



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

Mhairi Gougeon MSP
Cabinet Secretary for
Rural Affairs and Islands

c/o Clerk to the Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

rural.committee@parliament.scot

15 March 2022

By email only

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Sea Fish (Prohibition on Fishing)(Firth of Clyde) (No 2) Order 2022 (SSI 2022/35)

During the Committee's consideration of the Sea Fish (Prohibition on Fishing)(Firth of Clyde) (No 2) Order 2022 (SSI 2022/35) on 9 March 2022, you and your officials committed to writing to the Committee with additional information regarding the following:

- The scientific data which informed the decision to prohibit fishing activity in the Firth of Clyde, particularly the literature relating to the behaviour of spawning cod.¹
- What consideration has been given to wider spawning grounds when deciding on offshore wind sites?²
- Details of the publicly funded organisations involved in the co-management process who campaigned for the removal of the exemptions.³

¹ RAINEC, Official Report, 9 March 2022, Col. 20

² RAINEC, Official Report, 9 March 2022, Col. 35

³ RAINEC, Official Report, 9 March 2022, Col. 34

Regional Inshore Fisheries Groups

Finally, you also undertook to provide further information about Regional Inshore Fisheries Groups engagement with communities and environmental stakeholders.⁴

The Committee would appreciate a response by 14 April 2022.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Finlay Carson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Finlay Carson MSP

Convener

Rural Affairs, Island and Natural Environment Committee

⁴ RAINEC, Official Report, 9 March 2022, Col. 27