

Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill — Stage 3

Section 2

Mairi Gougeon

8 In section 2, page 2, line 4, leave out <and> and insert—

- <() an overview of the support expected to be provided during the plan period, including—
- (i) an indication of the total amount of support that is expected to be provided over the period,
 - (ii) a description of the way in which support is to be structured (for example, by reference to support schemes that are to be paid in a certain way or for certain purposes or activities),
 - (iii) an indication of how the total amount of support is to be divided between support schemes,
 - (iv) an indication of the time periods for when particular support schemes may become operational or end,
 - (v) any measures that are intended to benefit small producers, tenant farmers and crofters, and
 - (vi) any specific outcomes that the Scottish Ministers are seeking to achieve (whether in respect of different support schemes or otherwise), and>

Mairi Gougeon

9 In section 2, page 2, line 8, at end insert—

- <() the manner in which the impact of each support scheme will be monitored for the purposes of section (*monitoring and evaluation of schemes*).>

After section 3

Mairi Gougeon

10 After section 3, insert—

<Reports on rural support plan

- (1) As soon as practicable after the end of each plan period under section 2, the Scottish Ministers must prepare a report.
- (2) The report must include—
 - (a) the total amount of support or other relevant assistance provided during the plan period (including the monetary value of any support provided otherwise than as financial support),
 - (b) the amount of support provided—
 - (i) under each support scheme in operation during the period,
 - (ii) otherwise than under a support scheme,

- (iii) to third party schemes,
- (c) a description of the way in which any support provided otherwise than as financial support has been provided,
- (d) the distribution of support provided (including geographically and by sector),
- (e) the Scottish Ministers' assessment of—
 - (i) the effectiveness of the strategic priorities set out in the rural support plan,
 - (ii) whether any specific outcomes contained in the rural support plan have been achieved, and
 - (iii) the progress made (if any) in respect of the objectives set out in section 1,
 - (iv) the impact of any exercise of their powers under section 9, including by reference to the amount of support that would otherwise have been provided.
- (3) The report may also contain such other information as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate.
- (4) The Scottish Ministers may also prepare—
 - (a) interim reports about the amount of support provided during any period within a plan period,
 - (b) other reports about the support that has been provided.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers must, after preparing a report under this section—
 - (a) lay a copy of the report before the Scottish Parliament, and
 - (b) publish the report.
- (6) In this section, “relevant assistance” means financial assistance provided by the Scottish Ministers under or by virtue of another enactment (including, in particular, assimilated law governing the CAP direct payment schemes and assimilated direct CAP legislation for a purpose similar to a purpose described in schedule 1).>

Mairi Gougeon

11 After section 3, insert—

<Rural support plan: engagement

- (1) Subsection (2) applies when the Scottish Ministers are preparing a rural support plan.
- (2) The Scottish Ministers must consult—
 - (a) such persons as they consider representative of the interests of—
 - (i) farmers (including tenant farmers), crofters and land managers,
 - (ii) people who live and work in rural communities,
 - (b) Food Standards Scotland,
 - (c) Historic Environment Scotland,
 - (d) Scottish Environment Protection Agency,
 - (e) Scottish Natural Heritage,
 - (f) the Scottish Food Commission, and
 - (g) such other persons as they consider appropriate.

- (3) Subsection (4) applies when the Scottish Ministers amend the rural support plan.
- (4) The Scottish Ministers must consult such persons as they consider likely to have an interest in or be affected by the amendments to the rural support plan.
- (5) At the same time as laying the rural support plan or the amended plan before the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Ministers must lay a statement describing the consultation undertaken in respect of the plan (or amendment).>

After section 18

Mairi Gougeon

12 After section 18, insert—

<Monitoring and evaluation of schemes

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, in relation to each support scheme—
 - (a) monitor the impact of the scheme, and
 - (b) prepare one or more reports on the impact and effectiveness of the scheme (having had regard to the findings of that monitoring).
- (2) The Scottish Ministers may, in relation to any support provided otherwise than under a support scheme or the provision of other relevant assistance—
 - (a) monitor the impact of the support or assistance, and
 - (b) prepare one or more reports on the impact and effectiveness of the support or assistance (having had regard to the findings of that monitoring).
- (3) Monitoring under subsection (1) or (2) must be carried out in such manner and for such period or periods as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate for the scheme or other support in question.
- (4) The number and frequency of reports prepared under subsection (1) or (2) are to be as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate for the scheme or other support in question.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers must, after preparing a report under this section—
 - (a) lay a copy of the report before the Scottish Parliament, and
 - (b) publish the report.>

Section 27

Alasdair Allan

13 In section 27, page 16, line 14, at end insert—

- <() any circumstances in which a person who would otherwise be required to undertake particular, or a particular amount of, CPD activities does not have to do so,>

After section 27

Emma Harper

14 After section 27, insert—

<Monitoring and evaluation of continuing professional development

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must, in relation to each CPD scheme—
 - (a) monitor the impact of the CPD scheme, and
 - (b) prepare one or more reports on the impact and effectiveness of the CPD scheme (having had regard to the findings of that monitoring and the matters to be considered by virtue of subsection (2)).
- (2) For the purposes of monitoring a CPD scheme under subsection (1), the Scottish Ministers must, in particular, consider whether the CPD scheme in question—
 - (a) is accessible to the persons to whom the CPD scheme relates, including by reference to—
 - (i) where CPD activities take place,
 - (ii) the range, format and type of CPD activities that are available, and
 - (iii) the costs associated with undertaking the CPD activities,
 - (b) requires CPD activities to be undertaken only where it is appropriate and proportionate to do so.
- (3) Monitoring under subsection (1)(a) may be carried out in such manner and for such period or periods as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate for the CPD scheme in question.
- (4) The number and frequency of reports prepared under subsection (1)(b) is to be as the Scottish Ministers consider appropriate for the CPD scheme in question.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers must, after preparing a report under this section—
 - (a) lay a copy of the report before the Scottish Parliament, and
 - (b) publish the report.
- (6) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations modify subsection (2) to add, amend or remove a matter to be considered.
- (7) Regulations under subsection (6) are subject to the affirmative procedure.
- (8) In this section—
 - (a) a reference to—
 - (i) a CPD scheme is a reference to any set of CPD activities which a person described in a paragraph of section 27(1) may or must undertake as a result of regulations under that section,
 - (ii) a person to whom a CPD scheme relates is a reference to a person who may or must undertake certain CPD activities as a result of regulations made under section 27,
 - (b) “CPD activities” has the same meaning as in section 27(3).>

Schedule 1

Mairi Gougeon

15 In schedule 1, page 20, line 2, leave out <edible>

Brian Whittle

16 In schedule 1, page 22, line 15, at end insert—

<() For the purpose of this paragraph, “rural anchor institution” means a body, or network of bodies, which—

(a) is situated in or near a particular rural community, and

(b) makes a significant contribution to the economic sustainability, resilience, or growth of, or culture in, that community.>

Mairi Gougeon

17 In schedule 1, page 25, line 27, leave out <implementing flood prevention schemes> and insert <by promoting flood resilience>