

FOI Request 202200331323– Part 1D – For Release

1) All internal and external correspondence within and sent or received by the Scottish Government including attached documents, meeting handouts, memos, briefings to ministers, attendee lists, location of meeting, notes, minutes, or OneNote memos, linked to the following meetings:

1d) Patrick Harvie's meeting with Ms Forbes and Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust on August 23, 2022

Documents provided

- Email chain with Kate Forbes' constituency office
- Meeting request
- Internal email feedback on draft response
- Internal email chain with letter to Kate Forbes
- Letter from Private Secretary to Kate Forbes
- Outlook meeting invitation
- Email from Kate Forbes' constituency office with "AGCT Team Bios" attachment
- Email attachment titled "AGCT Team Bios"
- Internal email chain with Ministerial briefing pack
- Ministerial briefing pack

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
Sent: 02 August 2022 10:27
To: Kate Forbes <kate.forbes.msp@parliament.scot>
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights <MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Morning [Redacted],

Noted with thanks - please use the below Teams link to attend.

Thanks

[Redacted]

Microsoft Teams meeting
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Passcode: 7AXCN3

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Or call in (audio only)

[+44 131 376 2847,,747071938#](#) United Kingdom, Edinburgh

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[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | Email:
MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

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From: Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>
Sent: 02 August 2022 09:40
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights <MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for your patience. We've just had Tuesday 23 August, 09:45-1030 confirmed and look forward to receiving an invite in due course.

Kind regards

[Redacted]
Caseworker for Kate Forbes, MSP
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch
12 High Street
Dingwall
IV15 9RU
Tel: [Redacted]
[Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot <[Redacted]@gov.scot> On Behalf Of [MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot](#)
Sent: 29 July 2022 17:31
To: Forbes K (Kate), MSP <[Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot](#)>
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<[MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot](#)>
Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Afternoon [Redacted],

Noted with thanks – will keep holds in diary and await update.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie
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From: [Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot](#) <[Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot](#)>
Sent: 28 July 2022 16:08
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<[MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot](#)>
Subject: Re: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Afternoon [Redacted]

Thank you, we have tried to phone the constituents but they were not able to answer so we have emailed instead.

We would appreciate it if you can hold those appointments in the meantime.

Kind regards

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[Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot <[Redacted]@gov.scot> On Behalf Of MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot
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<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Afternoon [Redacted],

Grateful if you can confirm whether either of the below times would be suitable;

Tuesday 23 August, 09:45 – 10:30

Tuesday 30 August, 10:30 – 11:15

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | Email:
MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

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From: Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>
Sent: 27 July 2022 12:27
To: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Dear [Redacted]

I hope you are well. As advised in the attached letter we are contacting you to arrange a virtual meeting with Mr Harvie and Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT).

Please do let us know when would be convenient for the Minister and we would be happy to share this with our constituents.

Thank you for giving this your attention.

Kind regards

[Redacted]
Caseworker for Kate Forbes, MSP
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch
12 High Street
Dingwall
IV15 9RU
Tel: [Redacted]

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From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity
Sent: 30 June 2022 14:25
To: Public Engagement Unit <CorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: (Case Ref: KF14312)

AO [Redacted]

Hi for MiCase as diary please. I believe this sits more with Mr Harvie's portfolio?

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted]– Assistant Private Secretary to Lorna Slater MSP, Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity

Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG | Email:
MinisterGSCEB@gov.scot

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From: Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>
Sent: 30 June 2022 13:55
To: Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity <MinisterGSCEB@gov.scot>
Subject: (Case Ref: KF14312)

Dear Lorna,

I am writing to introduce the Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT) who have the responsibility for the community-led initiative for Aviemore Ice Rink. The trust is keen to have the rink open throughout the year but naturally, with the energy costs, they are acutely aware of the need for a highly efficient building to minimise operating costs.

The trust has explored projects such as piloting a shuttle bus service to improve connectivity and ease pressures on public parking which would undoubtedly improve both the visitor experience and also for the community. The trust has numerous innovative proposals and is continually striving to develop projects which solve local issues.

