



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee

Jim Fairlie MSP
Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity
Scottish Government

7 November 2025

Dear Minister,

Amendments to Grouse Licensing regime

Thank you for your letter on 30 October, notifying the Committee of your intentions to bring forward amendments to the Natural Environment (Scotland) Bill at Stage 2 to modify the operation of the grouse licensing scheme.

At its meeting on 5 November, the Committee agreed to write to you to request further information on the current issues that have resulted in the Scottish Government's decision to amend the licensing scheme, including what advice it received from NatureScot.

To ensure the Committee can consider this matter prior to Stage 2, I request a response by **Wednesday 12 November**.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Finlay Carson MSP
Convener

Contact: Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.

Email: rural.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.