



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

Lorna Slater  
Minister for Green Skills,  
Circular Economy and Biodiversity

c/o Clerk to the Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

***By email only***

[rural.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:rural.committee@parliament.scot)

22 June 2022

Dear Minister,

### **Official Controls (Plant Health) (Frequency of Checks) Regulations 2022**

Thank you for your letter, dated 20 May 2022, relating to a consent notification for the above proposed UK statutory instrument (SI).

As you are aware, the Committee considered the SI notification at its meeting on 15 June 2022 and agreed with the Scottish Government's decision to consent to the provisions set out in the notification being included in UK, rather than Scottish, subordinate legislation.

In addition, the Committee is grateful for your letter, dated 15 June 2022, clarifying the discrepancy between the five specified frequency rates set out on page 8 and the wider range set out in Annex 2 of the notification. We note the explanation that, to give greater flexibility, it has been agreed that the rates need not be restricted to the five specified frequencies and that this was not accurately reflected in the notification. This oversight was clearly unhelpful, as the Committee's consent is based on the information provided in the notification, and we welcome this clarification being put in the public domain.

Yours sincerely

Finlay Carson MSP, Convener, Rural Affairs, Island and Natural Environment Committee