

11th October 2024

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

Dear Finlay,

Petition PE1490: Control of wild goose numbers

Please accept our apologies for not replying to your letter of 4th June 2024 until now.

The Scottish Crofting Federation is happy to await the publication of the delivery plan accompanying the review of the National Goose Policy Framework in Scotland, which we understand will be available before the end of the year, before we make further comment.

However, we would like to point out that wild geese numbers, particularly of greylag geese, remain unacceptably high in crofting areas and, in fact, recent counts continue to show increases in size of populations.

We continue to emphasise the need for certainty of funding year on year on an equitable basis to enable effective goose management aimed to control and specifically to reduce numbers.

Yours sincerely,

Donna Smith Chief Executive