One project that the Trust is actively pursuing is attempting to secure an area of land which through community management would be an asset and aid visitor management in an area of sensitivity.

AGCT are undoubtedly one of the most driven trusts in my constituency and Kirsty Bruce, the trust coordinator is determined yet realistic in every venture.

I understand the Trust hopes to engage with you directly and they would welcome the opportunity to outline their plans with you in person or virtually.

Kind regards,

Kate
Kate Forbes, MSP
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
Sent: 15 July 2022 13:38
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights <MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: Due 28/07: Case 202200308957 - Kate Forbes MSP

Afternoon [Redacted],

I tweaked your initial response, so that it was from the point of view of Mr Harvie's Private Secretary, rather than the Minister himself (all diary cases should be written as such) – just in case you were wondering why it had been changed 😊

Gavin (SpAd) has also come back with some feedback;

Yes, it might be worth being clear though that the aspects of the proposal that fall to PH are the ambitions to have a zero carbon building and also the opportunity to encourage access to it by active travel

Grateful if you can update & return to PO.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | Email:
MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

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From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
Sent: 26 July 2022 16:00
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery <DFMCSCR@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights <MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: CTR: Case 202200308957

Grateful if you can confirm if Mr Swinney, on behalf of Ms Forbes, is content to receive this response from Mr Harvie.

Deadline for response is 28 July, appreciate this is extremely tight – Mr Harvie is just back from annual leave so catching up with correspondence.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie
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gov.scot

Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

Patrick Harvie MSP

T : 0300 244 4000

E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Kate Forbes MSP

Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot

Our Reference: 202200308957

Your Reference: Ref: KF14312

18 July 2022

Dear Ms Forbes,

Thank you for your recent email to Lorna Slater MSP, Minister for Green Skill, Circular Economy and Biodiversity regarding the Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT). Given that the issues you raise relate to having a zero carbon building and maximising active travel falls within the portfolio of Mr Patrick Harvie, Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights, your correspondence has been forwarded to his private office for reply.

Mr Harvie would be delighted to attend a virtual meeting with the trust to discuss the issues set out above. I would be grateful if you could contact the Minister's Assistant Private Secretary, [Redacted], via email at MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Private Secretary

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



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From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

Sent: 02 August 2022 10:28

To: 'patrick.harvie.msp@parliament.scot'; Corbett GN (Gavin); [Redacted]; [Redacted]

Subject: 09:45 - 10:30 Meeting Ms Forbes & Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

When: 23 August 2022 09:45-10:30 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London.

Where: MS Teams

MC : 202200308957

AO : [Redacted]

[Redacted], grateful for briefing and confirmation of official support/note taker by 4pm, 16 August.

Thanks, [Redacted]

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Phone Conference ID: 747 071 938#

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From: Kate Forbes <kate.forbes.msp@parliament.scot>
Sent: 16 August 2022 12:45
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights <MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Dear [Redacted]

I hope you are well. AGCT have confirmed Michael Dearman, Duncan Swarbrick and Kirsty Bruce will be in attendance but await further confirmation if Lee Bisset and Mike Gale will also be able to attend. They have kindly offered bios for the board, please see the attachment.

The Trust has indicated that they would also like to discuss community empowerment and creating community wealth at this meeting.

Thank you for giving this your attention.

Kind regards

[Redacted]
Caseworker for Kate Forbes, MSP
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch
12 High Street
Dingwall
IV15 9RU
Tel: [Redacted]
[Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot
Sent: 2 August 2022 10:27
To: Forbes K (Kate), MSP
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

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Sent: 02 August 2022 09:40

To: [Redacted]

Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

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Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust
THE AGCT TEAM

Experience	
The AGCT team are embedded within the community and bring with them a range of skills, expertise, community and local market insight.	
<p>DUNCAN SWARBRICK Co-founding Director Elected: 13-10-2017</p>	<p>Duncan is one AGCT's founding Directors and current Chair. He is the owner and founder of Swarbrick Law solicitors with offices in Aviemore and Inverness. He has a degree in history and a degree in law and has been a member of the Law Society of Scotland since 2003. Duncan is a Solicitor Advocate with rights of audience in the Scottish and UK Supreme Courts. He regularly represents clients in court hearings.</p> <p>Duncan made a career change to law in 1991. He trained and was promoted to senior solicitor in a prestigious Edinburgh firm, before moving back to the Highlands. Duncan became a partner in two Inverness based firms before setting up his own practice. In 2015 Duncan set up his own practice in Aviemore and Inverness. His practice is predominantly in property dispute resolution and litigation. He also represents clients in cases involving commercial disputes, debt recovery, professional negligence, divorce and family cases, and disputed Wills and Executrys. Duncan undertakes commercial leasing work and the sale of businesses and business assets.</p> <p>Duncan originally moved to Aviemore in 1991 and was initially engaged in forestry and land-based activities within Badenoch and Strathspey. He has worked as a countryside ranger, footpath worker, ski tow operator, and forestry worker, before setting up a business in forest harvesting and native woodland restoration in 1995. Duncan and his family have run a self-catering business since 2012.</p>
<p>LEE BISSET Director Elected: 25-02-2021</p>	<p>Lee grew up in Aviemore. Lee has a degree in Environmental Design from Jordanstone University. She has several years' experience of managing hostels and hotels in Scotland. Lee owns Spey Services, a commercial cleaning company managing between 100-150 holiday properties since 1999 and incorporating a commercial laundry, servicing over 500 contracts since 2008. She employs 25 staff, and she has also owned an Art gallery since 2017.</p>
<p>MICHAEL DEARMAN Co-founding Director Elected: 13-10-2-17</p>	<p>Founder and Managing Director of Quarch Technology, an Aviemore based technology company with a £3M turnover, employing 18 staff locally, holder of a Queens Award for Enterprise, winner of Scottish International Business of the Year at the FSB awards 2019, shortlisted for Outstanding Performing Small Business at the Highlands Business Awards 2019.</p>

	<p>Michael is also a founding director of the Cairngorms Housing Partnership, which aims to assist local businesses in finding sustainable housing for workers.</p>
<p>MIKE GALE Co-founding Director Elected: 13-10-2017</p>	<p>Mike is co-owner of G2 Outdoor and Zip Trek Park Aviemore, two successful local businesses that have been operating since 1999 delivering quality outdoor activities to 35,000 visitors per year and employing 20 staff.</p> <p>Mike has dedicated a lot of time to the community, organising and running the Big Splash Aviemore extreme sports and music event for ten years, he has also been Chairman of Aviemore Business Association. He is also a Volunteer Driver and Fireman for Strathspey Railway with 60,000 tourists per year and the Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway with 200,000 tourists per year.</p>
<p>MATT HAGGERTY Co-opted Director Elected:20-10-2020</p>	<p>Originally from Aviemore, Matt is an architect and has been employed with Ryder Architecture Ltd since 2002. Matt leads the Recruitment group for Ryder in the UK, as well as leading and promoting the Architectural Apprenticeship and new routes into the profession for the practice in Scotland and England. Matt is also a council member of the Edinburgh Architectural Association.</p> <p>Matt has designed and delivered numerous award-winning projects across Scotland and beyond - most recently successfully delivering projects in Wick (Wick Community Campus), Kirn Primary School in Dunoon, the new Queensferry high school and the new £65M Winchburgh Community Campus. Having worked extensively in the delivery of public sector buildings, Matt has played a central role in major project community engagement and setting up the wider framework for a place based focussed approach on more recent projects.</p>
<p>LOUISE ORR Director Elected:25-02-2021</p>	<p>Born and raised in Aviemore, Lousie has a degree in Social Sciences and has 14 years' experience counselling & supporting people through crises at the Citizens Advice Bureau. Louise has just started a company providing floristry services for events.</p>
<p>JANIS BOOTLE Director Elected: 20-02-2021</p>	<p>Janis is retired after spending 25 years as a District Nurse and Community Midwife in the Highlands. She has also been a ski instructor and has been a member of the Badenoch & Strathspey Sports Council (BSSC) for 20 years encouraging and enabling young people in all sports, distributing funds and awards and has been part of the AGCT fundraising team for 18 months</p>
<p>Kirsty Bruce Trust Co-ordinator Recruited: June 2019</p>	<p>Kirsty has over 25 years of experience of working at board and senior management level within both the commercial and charity sectors. She has shown the ability to develop strong relationships with funders and stakeholders, as well as encouraging community buy-in, which is vital to the Trust in its ambition for a community led future. She was a key member of the team that led and delivered the Trust's Aviemore Community Ice project.</p>

