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Convener, Net Zero, Energy and Transport
Committee

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23 August 2024

Dear Edward,

I am pleased to inform you that the Scottish Government has published its consultation on a minimum charge for single-use beverage cups, along with the associated draft impact assessments.

This consultation marks a milestone towards our first use of the new power provided for through the Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024 that enables Scottish Ministers to make regulations requiring suppliers of specified single-use items to charge a minimum amount for them, with the aim of reducing their consumption and the environmental harm caused. As you know, Scottish Government has previously confirmed that introducing a charge on single-use disposable beverage cups would be the first use of this power.

During the passage of the Circular Economy Bill, this power was the subject of constructive discussion at the NZET Committee and in the Chamber, which raised important points for us to consider as we continue to progress this policy. In particular, I would like to highlight that we are continuing to engage with the business community to ensure the charge can be implemented successfully while minimising extra burdens for businesses. The final policy will be shaped by the views gathered through this consultation.

The consultation is available on the [Scottish Government's website](#) and the interim impact assessments are also available online:

- [Strategic Environmental Assessment: Environmental Report](#)
- [Equality Impact Assessment – Interim Report](#)
- [Fairer Scotland Duty Summary](#)
- [Island Communities Impact Assessment Report: Pre-Consultation Interim Report](#)
- [Partial Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment](#)

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I will be happy to keep you informed of the outcome of the consultation and look forward to continuing to engage with the NZET Committee on the circular economy agenda.

Yours sincerely,



GILLIAN MARTIN

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