

Economy and Fair Work Committee
Wednesday 19 March 2025
9th Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

New Deal for Business – Note by the Clerk

Background

1. The Scottish Government announced the [New Deal for Business](#) in April 2023 to “help business and trade to thrive and maximise the opportunity of the green economy, with fairness at its heart”.
2. A [New Deal for Business Group \(NDBG\)](#) was established by the Scottish Government as a forum for government and business leaders to explore how best to support businesses and communities to work together, as part of the wider delivery of the [National Strategy for Economic Transformation](#).
3. The NDBG is co-chaired by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic, and Dr Poonam Malik.
4. In October 2023, the NDBG published an [implementation plan](#) to deliver its recommendations, setting out key actions and measurements of success.
5. The Committee is holding three evidence sessions to consider what the New Deal for Business has achieved and progress against the implementation plan.

Evidence Session

6. This is third and final evidence session. The Committee will hear from—
 - Kate Forbes, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic; and
 - Dr Poonam Malik, Co-Chair, New Deal for Business Group.

Written Evidence

7. Written contributions were received from [the Diffley Partnership](#) and [the Scottish Tourism Alliance](#).

Clerks to the Committee
March 2025