



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Local Government and Regeneration Committee

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20 October 2014

Dear Mr Whitefield

Local Government and Regeneration Committee Meeting – 8 October 2014

I have been instructed by the Committee to express its disappointment that North Lanarkshire Council was unable to provide a senior official to attend the Committee's meeting on 8 October to provide evidence on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill. This is compounded by the manner and lateness of the withdrawal from appearing.

The Committee has contrasted the approach of North Lanarkshire Council with that of Inverclyde Council whose Chief Executive prioritised attending the Committee over other pressing business. The Committee would welcome a written explanation from your Council covering the failure to attend on 8 October.

The Committee consider it important that the local authority is provided with a further opportunity to consider the matters covered at the meeting. To that end they would welcome your written response to the questions asked of the public bodies on 8 October. A link to the Official Report of the meeting is provided; please see columns 1 to 22:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9577>

Given the timetable to which the Committee is working to on the Bill they have asked for your response to be with them to inform their final meeting on these aspects next week. I would therefore appreciate your response by no later than 24 October.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Cullum', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

David Cullum
Clerk
Local Government and Regeneration Committee