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The Scottish Parliament
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Dear Convener

Environmental Governance Review

I am following up on a question raised during the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee session on Tuesday 12 November, on when the environmental governance review was going to be concluded.

Section 41 of the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021 required Ministers to review and prepare a report into the effectiveness of the governance arrangements introduced by the Act. The report was published on 1 June 2023 and a public consultation was launched, which closed on 13 October 2023. The report covered the matters required by section 41, including the effectiveness of the governance arrangements introduced by the Act, access to justice on environmental matters, whether an environmental court could enhance governance arrangements and provided an overview of wider issues of environmental governance.

Following the close of the consultation, section 41 requires Ministers to lay before Parliament a statement that sets out the details of the consultation that was carried out, a summary of any views expressed in response to the consultation, and the Scottish Ministers' recommendations in response to those views. The [statement](#) was published and laid in Parliament on Tuesday 19 November.

Yours sincerely,

SIOBHIAN BROWN

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