	Over the years Kirsty has also supported other local organisations with their administration and fundraising need and runs landscaping business with her husband and provides property management services for a number of holiday home owners.
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From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 17 August 2022 17:52

To: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Hi

I have the brief all ready to go and attach a copy but please advise if there is a pre-brief required with Mr Harvie and I can amend the briefing to include this in the timings.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Triage and Policy Officer | Active Scotland Division | Scottish Government | Area 1B
South | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

📍 [Redacted] | : [Redacted]@gov.scot

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From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

Sent: 16 August 2022 15:51

To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Afternoon [Redacted], [Redacted]

Please see below re. 23/08, 09:45 - 10:30 Meeting Ms Forbes & Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT).

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | Email:
MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

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From: Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>
Sent: 16 August 2022 12:45
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Dear [Redacted]

I hope you are well. AGCT have confirmed Michael Dearman, Duncan Swarbrick and Kirsty Bruce will be in attendance but await further confirmation if Lee Bisset and Mike Gale will also be able to attend. They have kindly offered bios for the board, please see the attachment.

The Trust has indicated that they would also like to discuss community empowerment and creating community wealth at this meeting.

Thank you for giving this your attention.

Kind regards

[Redacted]
Caseworker for Kate Forbes, MSP
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch
12 High Street
Dingwall
IV15 9RU
Tel: [Redacted]
[Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot
Sent: 2 August 2022 10:27
To: Forbes K (Kate), MSP
Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Morning [Redacted],

Noted with thanks - please use the below Teams link to attend.

Thanks

[Redacted]

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

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Passcode: 7AXCN3

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[+44 131 376 2847,747071938#](#) United Kingdom, Edinburgh

Phone Conference ID: 747 071 938#

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[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | Email:

MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

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From: Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot

Sent: 02 August 2022 09:40

To: [Redacted]

Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

Subject: Re: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for your patience. We've just had Tuesday 23 August, 09:45-1030 confirmed and look forward to receiving an invite in due course.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

Caseworker for Kate Forbes, MSP

Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch

12 High Street

Dingwall

IV15 9RU

Tel: [Redacted]

[Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot <[Redacted]@gov.scot> On Behalf Of MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

Sent: 29 July 2022 17:31

To: Forbes K (Kate), MSP <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>

Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Afternoon [Redacted],

Noted with thanks – will keep holds in diary and await update.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | Email:
MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

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From: Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>

Sent: 28 July 2022 16:08

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

Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>

Subject: Re: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Afternoon [Redacted]

Thank you, we have tried to phone the constituents but they were not able to answer so we have emailed instead.

We would appreciate it if you can hold those appointments in the meantime.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

Caseworker for Kate Forbes, MSP

Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch

12 High Street

Dingwall

IV15 9RU

Tel: [Redacted]

[Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot <[Redacted]@gov.scot> On Behalf Of MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

Sent: 28 July 2022 14:38

To: Forbes K (Kate), MSP <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>

Cc: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Afternoon [Redacted],

Grateful if you can confirm whether either of the below times would be suitable;

Tuesday 23 August, 09:45 – 10:30

Tuesday 30 August, 10:30 – 11:15

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights – Patrick Harvie
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | Email:
MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot

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From: Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot <Kate.Forbes.msp@parliament.scot>

Sent: 27 July 2022 12:27

To: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
<MinisterZCBATTR@gov.scot>

Subject: (Case Ref: KF14312) Meeting with Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT)

Dear [Redacted]

I hope you are well. As advised in the attached letter we are contacting you to arrange a virtual meeting with Mr Harvie and Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT).

