Dear Michael,

I am writing in relation to SSI 2018/245: The Scalpay Island, Isle of Skye, Scallops Several Fishery Order 2018, which the Committee considered at its meeting of 12 September 2018.

As you may be aware, the Committee agreed not to make any recommendations about this negative instrument at that meeting. However, in considering it, the Committee raised two issues on which it would welcome some clarification.

First, in your letter to the Committee, dated 15 August 2018, a table provided details of the projected output and value of scallops to be harvested from 2023. From the information provided in the table, it would suggest that scallops have an approximate value of £2 a tonne. The Committee queried this value for being on the low side and would appreciate confirmation as to whether the figures in this table are accurate.

Second, the previous 1998 Order which granted exclusive fishery rights to the same applicant expired in 2013. The Committee asked whether during the intervening period between 2013, and this order (2018), there had been no scallop fishing in the area concerned.

I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with a response on these two points.

Kind regards
Steve Farrell
Clerk to the Committee