

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

Follow up to the committee's evidence session of Wednesday 14 May 2025

During an exchange Mike Spain, a Director at Crown Estate Scotland, promised to respond to the committee in writing.

The exchange was at follows:

Mark Ruskell: *"Would you say, right now, the granting of a lease, there is that robust regulatory framework as it stands to this statutory instrument? Or is there still some way to go before you could confidently start issuing leases, knowing that that robustness is there with this regulation as you would expect it to be – with all the other leases that you issue, for windfarms, for inshore salmon farming, for kelp farming, for anything else?"*

Mike Spain: *"I must confess, I haven't had time to read this in detail as I got this phone call to attend this committee whilst on holiday last week, so I'm literally back from holiday and into this meeting so apologies if I'm not as fully prepared as I might like to be."*

Mark Ruskell: *"You might need to get back to us on that?"*

Mike Spain: *"I am more than willing to get back to you on that detail."*

We would like to pass on the following information, as promised, in response to Mr Ruskell's question about regulation.

Crown Estate Scotland believes that, for any future developments taking place out to 12 nautical miles, the regulations should be of the same standard as applies now for developments out to three nautical miles.

Crown Estate Scotland works with other bodies and relies on the regulatory expertise of other of those other organisations to ensure there is a robust and responsive framework in place.