

1. Doc 1: Email: Public energy company - meeting 4 October

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 22 October 2018 18:27

To: Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands <MinisterECI@gov.scot>

Cc: McCaig C (Callum) <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

[Redacted] ; Berge K (Kersti) <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Kearns SJ

(Sue) (Sue.Kearns@gov.scot) <Sue.Kearns@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

[Redacted] [REDACTED] [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Subject: Public energy company - meeting 4 October

2. Doc 2 Public Energy company - note of meeting 19 December

3. 30/10/2018- 'PEC - meetings - note of Paul Wheelhouse call with COSLA Cllr Heddle

4. 'PEC - Ministerial submission - Official Sensitive: Update on publicly-owned energy company

From: Kearns SJ (Sue) <Sue.Kearns@gov.scot>

Sent: 06 June 2018 15:38

To: Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy <Ministerbie@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work

<CabSecEJFW@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution

<CabSecFC@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary Business

<MinisterPB@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government and Housing

<MinisterLGH@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Permanent

Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Economy

<DGEconomy@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted]

<[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; Berge K (Kersti) <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Director of

Energy & Climate Change <directorofenergyandclimatechange@gov.scot>; Director

for Housing and Social Justice <DirectorHSJ@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>;

Chief Financial Officer <cfo@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted]

<[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED]

<[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] Energy <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted]

<[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>;

[redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted]

<[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>;

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted]

<[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>;

[redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED]

<[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted]

<[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; FM Policy Team Mailbox <fmpolicyteam@gov.scot>;

Communications Economy <CommunicationsEconomy@gov.scot>

Subject: Official Sensitive: Update on publicly-owned energy company

5. Submission - Urgent - Publicly Owned Energy Company - Publication

From: [REDACTED] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>

Sent: 27 March 2018 09:52

To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Minister for Business, Innovation and

Energy <Ministerbie@gov.scot>

Cc: DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; Director for Housing and Social Justice <DirectorHSJ@gov.scot>; Stark C (Chris) <Chris.Stark@gov.scot>; Director of Energy & Climate Change <directorofenergyandclimatechange@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Kearns SJ (Sue) <Sue.Kearns@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work <CabSecEJFW@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities <CabSecCSSE@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government and Housing <MinisterLGH@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Communications Economy <CommunicationsEconomy@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: Strategic Outline Case

Importance: High

First Minister

Minister Business, Innovation and Energy

cc. as above

Purpose: To **advise** you that, following a Freedom of Information request, the final independent Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for establishing a publicly-owned energy company in Scotland requires to be published on the 5 April 2018. This FOI response was cleared by Ministers in late January 2018.

Background: The Strategic Outline Case was procured in October 2017 to provide a commercial view point ensuring that all early decisions taken support the development of a viable and market compliant solution. Drafted by independent consultants Ernst and Young, it provides a broad overview of the case for establishment of a publicly-owned energy company to meet the public commitment, along with a range of delivery options. It highlights the challenges for consumers of the current Scottish energy market and the potential for a public energy company to address fuel poverty, encourage energy efficiency, and increase consumer trust, whilst aiming to support economic growth.

The SOC concludes that it should be possible to establish a publicly-owned energy company to achieve the stated objective of competitive energy prices to alleviate fuel poverty but it highlights the risk of entering what is an innovative, and evolving market with very low margins. The delivery vehicles recommended by Ernst and Young for further exploration are: taking over an existing socially-minded supplier; setting up a new government-owned company; and creating a "Topco" company with joint venture subsidiaries operated by local authorities.

Next Steps: A further detailed minute, including legal advice, on options for next steps will be provided shortly under separate cover. This advice has been developed with SGLD and other relevant colleagues.

Communications: There has been considerable external interest in progress relating to the publicly-owned energy company. The publication of the final Strategic Outline Case provides an opportunity to respond constructively to that interest and to present positive progress. Any communications would make clear that Scottish ministers will be considering the SOC carefully with a view to responding in due course. Your views on whether or not to pursue communications options would be welcomed. Energy officials will then pick up with Communications colleagues as required.

Recommendation: Please -

[REDACTED]

Happy to discuss

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Scottish Government

Unit Head

Low Carbon Infrastructure Unit

Energy Division

Landline: [Redacted]

6. Email: PW to GMB Scotland

Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
Paul Wheelhouse MSP



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot



Our ref: 2018/0030685
5th December 2018

Dear 

Thank you for your letter of 3 September 2018 regarding Scottish energy policy and in particular the public energy company.

Our intention is that a public energy company will support Scottish Government ambitions for energy consumers, this includes supporting economic development whilst tackling one of the key drivers of fuel poverty in Scotland. As you will probably already know 26.5% of Scottish households were in fuel poverty in 2016, and almost two thirds of consumers remain on standard variable rate tariffs, highlighting that more needs to be done to ensure the needs of Scottish consumers are protected in the long term. We cannot wait for the UK Government or the market to deliver lower fuel prices for Scottish consumers.

As you rightly point out, there is also an opportunity to consider delivering on broader energy ambitions such as the promotion of renewable generation, the maximisation of local community benefits and, indeed, creating sustainable jobs in Scotland – both directly and through the supply chain.

We are commissioning an outline business case to develop detailed proposals for the energy company. As part of its development the independent consultants will engage with key stakeholders to inform their conclusions. Building on the conclusions of that report a full public consultation will be held setting out the proposed approach; our vision and what the energy company should, and should not do.

We would welcome your input into this process to ensure that the views of your members are represented. My officials will ensure that GMB Scotland are fully included going forward and your useful insight into the challenges and opportunities arising from the changing energy landscape is captured.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



Through our Climate Change Bill we will maintain a balanced approach to our climate, economic and social responsibilities. The Scottish Government is committed to achieving our climate change ambitions in a credible and responsible way. This includes establishing a Just Transition Commission to advise on continuing our low carbon transition in a way that promotes inclusive growth, cohesion and equality which takes into account the views of key stakeholders, such as the trade unions. I would encourage you to get involved in the Commission's work and help shape the advice that it will provide to Scottish Ministers.

Kind regards


PAUL WHEELHOUSE

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



7. Email PW to Yorkshire Energy

Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
Paul Wheelhouse MSP

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot



vernment

Scottish Go
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

[REDACTED]

Our ref: 2018/0034542
October 2018

Thank you for your email of 5 October 2018 offering your help to develop the public energy company and inviting the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands to meet with you.

As you are aware, The First Minister committed to the development of a public energy company that offered a fair price to the consumer; tackling fuel poverty and promoting economic development.

The strategic outline case published in April this year was clear that a phased approach, building up over time, is likely to maximise the chances of success and delivery of the Scottish Government's ambitions. As such, our preferred approach at this time is to provide support to Local Authorities to operate a white label, or franchise arrangement in the first phase.

The Scottish Government are developing an outline business case and this will look in detail at the commercial, financial and economic case for the company and present a preferred option for the Scottish Government. The outline business case process will include engagement with key stakeholders to inform its development and will be followed by a full public consultation on the proposed format of the energy company; our vision; and proposals as to what the energy company should and should not do.

We agree that the energy company must be built with a public service ethos and deliver at scale for consumers and officials in the energy company and networks teams would be delighted to meet with you to discuss how you can best contribute to the public energy company and the wider issues that are in scope of your letter. Please contact [REDACTED] at [\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot) or 0141 242 5606 to arrange the details.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] Private Secretary

8. Email: PW to West Lothian Council

Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy
Paul Wheelhouse MSP



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottishministers@gov.scot



Our ref: 2017/0043035

21 December 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email sent 22 November 2017 regarding the Publicly Owned Energy Company

The Scottish Government is developing plans for a publicly-owned energy company that will support efforts to tackle fuel poverty by selling energy to customers at "as close to cost price as possible", and in doing provide people with more choice, particularly those on low income. It also provides an opportunity to consider how this could link to delivery of broader Government energy ambitions, including the promotion of renewable generation in Scotland and the maximisation of benefit to local communities.

We have committed to deliver our proposals by the end of this Parliament, taking into account the need to undertake due diligence and consult with stakeholders further, in advance of any legislative or regulatory measures being taken forward.

I am aware of the strong interest the announcement has generated, and there is a commitment on our part to provide more information on the role of a Publicly Owned Energy Company and to consult stakeholders during 2018.

I recognise your strong support for West Lothian Council's ambition to reduce fuel poverty in households. You make some interesting points in this regard, which my officials and I will consider within the project development process.

Paul Wheelhouse

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



9. Submission - Public Energy Company

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>

Sent: 04 March 2021 18:26

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; Lloyd E (Elizabeth)
<Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture
<CabSecEFWC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, Europe and
External Affairs <CabSecCEAEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities
and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary

company with respect to heat network ownership/operation as this will need to be set out in the Heat Networks Delivery Plan in April 2022.

- The Minister also recognised potential around heat as a service both as an offering from the energy company and as a Scottish Government policy to encourage private companies to enter into this space. The Minister acknowledged that the concept needs further exploration but welcomed the positive case study from Denmark.
- [REDACTED]
- This new direction of travel presents an opportunity for a public energy company to help tackle fuel poverty, improve people's health and wellbeing and support economic development through local supply chains.

Actions

- Officials to update FM note ASAP to reflect discussion on direction of travel and include media handling for publishing the outline business case. Narrative alongside the business case needs to clearly set out forward direction and possibilities for the Public Energy Company, which can act as a guide for an incoming Ministers.
- The Minister agreed to speak to SOLACE to update them on plans.
- The Minister will write to Danish and Swedish counterparts to thank them for support in developing the Heat Networks Bill and register Scotland's interest in heat as a service.

[REDACTED] Consumers and Low Carbon Division

[Redacted]

[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)

10. Email: Submission Public Energy Company

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>

Sent: 04 March 2021 18:26

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; Lloyd E (Elizabeth)

<Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture

<CabSecEFWC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, Europe and

External Affairs <CabSecCEAEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities

and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary

Business and Veterans <MinisterPBV@gov.scot>; ZZZMinister for Local

Government, Housing and Planning <ZZZMinisterLGHP@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate

- [REDACTED]
- This new direction of travel presents an opportunity for a public energy company to help tackle fuel poverty, improve people's health and wellbeing and support economic development through local supply chains.

Actions

- Officials to update FM note ASAP to reflect discussion on direction of travel and include media handling for publishing the outline business case. Narrative alongside the business case needs to clearly set out forward direction and possibilities for the Public Energy Company, which can act as a guide for an incoming Ministers.
- The Minister agreed to speak to SOLACE to update them on plans.
- The Minister will write to Danish and Swedish counterparts to thank them for support in developing the Heat Networks Bill and register Scotland's interest in heat as a service.

[redacted]

Consumers and Low Carbon Division

[Redacted]

[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>

Sent: 04 March 2021 13:43

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture

<CabSecEFWC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, Europe and External Affairs <CabSecCEAEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans <MinisterPBV@gov.scot>; ZZZMinister for Local Government, Housing and Planning <ZZZMinisterLGHP@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary

<PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Economy

<DGEconomy@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; Berge K

(Kersti) <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Kearns SJ (Sue) <Sue.Kearns@gov.scot>;

<[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>;

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>;

<[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>;

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED]

<[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>;

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>;

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED]

<[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>;

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED]

<[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)>; [redacted]

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Energy Company Services Team
Energy and Climate Change

[Redacted]

Annex 1: Danish Energy Agency Heat as a service: Case study

The Danish Energy Agency introduced a subsidy scheme to help companies launch Heat as a Service models to allow consumers to adopt a heat pump without the need to buy one upfront. Five companies were selected via an open competition to deliver the scheme to approximately 350 consumers over four years.

The companies finance, install, operate and maintain the heat pumps. Consumers pay a fixed price for each unit of heat (MWh) the heat pump delivers, regardless of how efficiently it runs, or changes to the price of electricity used to run the heat pump. The consumer also pays fixed prices for the heat pump, installation and maintenance. The scheme aims to drive the uptake of heat pumps in areas where district heating is not available and to help home owners without the financial means to invest in a heat pump.

The Danish scheme is already demonstrating benefits: more heat pumps have been installed than would have been without the scheme. There are also early signs that the market is forming as a result of the financial assistance and risk assurance provided by the Danish Energy Agency. Businesses have taken different approaches to pricing their offerings and those businesses that can install, operate, and maintain heat pumps most efficiently will be able to offer consumers the lowest

11. Email from Paul Wheelhouse to Cllr Steven Heddle

Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
Paul Wheelhouse MSP



Scottish Government
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T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Councillor Steven Heddle
Environment and Economy Spokesperson
COSLA
Verity House
19 Haymarket Yards
EDINBURGH
EH12 5BH

28 August 2018

Following the First Minister's announcement last year of the Scottish Government's ambition to create a public energy company I committed to keeping COSLA informed as to future developments.

In April, as you know, the Scottish Government published the strategic outline case for an energy company, produced by consultants, EY. Since then we have been considering the approaches set out in that report and the consultants' recommendations. We have also established a dedicated team within Scottish Government to take this work forward and I want to thank you and your team for your constructive engagement with my officials over this period.

I am writing to formally invite COSLA to work alongside the Scottish Government to take this work forward and, in partnership, to develop a Local Authority based approach that will realise what I believe to be the significant potential opportunities that could be achieved through developing a public energy company that is involved in generation and supply. This is a tremendous opportunity to capitalise on Scotland's natural advantage in renewable energy sources.

Scotland's Energy Strategy, which I published last December, sets out our aspirations regarding local energy systems and solutions. I am keen that we build on the work undertaken by some Local Authorities such as Aberdeen City and the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

The EY report highlighted that the development of such an approach is best managed on a phased basis to maximise the benefits. As such we are proposing that the focus of the first phase, to be delivered by the end of this session of the Scottish Parliament, will be to explore

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www.gov.scot

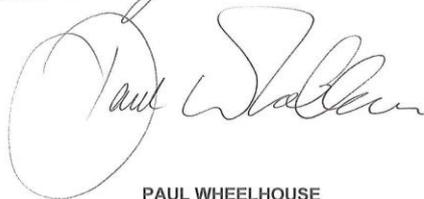
ways in which Local Authorities, individually or collectively, may be able to put in place what are called 'white label', or franchise, or other arrangements with one or more existing energy companies to supply electricity and gas at a fair price. This would provide valuable impetus to our shared ambition to tackle fuel poverty.

