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Finlay Carson MSP  
Convener of the Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural  
Environment Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
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22 March 2022

Dear Finlay,

I am grateful to the Committee for its scrutiny of the Bill and for its detailed conclusions and recommendations in the Stage 1 Report. I look forward to hearing Parliament's views during the Stage 1 debate today and will write to you again prior to the start of Stage 2 with responses on the matters raised in your report.

Yours sincerely,

**MAIRI GOUGEON**

