs directly or indirectly associated with the airport in the face of losses experienced by the previous owners. Scottish Ministers paid a nominal fee of £1 to purchase Glasgow Prestwick Airport.

Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee consideration

- 4. Following the announcement of the Scottish Government's intention to purchase Prestwick Airport the ICI Committee invited the Cabinet Secretary to give evidence on the planned acquisition. It was agreed that the Cabinet Secretary would appear before the Committee following the completion of purchase.
- 5. The Cabinet Secretary wrote to the Committee on 23 November 2013 announcing the completion of the Scottish Government's acquisition of Prestwick Airport, and wrote again to the Committee on 31 January 2014 to provide an update on post-purchase activities in advance of her appearance before the Committee on 19 March 2014.
- 6. At the Committee's meeting on 19 March the Cabinet Secretary advised the Committee that an update on progress would be available approximately 3 months from that date, around June 2014.
- 7. The Official Report can be accessed at the following link:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r =9053&mode=pdf

Next Steps

8. The Committee will be given a further update from the Cabinet Secretary when she gives evidence at its meeting on 18 June.

Kelly Forbes Assistant Clerk 10 June 2014