Ultimately we would wish to see this developed further through direct renewable generation and the purchase and supply of energy, delivering further economic development opportunities locally and nationally.

As the next step to delivery of this ambition I want to advise you that I am commissioning an outline business case to investigate these proposals further and to develop the practical details and understanding of the costs and benefits that may arise. In the short term, I would invite COSLA to participate in the steering group for the outline business case. My officials will be in touch with yours to follow this offer up.

To support the longer term development of this initiative, I have tasked my officials to develop governance arrangements to ensure that Local Authority needs and views are designed in to plans as they develop. I believe that this is an important opportunity to help realise the consumer-focused local energy vision set out in our new Energy Strategy, and I am keen to ensure that individual Local Authorities are able to engage and to maximise local benefits for their areas, where they choose to do so.

I look forward to discussing this proposed approach when we next meet. I believe it can be an important opportunity to support our shared agenda for challenging issues such as tackling fuel poverty and to optimise the role of the energy sector in developing our economy locally and nationally.

Kindest regards

PAUL WHEELHOUSE

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



12. Email FMQs follow up - 4 March 2021

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED] [@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
Sent: 11 March 2021 07:46
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED] [@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands <MinisterECI@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; Kearns SJ (Sue) <Sue.Kearns@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: FMQs follow up - 4 March 2021

Hi [REDACTED]

PDF copy of letter which issued earlier this morning for your records.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED] @gov.scot>

Sent: 09 March 2021 16:48

To: Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands <MinisterECI@gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; Kearns SJ (Sue) <Sue.Kearns@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FMQs follow up - 4 March 2021

Hi [REDACTED] / PO,

Please find attached proposed correspondence from Mr Wheelhouse to [REDACTED] in response to the question at FMQs. Spads (Callum) has looked over and is content.

Thanks

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED] @gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands

Sent: 08 March 2021 15:08

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED] @gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED] @gov.scot>

Subject: FW: FMQs follow up - 4 March 2021

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see email chain below. FM has asked PW to write to Dean Lockhart regarding publicly owned energy company.

Grateful if you could take this forward or allocate alternate AO to draft correspondence for PW signature.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands – Paul Wheelhouse

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

The Scottish Government | MinisterECI@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED] @gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister FMQs

Sent: 04 March 2021 14:08

To: Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands <MinisterECI@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>; McCaig C (Callum) <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>

Subject: FMQs follow up - 4 March 2021

One for these guys – FM asked PW to right to [REDACTED] in relation to issue raise at FMQs

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

PS/ Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands,

During FMQs today, [REDACTED] raised the SG's proposal to establish a publicly-owned energy company and asked when this would happen. FM said she would ask the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands to write to the member on this issue.

Can you follow up please?

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Senior FMQ Officer| First Minister's Policy & Delivery Unit | Scottish Government | 5N.02, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

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13. Attachment to 12– Letter from PW to Dean Lockhart MSP

Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
Paul Wheelhouse MSP



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Dean Lockhart MSP
Canmore House
31 Canmore Street
Dunfermline
KY12 7NU

11 March 2021

Dear Dean,

You asked the First Minister about progress with the public energy company ambition at FMQs on 4 March. As was indicated at that time, in the First Minister's response to you, the First Minister has asked me to provide you with an update.

Firstly I should note that I wrote to the Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee on 13 November providing an update as part of my response to the Committee's energy inquiry. I noted that the development of the public energy company ambition had been delayed in response to the Covid pandemic, and as a matter of prioritisation my key officials on this issue were redeployed to support the pandemic response. I have said on a number of occasions that I see successful development of the ambition to be a partnership with local authorities, however they, too, have also had to react to the pandemic and focus their resources to support frontline delivery within their communities.

Local Authority involvement and partnership is particularly important when we consider the opportunities the public energy company could offer to address shared objectives to tackle fuel poverty, deliver Scotland's climate change targets and support economic development.

I hope to engage with local authority representatives shortly and discuss our next steps with them and will also seek to take into our consideration any opportunities arising from further parallel work that we have commissioned on 'heat as a service'. We will ensure that the Parliament continues to be kept informed, as we have done since the First Minister outlined the ambition to establish a public energy company.

Kind regards
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Wheelhouse".

PAUL WHEELHOUSE

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Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

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