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Edward Mountain MSP
Convener
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee
Scottish Parliament

4 September 2023

Dear Edward,

Scottish Land Commission – Extension in Tenure of Chair

As the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility for the Scottish Land Commission (SLC), I am writing to you to make you aware that in accordance with Section 10 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016, and the Ethical Standards Commissioner's Code of Practice and Guidance which provides that Scottish Ministers may, in certain circumstances, extend a member's appointment term without Parliamentary approval, I have decided to extend the tenure of Andrew Thin, the current Chair, by three months to 18 March 2024.

The terms of the SLC Chair and two other Land Commissioners come to an end on 18 December 2023, all having served for seven years. Further to my letter of 11 August 2023 outlining the appointments timeline, the three month extension will ensure continuity of Chair during this process and an opportunity for a handover once the new appointments are made.

I, the appointments panel, and my officials, look forward to continuing to work with the Committee and the Scottish Parliament during the remainder of this appointment round.

Yours sincerely,

MAIRI GOUGEON

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

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