Please do let us know when would be convenient for the Minister and we would be happy to share this with our constituents.

Thank you for giving this your attention.

Kind regards

[Redacted]
Caseworker for Kate Forbes, MSP
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch
12 High Street
Dingwall
IV15 9RU
Tel: [Redacted]
[Web](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

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**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING:
PATRICK HARVIE, MINISTER FOR ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS, ACTIVE
TRAVEL AND TENANTS' RIGHTS**

What	Meeting with Aviemore & Cairngorm Community Trusts.
Where	By MS Teams.
When	23 August 2022 09:45 – 10:30
Key Message(s)	<p>Being physically active is one of the very best things we can do for our physical, mental and social health and provision of facilities can help improve activity levels.</p> <p>We understand the importance of community led initiatives and the impact they can to create positive lasting change in people's mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to supporting the growth of community and local energy in Scotland through mechanisms such as its flagship Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES).</p>
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duncan Swarbrick, Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT) • Kirsty Bruce, Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT) • Michael Dearman, Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT) • Lee Bisset (unconfirmed), Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT) • Mike Gale (unconfirmed), Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust (AGCT) • [Redacted], Caseworker for Kate Forbes MSP
Why	An opportunity to discuss the plans of the AGCT to provide a sustainable development in and around Aviemore and Glenmore, including the development of a year round ice rink in Aviemore.
Expected outcome	To provide signposting to potential funding and support to assist AGCT to achieve their goals.
Supporting official	[Redacted], Active Scotland Division [Redacted]
Briefing contents	<p>Annex A: Key Messages/Top Lines</p> <p>Annex B: Background on AGCT</p> <p>Annex C: Biographies</p>
Media Handling	N/A
Social Media	N/A

Name of the Constituency MSP	Kate Forbes MSP
Name of Constituency	Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch
Local MSP contacted (Y/N)	Y – Meeting was instigated and arranged by Kate Forbes MSP

KEY MESSAGES/TOP LINES

On Outdoor Activities

- The Scottish Government understand the importance of sport and physical activity such as outdoor and mountain activities and the positive impact that it has on physical, mental, and social health.
- We believe there should be no barriers to participating in sport and physical activity, and everyone should be able to enjoy being physically active.
- Throughout the pandemic, Scottish Government and sportscotland have worked closely with our partners in the sport sector including SGBs, local authorities, leisure trusts, clubs, and community sport organisations. This collaborative approach to working with the sector has supported the return of sporting activity.
- Continuing to work together will be vital to the recovery of the sector and to re-engage more people from across society in sport and physical activity.
- The Scottish Government recognises that leisure and culture charities are facing an unprecedented increase on their operations, especially around utilities, payroll and the supply chain.

On Supporting Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES)

- The Scottish Government is committed to supporting the growth of community and local energy in Scotland through mechanisms such as its flagship Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). The scheme is delivered by Local Energy Scotland who provide advice and support at a local level through its network of regionally based development officers.
- Local Energy Scotland works with projects from inception to completion and continues to offer a flexible package of support to communities developing renewable energy and heat decarbonisation projects (including energy efficiency).
- Launched on 11 May 2022, the CARES 'Let's Do Net Zero Community Buildings' offers support to community organisations to decarbonise their buildings and reduce energy bills. This support will take a whole building retrofit approach covering energy efficiency measures, zero emissions heat installations and additional small-scale generation where there is a clear benefit to the community organisation in terms of energy bill reduction.

On Community Wealth Building

- The Scottish Government has embraced the internationally recognised Community Wealth Building (CWB) approach to economic development as a key tool to transform our local and regional economies.
- CWB is the practical means by which we can build the economic infrastructure required to achieve our wellbeing economy objectives outlined in NSET by fundamentally transforming what our economy is for and how it operates.
- CWB considers ways in which wealth is generated, circulated and distributed and is focused on the rewiring of our economic system, rather than a rebadging of existing activity.
- Community Wealth Building can deliver more and better jobs, business growth, community-owned assets and shorter supply chains supporting net zero ambitions; ensuring that our collective wealth works better for people, place and planet.
- The 2021 Programme for Government confirmed our plans to introduce legislation on Community Wealth Building during this Parliamentary session.
- The legislation we plan to introduce will attempt to address blockages identified within the areas leading the implementation of Community Wealth Building and support further embedding of this approach across Scotland.
- CWB is led by local authorities, working with other community planning partners to ensure that all mainstream resource and additional project and programme investment works in concert in order to realise maximum impact in terms of economic and social policy.
- The approach provides a new opportunity to galvanise a wide range of contributory actions with the aim of enabling a functioning wellbeing economy at the local, regional and, ultimately, national level.
- SG expects local authorities and the other public sector anchors to work with the third sector, business and communities to ensure the advancement of CWB in Scotland is an inclusive and collaborative process.

Background on ACGT/Ice Rinks

1. The Aviemore and Glenmore Trust was established in October 2017 as a Company Limited by Guarantee and gained charitable status in October 2021.
2. A voluntary Board of Directors manages the trust with Duncan Swarbrick as Chair. The trust is supported in its operation by a part-time trust coordinator.
3. In 2021 the Trust successfully fundraised to return an ice rink to Aviemore and now operates Aviemore Ice Rink.
4. Aviemore Ice Rink employs 8 staff and attracted 17,500 visitors from October 2021 to May 2022.
5. The ice rink has remained open for the summer 2022 and have held a number of various events including junior ice hockey, try curling and learn to skate sessions.
6. AGCT have a number of ambitious projects currently planned:
 - Glenmore Campsite lease bid for trust to manage and operate an income-generating asset and to retain wealth within the community.
 - Aviemore Glenmore Corridor Shuttle Bus – pilot a shuttle bus service to better connect the Aviemore and Glenmore corridor.
 - Aviemore Ice Rink – to develop the ice rink from recreational ice to sports ice. To see the return of all ice sports, including curling, ice hockey and ice skating, and to be able to welcome back ice tournaments and events.
 - Dalfaber Community Park – the Trust is at the early stages of an asset transfer application with Highland Council for land on Dalfaber Drive. AGCT is working in partnership with other community organisations to develop a community park which will provide a wide range of activities focused around both a wheeled sports/climbing area and a community hub area that will include community buildings and a garden/growing area.
 - Cairngorm Mountain – develop a framework for community ownership.
7. The original ice rink in Aviemore was closed in the late 90s. There have been a number of multi million pound proposals to replace ice in Aviemore since then, but none ever got past concept stage until now.
8. sportscotland have met with Aviemore & Glenmore Trust. In June 2021 [Redacted] (Project Manager, Facilities) spoke to the Trust regarding potential sportscotland investment via the Sport Facilities Fund (SFF) and their ambition to open a rink in Aviemore. The Trust's proposal at that stage read very much like a seasonal rink with regard to programme and building fabric. For these reasons, the Trust would not have been eligible to apply for SFF funding. The Trust was guided in the direction that might have made their project viable in the first instance and possibly eligible in the future, as they had enough funding in place to complete their planned first phase.

9. In March 2022, sportscotland [Redacted] and [Redacted] (Project Managers, Facilities) met with the Trust again to discuss future phases. Discussions focused around creating a long-term plan and being clear where they fit in to the suite of Scottish venues (specifically, a 4-curling sheet local rink might be a more realistic idea than a full stadium arena). sportscotland discussed phases and how to make realistic steps towards their goals and at what stages this might fit with SFF and its criteria – for example, security of tenure, sports development programme, facility lifespan of longer than 7 years. sportscotland also discussed at length, the consideration of an insulated and air tight venue that would lower the energy usage.
10. The biggest issue to flag up here is that there is industry wide concern and pressure around the impact of energy costs on ice rinks. Ice rinks, and other facilities such as swimming pools, are areas of significant risk due to their high energy consumption. We are fully aware that energy costs are an issue facing many sports facilities, and that the specific issue of energy costs has been raised with us.
11. Neither Scottish Ice Hockey or Scottish Ice Skating are at a point where they have a strategic, planned approach to facilities or a clear understanding of the demand across their sports. However, we're sure both organisations would support, in principle, the development of more ice facilities in Scotland, given the challenges both sports are facing to secure adequate ice time across the country.
12. Scottish Curling met the Aviemore Ice Rink Manager and they have found huge interest and success in their first year and want to do more which can only be a good thing. The rink is too small for a full game of curling, but they plan to acquire some stones and offer 'short-curling' to give people a taste of the sport. As such, Scottish Curling would encourage the facility development and purchase of stones as a positive gateway into the sport.

Biographies

Duncan Swarbrick, Co-founding Director

Duncan is one AGCT's founding Directors and current Chair. He is the owner and founder of Swarbrick Law solicitors with offices in Aviemore and Inverness. He has a degree in history and a degree in law and has been a member of the Law Society of Scotland since 2003. Duncan is a Solicitor Advocate with rights of audience in the Scottish and UK Supreme Courts. He regularly represents clients in court hearings. In 2015 Duncan set up his own practice in Aviemore and Inverness. His practice is predominantly in property dispute resolution and litigation. He also represents clients in cases involving commercial disputes, debt recovery, professional negligence, divorce and family cases, and disputed Wills and Executrys. Duncan undertakes commercial leasing work and the sale of businesses and business assets. Duncan originally moved to Aviemore in 1991 and was initially engaged in forestry and land-based activities within Badenoch and Strathspey. He has worked as a countryside ranger, footpath worker, ski tow operator, and forestry worker, before setting up a business in forest harvesting and native woodland restoration in 1995. Duncan and his family have run a self-catering business since 2012.

Kirsty Bruce

Kirsty has over 25 years of experience of working at board and senior management level within both the commercial and charity sectors. She has shown the ability to develop strong relationships with funders and stakeholders, as well as encouraging community buy-in, which is vital to a community led future. She was a key member of the team that led and delivered the Trust's Aviemore Community Ice project. Over the years Kirsty has also supported other local organisations with administration and fundraising needs and runs landscaping business providing property management services for a number of holiday home owners.

Michael Dearman

Founder and Managing Director of Quarch Technology, an Aviemore based technology company with a £3M turnover, employing 18 staff locally, holder of a Queens Award for Enterprise, winner of Scottish International Business of the Year at the FSB awards 2019, shortlisted for Outstanding Performing Small Business at the Highlands Business Awards 2019. Michael is also a founding director of the Cairngorms Housing Partnership, which aims to assist local businesses in finding sustainable housing for workers.

Lee Bisset

Lee grew up in Aviemore. Lee has a degree in Environmental Design from Jordanstone University. She has several years' experience of managing hostels and hotels in Scotland. Lee owns Spey Services, a commercial cleaning company managing between 100-150 holiday properties since 1999 and incorporating a commercial laundry, servicing over 500 contracts since 2008. She employs 25 staff, and she has also owned an Art gallery since 2017.

Mike Gale

Mike is co-owner of G2 Outdoor and Zip Trek Park Aviemore, two successful local businesses that have been operating since 1999 delivering quality outdoor activities to 35,000 visitors per year and employing 20 staff. Mike has dedicated a lot of time to the community, organising and running the Big Splash Aviemore extreme sports and music event for ten years, he has also been Chairman of Aviemore Business Association. He is also a Volunteer Driver and Fireman for Strathspey Railway with 60,000 tourists per year and the Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway with 200,000 tourists per year.