

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

26th Meeting, 2023 (Session 6)

Tuesday, 19 September 2023

Scottish Government priorities relevant to the Committee's remit: evidence session with the Minister for Transport

1. At its meeting on 30 May, the Committee agreed to invite the Minister for Transport to give evidence to the Committee. This [decision](#) followed an [evidence session](#) with ScotRail and was intended to focus on the transfer of operation of ScotRail to the Scottish Government.
2. [On 28 March](#), the Scottish Parliament approved the appointment of a new First Minister, Humza Yousaf MSP. The new First Minister also reshuffled his Cabinet and created new portfolios. This included appointment of a new Transport Minister, Kevin Stewart MSP to replace Jenny Gilruth MSP, who was appointed to the Cabinet. He resigned from this role in June and was replaced by Fiona Hyslop MSP. She was previously the Deputy Convener of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee.
3. In September 2023, the Scottish Government published its [Programme for Government](#), setting out its policy and legislative priorities for the coming year.
4. An [update on the responsibilities of all Scottish Government Ministers with roles relevant to the Committee's remit \(including the Transport Minister\)](#) was provided to the Committee on 8 September 2023.
5. At its meeting on 19 September, the Committee will hear from the Minister for Transport and supporting officials, as listed on the agenda. This will be a wide-ranging session covering all aspects of the Minister's portfolio, with a focus on what her main priorities as new Minister for Transport are likely to be. It is likely to cover road transport (including buses and electric vehicles and EV charging), rail and public transport ticket pricing policy, following on from the Fair Fares Review. The session may also cover the Minister's views on the Committee's [recent report on the future of Scotland's ferries](#) and on areas where she considers progress is most needed in order to decarbonise Scotland's transport system.
6. All of this will help feed into the Committee's scrutiny of the 2023-24 Scottish budget.

Clerks
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee