

Richard Lochhead
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs,
Food and the Environment

c/o Clerk to the Committee Room T3.40 The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

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29 July 2014

Dear Richard

Rural affairs and environment portfolio European priorities

In its latest agreed work programme, the Committee agreed to write to you for an update on the Scottish Government's European priorities and plans for EU engagement.

The Committee last agreed its EU priorities last year and wrote¹ to you on 11 March 2013. You responded² on 22 April 2013 providing the Committee with additional information on a number of issues contained in the Committee's list of priorities and issues of interest.

I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with an update on the Scottish Government's EU priorities in the rural affairs and environment portfolio, together with details of progress on the issues previously identified in the Committee's letter to you in March 2013, and your response in April 2013.

¹ Scottish Parliament Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee, EU priorities. 11 March 2013. Available at:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_RuralAffairsClimateChangeandEnvironmentCommittee/ General%20Documents/2013.03.11 -

RACCE_Convener_to_Cabinet_Secretary_re_CWP_engagement_2013.pdf.

² Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary regarding the Committee's EU priorities. 22 April 2013. Available at:

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_RuralAffairsClimateChangeandEnvironmentCommittee/General%20Documents/2013.04.22 -

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary on the European Commission Work Programme 20 13.pdf.

I would grateful if you could provide us with this information by **the end of August 2014.**

Yours sincerely

Rob Gibson MSP

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Convener

Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee

Cc. Paul Wheelhouse, Minister for Environment and Climate Change