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Pete Wishart MP
Chair
Scottish Affairs Committee

6 September 2023

Dear Pete,

Thank you for your letter of 6 September regarding my appearance at the Scottish Affairs Committee on 11 September to assist in your inquiry on the impact of rising costs of living on rural populations across Scotland.

I regret that sudden diary pressures mean that I am unable to attend the Committee in person to assist in its work, however I would be happy to provide written evidence should the Committee find that helpful.

Yours sincerely,

MAIRI GOUGEON





Scottish Affairs Committee

Mairi Gougeon MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land
Reform and Islands
The Scottish Government

By email only

6 September 2023

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Your office has informed us that you are no longer able to attend our evidence session next Monday (11 September) on the cost of living and rural communities in Scotland.

We are deeply disappointed that you have cancelled your appearance at short notice, having previously indicated that you would give evidence to this important inquiry. We urge you to reconsider this decision. We also ask that you explain the reason for such a short notice cancellation.

Given that the meeting is in five days' time, we would be grateful for a response as soon as possible, and no later than the end of today.

Yours sincerely

Pete Wishart MP
Chair, Scottish Affairs Committee