Dear Mr Hadfield,

Correspondence with the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (ECCLR) Committee

Thank you for your letter of 11 June and for your interest in our report on the environmental impacts of salmon farming.

As you will be aware the ECCLR Committee’s focus was the report commissioned by SPICe and undertaken by SAMS Research Services Ltd (SRSL). This report contains a review of literature on the environmental impacts of salmon farming in Scotland, the scale of the impacts and approaches to mitigating the impacts. This provides an update of the Scottish Government commissioned report: Review and Synthesis of the environmental impacts of aquaculture, published in 2002.

As this piece of work is now concluded, the Committee is not able to consider any further representations in relation to it. The Committee came to a view on this subject following a period of inquiry and this is set out in its letter to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee.
We anticipate the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee concluding the inquiry that our letter fed into following the summer recess. We also anticipate a parliamentary debate on that report.

I can also re-assure you that the ECCLR Committee will continue to maintain an over-arching interest on the environmental impacts of aquaculture on the marine environment and we expect to be returning to the issue in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Dey MSP
Convener, Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee