



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey
Secretary of State for Environment,
Food and Rural Affairs of the United
Kingdom
UK Government

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport
Committee**

c/o Clerk to the Committee
Room T3.40
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

By email only

netzero.committee@parliament.scot

5 September 2023

Dear Thérèse,

UK Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 - environmental provisions

The Scottish Parliament's Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee has been considering the issue of air quality and I am writing regarding the provisions on this issue in the UK Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023.

Background

The Committee received [correspondence](#) on the Act while still a Bill from the Scottish Parliament's Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee. It proposed consideration of the implications for devolved policy areas of the instruments to be revoked under schedule 1. We asked the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition about these issues during our [meeting of 27 June 2023](#) and [wrote to her](#) shortly after seeking further details.

Her [response](#) to this letter has prompted us to seek the UK Government's view.

UK Government position

The Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee notes your [recent correspondence to the Office of Environmental Protection](#) and seeks further details of—

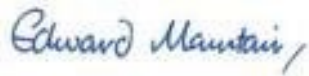
- Your view on why the National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) in its current form is no longer required and what practical effect this will have on delivery of pollutant reduction?

- Whether the UK Government intends to create a replacement for the National Air Pollution Control Programme? If so, to what timescales?
- In what way this will differ from and improve upon the NAPCP including in particular how requirements for public participation will operate;
- Its views on whether a UK wide assessment and reporting scheme is required to satisfy UK wide reporting as a signatory to the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution;
- What discussions have taken place with counterparts around the UK on how reporting on the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution will be achieved;
- Your view on the operation of the Common Framework on Air Quality and how actions in this area meet the requirements of that framework (including whether the provisional Common Framework would need to be amended in light of changes to the NAPCP system)?

In light of the 31 October deadline for preserving instruments listed on Schedule 1 of the Act, on behalf of the Committee, I request a response by 20 September.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward Mountain".

Edward Mountain MSP
Convener
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee