



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Rural Affairs and Islands Committee

Gillian Martin  
Acting Cabinet Secretary for  
Net Zero and Energy

**24 April 2025**

Dear Gillian,

### National marine plan 2 – planning position statement consultation

I would be grateful if you could clarify an issue relating to the [consultation on the planning position statement for the national marine plan 2](#) (NMP2) which has been raised with the Committee by Open Seas.

Section 5.4 of the consultation document states that, *“in line with the recommendations from the FMEC, NMP2 will not contain sector-specific objectives”*.

Open Seas obtained a copy of the FMEC advice through an FoI request, however, and claims it does not include any recommendation that the NMP2 should not contain sector-specific objectives. Open Seas has shared the copy of the FMEC advice with the Committee.

It would be helpful, therefore, if you could clarify where the recommendation not to include sector-specific objectives in NMP2 is set out in the FMEC’s advice. If, as Open Seas has claimed, there is no such recommendation, please can you explain how you have arrived at the position that sector-specific objectives are not needed, since they are a core element of NMP1.

Yours sincerely,

**Finlay Carson MSP**  
Convener