Dear Gillian,

COVID-19: Economic recovery and green recovery

Thank you for your letter of 24 June outlining the work of the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee on green recovery.

In your letter, you note that the Scottish Government’s Advisory Group on Economic Recovery (AGER) has made recommendations in relation to green recovery alongside other experts, academics and advisers who have also developed work in this area. I also note your Committee’s plans to launch a call for views on green recovery and to write to Cabinet Secretaries across a range of portfolios to explore these issues. We would welcome an update on this work when available.

I thought it would be helpful to also provide an update on the Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee’s work on the impact of COVID-19 on Scotland’s economy. We intend to consider the AGER report as part of the next phase of our inquiry and have written to subject Committees to highlight the report recommendations which relate to different committee remits.

As you noted, it is essential that recovery is considered across portfolios and the EEFW Committee is seeking views on the AGER report recommendations from stakeholders during the summer recess. We also plan to take oral evidence on economic recovery later in the year.

I will provide a further update on this work in due course.

Kind regards,
Michelle Ballantyne MSP,
Convener