

Mark Roberts
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Ìrean Àrainneachdail na h-Alba

ENVIRONMENTAL
Standards Scotland
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Edward Mountain MSP
Convener
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
By email

28 March 2024

Dear Convener,

At the Committee's meeting on 5 March 2024, Dr Richard Dixon and I gave evidence to the Committee. I would like to follow up our oral evidence with two updates.

1. I said I would clarify what progress there had been in developing replacements for regulations 9 and 10 of the National Emissions Ceiling Regulations. We have spoken to the Scottish Government and understand that there are active discussions between the four UK administrations to agree a suitable replacement. We understand that these proposals are still in development. We will continue to liaise with the Scottish Government on this matter as they prepare their response to our recent (February 2024) report on particulate matter.
2. In ESS' letter to you of 27 February 2024 and at the Committee's meeting on 5 March 2024, we indicated that the Scottish Government must lay an improvement plan response to our improvement report on local authority climate change duties within six months of publication of the report (the report was published on 6 December 2023).

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The Scottish Government has subsequently informed Environmental Standards Scotland that it intends to consult on the content of its improvement plan. This means that the Scottish Government's improvement plan must be laid no later than nine months from the date Environmental Standards Scotland laid its improvement report before the Scottish Parliament (6 September 2024).

I hope this information is helpful to the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Roberts
Chief Executive

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