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2 February 2026

Dear Edward,

Thank you for your letter of 7 January regarding finalisation of the Climate Change Plan. It remains the intention of this Government to lay the final Plan in Parliament before the end of this Parliamentary session.

You rightly note the challenging timeframe that the Scottish Government is working to deliver within due to the legislatively required 120 days for parliamentary scrutiny and the period of public consultation, which ended on 29 January. I can assure you that my officials, Ministerial colleagues and Cabinet have continued to work at pace to ensure a final Plan can be published in March which takes into consideration the views of the public, Parliament, experts and other stakeholders through the forementioned processes. While I appreciate the Committee's interest, I am unable to provide updates on Cabinet discussions. Paragraph 6.1 of the Scottish Ministerial Code provides that 'the privacy of opinions expressed and advice offered within the Government should be maintained' at all times.

We have been engaging with a broad range of stakeholders across the sectors represented in the Plan since the draft was laid and this is ongoing to support finalisation of the Plan. Together with my officials, we have followed closely the work of each Committee's evidence sessions with stakeholders and have been considering these views as part of the finalisation process. I would like to put on record my thanks to the Committees involved for their consideration of the draft Plan to date. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to share with the Committee views from stakeholders which are not already in the public domain. You may be interested in publicly available views from stakeholders such as [Stop Climate Chaos Scotland](#), the [Just Transition Commission](#) and the [UK Energy Data Centre](#) and I know that the committee has heard extensive feedback in relation to its call for evidence and, indeed, the evidence sessions carried out. Similarly, it is not possible to share findings from the public consultation as formal analysis is yet to be finalised, given the consultation has only recently just closed for responses. However, we intend to publish responses to the public consultation prior to the final Climate Change Plan being laid in Parliament, and by end of February at the latest.

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As you accurately noted, there are some instances in which the final Plan may require updates due to announcements made following the draft Plan being published on 6 November. Some examples of this are the UK Government's Warmer Homes Plan, which was published on 20 January and the recent decisions taken around Mossmorran. Any announcements or evidence which arise during the period from 6 November to laying of the final Plan will be reviewed and any impact on emissions reductions taken into account within the final CCP. This will ensure the final Plan accurately reflects our best available knowledge at the time of publication.

You mentioned specifically SEPA's Regulatory Position Statement which set out its enforcement approach to the ban on biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) going to landfill, which was announced the week prior to the draft CCP being published. Due to insufficient time between announcement and publication, this was not included within projections for the draft CCP. I can confirm that we intend to review and make further updates to forecasting based on available evidence for the final Climate Change Plan.

Please be assured that we are continuously working to finalise the Climate Change Plan ahead of the end of this parliamentary session, while also prioritising the timely consideration of stakeholder views as they become available to ensure their effective inclusion in the Plan.



GILLIAN MARTIN

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