Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands Mairi Gougeon MSP



T: 0300 244 4000 E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Finlay Carson MSP Convener of the Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

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Dear Finlay,

I am writing to provide an update on the forthcoming Agriculture Bill. On Monday 29 August, we will launch the public consultation on the Agriculture Bill. The consultation will be open until Monday 21 November. There will be a Government Initiated Question to make Parliament aware of the consultation launch.

The Agricultural Reform Implementation Oversight Board (ARIOB) have supported and informed the development of this consultation on the proposals for a new Agriculture Bill to replace the current Common Agricultural Policy framework for agriculture and land use support. The consultation sets out our vision for a new, post-EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) support payment system from 2025-26.

This consultation will inform a new Agriculture Bill, which is expected to be introduced in 2023, to enable the delivery of the Scottish Governments <u>Vision for Agriculture</u>, published in March 2022, the creation of a post Common Agricultural Policy support payment framework, and the modernisation of agricultural holdings legislation.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

MAIRI GOUGEON

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St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG www.gov.scot





