

FAIR WORK CONVENTION MINUTES

DATE: Thursday 6 February 2025
On-line

Attendees and apologies

Attendees:

- Mary Alexander (Chair)
- Anna Fowlie
- Aileen McLeod
- Robert Carr
- Peter Hunter
- Fair Work Convention Secretariat

Apologies: Roz Foyer, Chris Westcott, Dawn Roberts, Patricia Findlay, Satnam Ner

Guests: Aidan Grisewood (Director for Jobs and the Wellbeing Economy, Scottish Government) Professor Graeme Roy (Scottish Fiscal Commission)

Item 1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Housekeeping

Mary Alexander welcomed members to the Fair Work Convention's first meeting of 2025.

Item 2. Update from the Secretariat

The Secretariat then updated on each work area.

- Construction Inquiry
- Hospitality Inquiry
- Research
- Statistics Update
- Self-Assessment Tool
- Communications

Item 3. Chairs' and Members' Updates

Mary updated on meetings attended:

- Chairs had their six-monthly call with Gregor Irwin DG Economy on 18th November.
- Chairs had their quarterly call with Minister for Employment and Investment on 21st November.
- Chairs met for their quarterly meeting with Andy Kerr on the progress of Adult Social Care recommendations on 28th November.

- Tricia attended the Fair Work Oversight Group meeting on 10th December.
- Chairs had a final meeting with Lewis Hedge before he moved roles. Meeting took place on 11th December.
- Chairs had their quarterly call with Minister for Employment and Investment on 8th January.
- Mary attended The Gathering on 5th February and presented on the work of the Convention signposting to the tools available to support employers to develop a Fair Work policy

Item 4) Scottish Government Update

Mary then welcomed Aidan Grisewood, Director for Jobs and the Wellbeing Economy within the Scottish Government. Mary said that the Convention were made aware by Lewis Hedge, at our November meeting that he would be moving on from his position as Deputy Director for Fair Work, and that Aidan would cover this role until the recruitment process for the position is completed.

Item 5) Scottish Fiscal Commission

Mary welcomed Professor Graeme Roy from the Scottish Fiscal Commission to discuss the independent economic and fiscal forecasts the Commission produces to accompany the Scottish Government's Budget cycle.

The Commission operates as a Non-Ministerial Office which signifies that while it is a part of the Scottish Administration, it functions independently of the Scottish Government to maintain its operational independence.

Graeme Roy then gave a presentation to the Convention covering:

- The Scottish Budget in context
- Fiscal Overview
- Economic overview
- The Net Tax Position
- Social Security
- Rising Disability Caseload – Example
- Interactions between SG and UKG Policy
- “Scottish Budget Explained” video series

Next Meeting

Fair Work Convention Meeting – 3rd April 10:30 – 13:00
MS Teams meeting