

The Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey MP Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Rural Affairs and Islands Committee c/o Clerk to the Committee The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

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By email only 8 June 2023

Dear Thérèse.

The Committee was disappointed to receive your decline to give evidence to the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee on the impact of EU exit on agriculture and fisheries policy. Committee members found our previous session with George Eustice extremely helpful in understanding the wider UK context for policy development in Scotland post-EU exit.

The Committee agreed to reiterate its invitation to yourself or one of your DEFRA ministers.

The Committee meets on Wednesday mornings during the parliamentary term and would be happy to accommodate you or one of your DEFRA ministers either in person or virtually. If a Wednesday morning is not convenient, the committee clerks can liaise with your officials to find a suitable alternative

Yours sincerely,

Finlay Carson MSP

Convener

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee