Dear Graeme,

Thank you for your letter of 6 September regarding the laying date of the draft Climate Change Plan – the third report on policies and proposals 2017 - 2032.

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 requires that a draft report on policies and proposals for meeting annual targets is laid as soon as reasonably practicable after making an order setting those annual targets. Although the Scottish Government had planned to lay the report in December, Parliament will play a key role in the development of the Climate Change Plan, and it is important to us that the Parliament and all interested committees have sufficient time to fully scrutinise the draft report. I would therefore be happy to delay the publication of the draft report until January 2017 to ensure that Parliament can make full use of the statutory 60 day scrutiny period.

Yours,

Roseanna

ROSEANNA CUNNINGHAM