



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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c/o Clerk to the Committee
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By email only

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Dear Paul,

Open Letter: Your Commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals

Thank you for your letter inviting the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee outline how its work relates to the ambition of achieving Scotland's Sustainable Development Goals.

Since its establishment in June 2016, the Committee has pursued [several areas](#) of work which will be of interest to you in this context. I also draw your attention to our [work programme](#) for the coming months.

Among its many pieces of work, the Committee has:

- [Assessed](#) the Committee on Climate Change's [Progress Report](#) for Scotland 2016 and has arranged a session to consider the 2017 report also.
- Considered the Committee on Climate Change's September 2016 [publication assessing Scotland's climate change adaptation programme](#). Through this, it has considered issues such as flooding.
- [Scrutinised](#) the Scottish Government's draft Climate Change Plan and signalled its intention to consider the final Plan once published.
- Encouraged cross-cutting examination of how Scottish Government spending across all portfolios impacts on climate change through work with other Committees of the Scottish Parliament.
- Considered how Scotland's public sector is responding to climate change.
- [Written](#) to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities with a contribution to the Delivery Plan for the eradication of child poverty through the Child Poverty (Scotland) Bill.
- Committed to undertake an inquiry into Scotland's marine environment, with a specific focus on the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.
- Endeavoured to promote gender equality in its [engagement plan](#), including ensuring balanced panels of witnesses where possible.

- The Committee will consider the subordinate legislation arising from the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 and the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
- Undertaken an [extensive inquiry](#) into the Scottish Government's Clean Air for Scotland strategy.
- Scrutinised the establishment of the Scottish Land Commission, including the [appointment of the Commissioners](#).
- Launched an [inquiry](#) into the EU Environmental and Animal Welfare Principles.
- [Scrutinised](#) the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill in the context of the Committee's remit.
- Coordinated with counterparts Committees around the country and taken evidence from stakeholders on issues of environmental governance once the UK has left the European Union.

Finally, the Committee has maintained an interest in developments as the UK prepares to leave the EU to ensure that Scotland's environmental interests are not jeopardised by the process or outcomes, and that Scotland continues to be a strong international champion for climate change mitigation and adaptation, climate justice and the protection of environment assets.

I look forward to seeing the results of your call for views.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Dey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Graeme Dey MSP
Convener
Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee