



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Màiri McAllan MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing  
Economy, Net Zero and Energy  
Scottish Government

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport  
Committee**

c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

By email only

[netzero.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:netzero.committee@parliament.scot)

14 March 2024

Dear Màiri,

**Accompanying information for Scottish Statutory Instruments (SSIs)**

The Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee considered the following subordinate legislation at its meeting on 12 March 2024—

[The Packaging Waste \(Data Reporting\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2024 \(2024/42\)](#)

This instrument was brought to our attention by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee as part of their diligent work in assessing the adequacy of the Policy and Explanatory Notes for subordinate legislation. That Committee reported that the information provided in its Explanatory Note for this instrument was too brief. I acknowledge that the Scottish Government has accepted this and taken steps to provide a revised Explanatory Note via a correction slip. It was helpful to have sight of the revised Note before formally disposing of the instrument.

As you will know, the NZET Committee has considered a large volume of subordinate legislation throughout this session. We have generally been satisfied with the quality of Policy and Explanatory Notes accompanying SSIs. On occasion, however, they fall short of our expectations, by not providing a straightforward explanation of the instrument and how it would operate if enacted. It is important to have that information and additional context to help make an informed decision on whether to support the instrument.

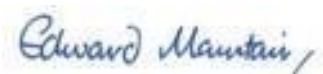
**I stated these points on the record at the 12 March meeting, and the Committee agreed I should also write to you, as I am doing now. I would be grateful if you could share the Committee's observation with relevant**

**officials who perform an important and valued task in preparing subordinate legislation for introduction to Parliament.**

Whilst you are very welcome to reply, I do not formally request any response. Clerks to the Committee would also be happy to discuss examples of best practice in Policy and Explanatory Notes with Scottish Government officials if that is helpful.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Parliamentary Business and the Convener of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward Mountain".

Edward Mountain MSP

Convener

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee**