



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Mairi Gougeon MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs,
Land Reform and Islands

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee
c/o Clerk to the Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

By email only

rural.committee@parliament.scot

10 July 2023

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

**Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid (Amendment and Suspension)
(Scotland) Regulations 2023 (SSI 2023/150)**

At its meeting on [21 June 2023](#), the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee considered the [Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid \(Amendment and Suspension\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2023](#). The Committee agreed it did not wish to make any recommendations on the instrument but agreed to write to you for further clarification on one point.

The policy note which accompanies the instrument states the following—

“NFUS recognise that there needs to be some form of framework for market support for sectors in a crisis and cautioned that the proposed changes may not offer the same stability or confidence for sectors. However, they also stated that the forthcoming Agriculture Bill would offer the adequate provision of such powers for Scottish Ministers to intervene where necessary.”

The Committee would appreciate further information regarding for the assurances given to the NFUS regarding market intervention mechanisms. Members also agreed to ask about the basis for how information to be included in the forthcoming Agriculture Bill has been shared with NFUS.

The Committee would appreciate a response by 18 August 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Finlay Carson MSP
Convener, Rural Affairs and Islands Committee