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Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee  
Convener

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19 June 2025

Dear Edward,

I am pleased to inform you that the Scottish Government has published an independent analysis of the findings of the consultation on a minimum charge for single-use beverage cups on 12 June, which can be found at this link: <http://www.gov.scot/ISBN/9781836913696>

The consultation related to new powers in section 87A of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (as inserted by the Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024) which would allow Scottish Ministers to make regulations to require suppliers of single use items to charge a minimum amount for such items. The new powers were the subject of constructive discussion at the NZET Committee and in the Chamber during the passage of the Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024. As the Committee raised important points for us to consider when developing these policy proposals, I wanted to bring this analysis to your attention.

The consultation attracted over 1,000 responses from a broad range of stakeholders on topics such as:

- The charge level
- The scope of the charge
- Implementation challenges
- Use of net proceeds.

Views on these initial proposals were mixed, with differing opinions on how best to deliver the charge fairly and effectively. Scottish Government will now carefully consider the issues raised by responses to the consultation and from wider engagement when developing proposals further. We will continue to work closely with key stakeholders, including businesses and enforcement bodies, in line with New Deal for Business and Verity House Agreements, to ensure that the approach to the charge is effective, proportionate and fair; and that businesses and consumers have time to prepare.

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I will be happy to keep you informed of the outcome of the work to develop these policy proposals further and look forward to continuing to engage with the NZET Committee on the circular economy agenda.

Yours sincerely,

**GILLIAN MARTIN**

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