

Finlay Carson MSP Convener Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee Simon.Gallaher@Parliament.scot The Rt Hon Lord Benyon Minister for Biosecurity, Marine and Rural Affairs

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Dear Finlay,

Thank you for your letter of 1 December 2022 to the Secretary of State about the UK Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area and I apologise for the delay in doing so.

Defra has been regularly engaging with the Scottish Government on Retained EU law (REUL) through working-level policy coordination forums and Common Frameworks, senior officials' programme board meetings and the Inter-Ministerial Group for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. During these discussions, Defra sought to ensure a shared understanding of reserved and devolved REUL, as well as to exchange information on potential positions with regard to which REUL might be considered for retaining or revoking.

We will continue to work closely with the Scottish Government and other devolved governments to deliver the REUL programme.

Yours sincerely,

THE RT HON LORD BENYON

Richard Senya.

