Dear Chris,

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee Inquiry into the Environmental Impacts of Salmon Farming

I am writing regarding the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee of the Scottish Parliament’s recent inquiry into the environmental impact of salmon farming. The Committee has undertaken a specific piece of work on this issue with a view to informing a forthcoming inquiry by the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee into the wider aquaculture industry.

The Committee commissioned a review of current evidence on the environmental impacts of salmon farming from the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS). Although not covered by the resulting report, the Committee’s consideration of this work touched upon the area of regulation and protocol surrounding the transportation of dead fish.

On behalf of the Committee, I am writing to seek detail on the protocols which are in place in relation to the transportation of dead fish, the engagement and interaction of the agency with other regulatory bodies, including SEPA and planning authorities and how the regulations and protocols for this compare with regulations for the transportation of other animals. How in practice they work with fish farms. Could you also advise if there is there a requirement for fish farms to advise when a disposal is to take place and if so what happens next in practice.
The Committee would appreciate a timely response in order to ensure this information is of maximum value to our counterpart Committee. I therefore request a response by 28 March 2018.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

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