

The Town and Country Planning (Marine Fish Farming) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2025

Dear Peter,

After the Committee's meeting yesterday, and consideration of the above SSI, members agreed to seek the following information from SEPA—

- Clarification about whether the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 – and application of the sea lice risk framework and regulatory framework on discharges from marine pen fish farms – would apply to proposals for aquaculture developments located from 3-12 nautical miles if the SSI is approved.
- Likewise, if the Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025, when they replace the CAR regime, would apply to aquaculture developments located from 3-12 nautical miles.
- Clarification about SEPA's current role if an aquaculture production business were to apply for planning permission to locate a development beyond 3 nautical miles (the Committee understands that the Scottish Ministers, through the Marine Directorate marine licensing team, would be responsible for planning approval but it's not clear how SEPA would apply necessary licences for waste discharge and sea lice framework).
- Any other views or concerns that SEPA has regarding the SSI and wider implications for SEPA in regulating aquaculture developments beyond 3 nautical miles, for example around the consistency/coherence of controls, e.g. on sea lice and chemical use, for sites within and beyond 3 miles.

It would be helpful if you could provide a **response by close of play next Wednesday 21 May**.

Thanks,
Emma