

Rural Development Sub-Committee

Minutes (RDC(3)-03-10)

Date: 4 February 2010

Time: 13:00 - 15:00

Venue: Committee Room 3, Senedd

Assembly Members in Attendance

Mick Bates, Montgomeryshire

Joyce Watson, Mid and West Wales

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Carmarthen East & Dinefwr

Brynle Williams, North Wales

Committee Service

Aled Elwyn Jones, Clerk

Meriel Singleton, Deputy Clerk

Others in Attendance

Elin Jones, Minister for Rural Affairs

Jane Davidson, Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing

Rory O'Sullivan, Director, Rural Affairs

Gerry Quarrell, Head of Nature, Access and Marine Unit

Havard Prosser, Chief Environmental Scientific Adviser

1: Introduction, Apologies and Substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting.

2:Future of the Welsh Uplands: Evidence Session

2.1 The Chair welcomed Elin Jones and Rory O'Sullivan to the meeting and invited the Minister to make some opening remarks. Members questioned the Minister.

2.2 The Minister agreed to provide further information on the work undertaken by the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service on reaching 20% uplift payment for farms within Less Favoured Areas

3: Future of the Welsh Uplands: Evidence Session

3.1 The Chair welcomed Jane Davidson, Gerry Quarrell and Havard Prosser to the meeting and invited the Minister to make some opening remarks. Members questioned the Minister.

3.2 The Minister agreed to provide further information on whether assessments will take place on development schemes and their cumulative impact regarding soil carbon losses in the Uplands

4: Motion under Standing Order 10.37 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for Item 5

4.1 The Chair moved a motion, under Standing Order 10.37(iv), to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting, to discuss matters relating to a report they intended to publish.

4.2 The Committee agreed to the motion

5: Inquiry into Animal Welfare and Meat Hygiene: Discussion of the Key Issues

5.1 The committee discussed the key issues emerging from the inquiry into animal welfare and meat hygiene.