

**Jim Martin**  
**Chair**  
**Environmental Standards Scotland**  
Ìrean Àrainneachdail na h-Alba

**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
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Edward Mountain MSP  
Convener  
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

30 September 2022

Dear Mr Mountain,

It continues to be an exciting week for Environmental Standards Scotland, and following my letter to you yesterday regarding our first Improvement Report I am delighted to write that this morning ESS laid our proposed Strategic Plan before the Scottish Parliament for approval, as required by the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021.

The proposed strategic plan has been redrafted to take into account the comments we received through the consultation that we carried out over the summer. The proposed plan is also accompanied by a statement to Parliament, setting out a summary of the views expressed in the consultation and how they were reflected in the plan.

The Continuity Act includes a period for parliamentary approval of the proposed strategic plan of up to 40 days and I look forward to the committee's consideration of it.

Yours sincerely

Jim Martin  
Chair, Environmental Standards Scotland