



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## **Local Government and Regeneration Committee**

**Kevin Stewart MSP**  
**Convener**

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Dear Ms Scott

### **Local Government and Regeneration Committee meeting 18 November 2015**

I refer to the invitation issued to Judith Proctor from Aberdeen City Council to provide evidence to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee at our meeting today in relation to the Committee's inquiry into Arms-Length External Organisations ("ALEOs").

In response to the invitation you wrote to me on 11 November indicating the Council would not be attending. The Clerk to the Committee thereafter made contact with officials to discuss but ultimately Aberdeen City Council did not attend the Committee meeting.

The background to the invitation, including detail of the letter sent to the Convener, were considered by the Committee today. The Committee did not find the action taken by the Council to be reasonable and have determined they wish to hear in person from the Council Leader, the Chief Executive and Judith Proctor in relation both to the original inquiry and the failure of Aberdeen City Council to attend as requested. This further meeting has been fixed for 2 December. The public record of today's meeting will be available on Monday 23 November, for information I attach a

copy of the Committee's agreed approach to witness selection which was first stated on 10 December 2014 and can be viewed [here](#).

I would also remind you that Committees of the Scottish Parliament have powers to compel attendance under the Scotland Act 1998. While this power is rarely mentioned in invitations to attend, as Committees prefer to rely upon witnesses respecting the democratic process, in this instance the power will, if required, be invoked to secure attendance.

The Committee meeting on 2 December is scheduled to commence at 10am and the continued item for which your attendance is required is anticipated to commence at 11:30. It would be helpful if you could report to the Scottish Parliament no later than 11:15.

I would be grateful if you would confirm receipt of this letter and your attendance in respect of the invitation direct to the Clerk of the Committee who will be happy to provide any further information you might require in relation to the Committee's ALEO inquiry.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ken', followed by a large, sweeping flourish that extends to the right.

Convener  
Local Government and Regeneration Committee