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Your Reference: NZET: Letter from Convener on ECCLR Marine Report

25 July 2023

Dear Edward,

Thank you for the letter from the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee of 30 June 2023 regarding the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (ECCLR) Committee final report from December 2020 regarding the development and implementation of regional marine plans in Scotland.

I appreciate the length of time that has passed since the report's publication. We have been carefully considering the findings and the 28 broad-ranging recommendations but the work to prepare a response has unfortunately involved several delays; firstly, as a result of Covid-19, and more recently stemming from a requirement to factor in the relevant wider considerations for the evolution of policy on regional marine planning. These include, amongst others things, the current development of the second National Marine Plan.

Officials are conducting their final review checks on a draft response and I can confirm that a response will be shared with the Clerk of the Committee by 10 August 2023.

Yours sincerely,

MAIRI MCALLAN

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