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**Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs
Committee**
**Comataidh Cultar, Turasachd, na h-Eòrpa agus
Gnothaichean a-muigh**

**Culture, Tourism, Europe and External
Affairs Committee Annual Report
2019-20**



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Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee

Remit: To consider and report on the following (and any additional matter added under Rule 6.1.5A)—

(a) proposals for European Union legislation;

(b) the implementation of European Communities and European Union legislation;

(c) any European Communities or European Union issue;

(d) the development and implementation of the Scottish Administration's links with countries and territories outside Scotland, the European Union (and its institutions) and other international organisations; and

(e) co-ordination of the international activities of the Scottish Administration.

(f) culture matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture; tourism matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy and Tourism, and migration matters falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Public Finance and Migration.



<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/european-committee.aspx>



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Committee Membership



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Kenneth Gibson
Scottish National Party



Ross Greer
Scottish Green Party



Gordon Lindhurst
Scottish Conservative
and Unionist Party



Stuart McMillan
Scottish National Party



Oliver Mundell
Scottish Conservative
and Unionist Party



Beatrice Wishart
Scottish Liberal
Democrats

Introduction

1. This report covers the work of the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee during the parliamentary year from 12 May 2019 to 11 May 2020.
2. On 25 February 2020, the remit of the Committee changed to reflect changes to Ministerial portfolios. The remit now includes culture matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture; tourism matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Tourism; and migration matters falling within the responsibility of the Minister for Public Finance and Migration.

Meetings

3. During the reporting period, the Committee met 25 times:

- No meetings were held wholly in public;
- 2 meetings were held wholly in private; and
- 23 meetings were held partly in private.

Committee business usually tends to be taken in private when reports and evidence are being considered. During the 2019-20 parliamentary year, the Committee met for a total of 3,061 minutes. Of which, 2,461 minutes (80.4%) were in public.



92

Number of people who gave evidence representing **44** organisations



80%

of time committee met in public

Source: Scottish Parliament

Membership Changes

4. The membership of the Committee has changed over the parliamentary year as follows:

- On 10 September 2019, Donald Cameron replaced Jamie Greene and Mike Rumbles replaced Tavish Scott;
- On 5 February 2020, Beatrice Wishart replaced Mike Rumbles;
- On 25 February 2020, Gordon Lindhurst replaced Alexander Stewart and Oliver Mundell replaced Donald Cameron.

Inquiries

Article 50

5. The Committee continued to scrutinise various aspects of the Article 50 negotiations until the UK's formal departure from the EU at the end of January 2020. This work included:
6. The Northern Ireland Protocol and the implications for Scotland

The Committee took evidence from Professor David Phinnemore, Professor of European Politics, Queen's University Belfast, Mairi Spowage, Deputy Director, Fraser of Allander Institute and Aodhán Connolly, Director, Northern Ireland Retail Consortium on the Northern Ireland protocol at its meeting on [16 January 2020](#).
7. Withdrawal Agreement and Negotiation of the Future Relationship

The Committee took evidence from Dr Fabian Zuleeg, Chief Executive and Chief Economist, European Policy Centre, Charles Grant, Director, Centre for European Reform, Dame Mariot Leslie, Former UK Diplomat and Member of the First Ministers' Standing Council on Europe and Professor Anand Menon, Professor of European Politics and Foreign Affairs, Kings College London on the withdrawal agreement and negotiation of the future relationship at its meeting on [23 January 2020](#).
8. The Committee also took taken evidence from the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, Europe and External Affairs, on the withdrawal agreement and negotiation of the future relationship at its meeting on [20 February 2020](#).
9. The Committee took evidence from Rt Hon Alister Jack, Secretary of State for Scotland on the withdrawal agreement and negotiation of the future relationship at its meeting on [5 March 2020](#).
10. The Committee has been supported in its Inquiry by two Advisers:
 - [Dr Filippo Fontanelli, School of Law, University of Edinburgh](#); and
 - [Professor Tobias Lock, National University of Ireland, Maynooth](#).

Fabian Zuleeg, Dame Mariot Leslie, Anand Menon and Charles Grant giving evidence on 23 January 2020.



Source: Scottish Parliament

Arts Funding

11. The Committee launched an inquiry into Arts Funding with a [call for evidence](#) that was published on 15 March 2019. The inquiry sought to address two overarching themes, which were 'what would a sustainable model of arts funding look like' and 'how should that funding be made available to artists'. The scope of the call for evidence was limited to the artforms supported by Creative Scotland, excluding television, film and gaming.
12. The Committee commissioned Drew Wylie Projects Ltd to conduct [international comparative research](#) to identify best-practice and trends in public arts funding from elsewhere. The Committee held seven evidence sessions and two fact-finding visits during the course of the inquiry. The Committee made a number of recommendations relating to investment in Scotland's artists; the current funding landscape; and re-setting local and national policy alignment in its report, which was published on [10 December 2019](#).
13. The Scottish Government responded to the inquiry on [20 April 2020](#). The Scottish Funding Council and Creative Scotland also responded to the inquiry on [21 February 2020](#) and [1 May 2020](#) respectively.

BBC Annual Report and Accounts

14. The Committee maintained its interest in the work and governance of the BBC in Scotland, taking evidence from senior BBC officials on [7 November 2019](#). The

evidence session focused on the BBC's Annual Report and Accounts as well as the new BBC Scotland channel which was launched in February 2019.

Covid-19: Impact on Scotland's Culture and Tourism Sectors

15. The Committee launched a call for views on the impact of Covid-19 on Scotland's culture and tourism sectors on 28 April 2020. A deadline for responding was not set to enable as many people to contribute as possible. The Committee will begin taking evidence on the inquiry in the next parliamentary year.

The Committee promoted its call for views on social media

Give us your views!

What impact has COVID-19 had on people, organisations and businesses in Scotland's culture sector?



The Scottish Parliament's Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee wants to hear from anyone who has been personally affected.



Find out more at: www.parliament.scot/culture

We want to hear from you

How has COVID-19 affected people, businesses and organisations that work in Scotland's tourism sector?



The Scottish Parliament's Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee wants to hear from anyone who has been personally affected.



Find out more at: www.parliament.scot/tourism

Local Commercial Radio

16. In October 2018, regulations defining localness in local commercial radio were changed. At its meeting on [16 May 2019](#), the Committee took evidence from Ofcom, representatives from Bauer Media and DC Thomson Media regarding the changes made to these regulations. Following the evidence session on 16 May 2019, the Committee wrote to Ofcom and the Secretary of State for the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. All correspondence relating to local commercial radio can be viewed [here](#).

Glenn Preston, Director, Scotland, Tony Close, Director of Content Standards, Licensing and Enforcement, and Neil Stock, Head of Radio and Broadcast Licensing Policy, Ofcom



Screen Scotland

17. Following the publication of its report, "[Making Scotland a Screen Leader](#)" in June 2018, the Committee continues to monitor the performance of Screen Scotland, Scotland's national screen agency.
18. To support this work, the Committee held two evidence sessions in March of 2020. Hearing first from screen stakeholders on [5 March 2020](#) and then from representatives from Screen Scotland on [12 March 2020](#). Following these evidence sessions, the Committee agreed to write to Screen Scotland on a range of issues and will continue to monitor the agencies performance for the remainder of the session.

Isabel Davis, Executive Director, and David Smith, Director of Screen, Screen Scotland



Bills

UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill

19. On 24 September 2019, the Scottish Government introduced the [UEFA European Championship \(Scotland\) Bill](#). The Committee was designated as the lead Committee to scrutinise the Bill. The Bill contains provisions in relation football matches taking place at Hampden Park, Glasgow, as part of the UEFA 2020 football tournament.
20. The Committee published its [Stage 1 report](#) on 1 November 2019 and completed [Stage 2 scrutiny on the Bill](#) on 28 November 2019. The Parliament considered the [Bill at Stage 3](#) on Tuesday 17 December 2019. The Bill received [Royal Assent on 23 January 2020](#).

Subordinate Legislation

The Census (Scotland) Order (SSI 2020/draft)

21. The Census (Scotland) Order 2020 (SSI 2020/draft) was laid in the Scottish Parliament on [23 January 2020](#). The Session 3 Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee [recommended](#) that consideration be given to the parliamentary procedure and process followed for the scrutiny of future versions of the census.
22. The Committee therefore engaged in a process of informal scrutiny with the National Records of Scotland and the Scottish Government on [12 September 2019](#) and [9 January 2020](#), followed by formal consideration of the draft Order on [30 January 2020](#) and [27 February 2020](#). The Committee [reported](#) on the draft Order on 4 March 2020 recommending to the Parliament that the draft Order be approved.

Other Subordinate Legislation

23. During the Parliamentary year, the Committee considered one other affirmative Scottish Statutory Instrument.

Public Petitions

Petition PE1721: National Tourism Strategy for Scotland and the Role of the National Trust for Scotland

24. Public petitions are occasionally referred to other Committees of the Parliament by the Public Petitions Committee for consideration. Petition PE1721 by John Hanks, on behalf of Friends of Geilston, on National Tourism Strategy for Scotland and the Role of the National Trust for Scotland was referred to the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee on 5 December 2019.
25. The Committee considered the petition at its meeting on 27 February 2020 and following a discussion the Committee agreed to close the petition under Rule 15.7 of Standing Orders but in so doing agreed to consider the issues raised in the petition and the wider tourism strategy (once published) as part of its business planning day following the summer recess.

Engagement and Innovation

26. The Committee held two fact-finding visits in the course of its Arts Funding inquiry to [Ayr](#) and [Dunfermline](#) respectively. These visits provided an opportunity for the Committee to engage directly with artists and people working in and with the arts more broadly. The two sessions were very valuable in underlying the extent to which local context plays a significant role in setting the priorities for public funding of the arts. In this regard, the visits contributed significantly to the Committee's recommendations on the current funding landscape and re-setting local and national policy alignment.
27. During the fact-finding visit to Ayr, young artists were invited to share their views on the inquiry using graphics specifically designed for Twitter. This activity proved to be an engaging way for young people to get involved. The Committee also hosted a stakeholder event at the Talbot Rice Gallery on 19 December. The purpose of this event was to provide a clear feedback loop for individuals and organisations that had engaged with the Committee's inquiry and to seek the views of stakeholders on the Committee's recommendations. This was very valuable in identifying areas for the Committee to prioritise in its subsequent and ongoing budget scrutiny.

Fact-finding visit to Fire Station Creative, Dunfermline



Fact-finding visit to Ayr



Equalities

Overview

28. The Committee actively sought to invite a diverse range of witnesses to give evidence on its inquiries in this parliamentary year. The steps taken to further this aim included proactively selecting witnesses to give evidence who addressed equalities considerations in their written evidence; trying to create a gender-equal balance of witnesses in each inquiry (either on each panel, or across the inquiry as a whole) as much as possible; identifying opportunities to take the Committee's inquiry work outside of Edinburgh to engage with new perspectives; gathering comparative evidence and perspectives from outside Scotland to scrutinise public policy and spending; and promoting the use of video-conferencing to increase opportunities for witnesses to participate from outside of Edinburgh.
29. The Committee used these diverse perspectives to highlight equalities issues with decision-makers. For example, in its Arts Funding Inquiry, the Committee recommended a range of measures to the Scottish Government and Creative Scotland relating to fair pay, peer review, and career development for artists to address equalities concerns raised by witnesses in evidence. The Committee also highlighted equalities issues raised by stakeholders during its scrutiny of the Census (Scotland) Order (SSI 2020/draft).

Gender diversity statistics

30. Gender diversity information is included in committee annual reports as part of the Scottish Parliament's Witness Diversity Action Plan. Witness diversity figures for each committee are collated by an external researcher. This year, of 92 witness appearances before the Committee 58% were male and 41% were female and 1% were non binary.

