

Economy and Fair Work Committee
Wednesday 19 February 2025
6th 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. In October 2023, the NDBG published an [implementation plan](#) to deliver its recommendations, setting out key actions and measurements of success.
4. The Committee is holding three evidence sessions to consider the New Deal for Business and progress against the implementation plan.

Evidence Session

5. This is first evidence session. The Committee will hear from—
 - Colin Borland, Director of Devolved Nations, Federation of Small Businesses Scotland;
 - Rose Marley, Chief Executive, Co-operatives UK;
 - Sara Thiam, Chief Executive, Prosper; and
 - Duncan Thorp, Policy and Public Affairs Manager, Social Enterprise Scotland.

Written Evidence

6. The Committee requested written contributions from the Fraser of Allander Institute and [the Diffley Partnership](#). A written submission was also received from [the Scottish Tourism Alliance](#).

Clerks to the Committee
February 2025