



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Mairi Gougeon MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs,  
Land Reform and Islands

**Rural Affairs and Islands Committee**  
c/o Clerk to the Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

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By email only

27 June 2023

Dear Mairi,

At its meeting on [21 June 2023](#), the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee considered the [Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid \(Amendment and Suspension\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2023](#). The Committee noted the instrument but agreed to write to you for further clarification.

The policy note which accompanies the instrument states the following —

“NFUS recognise that there needs to be some form of framework for market support for sectors in a crisis and cautioned that the proposed changes may not offer the same stability or confidence for sectors. However, they also stated that the forthcoming Agriculture Bill would offer the adequate provision of such powers for Scottish Ministers to intervene where necessary.”

The Committee would appreciate further information regarding the assurances given to the NFUS regarding market intervention mechanisms and how adequate provision of such powers for Scottish Ministers to intervene where necessary will be covered in the forthcoming Agriculture Bill.

The Committee would appreciate a response by 25 July 2023.

Yours sincerely,

**Finlay Carson MSP**  
Convener, Rural Affairs and Islands Committee