



HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

Tel: 020 7219 4579
Fax: 020 7219 6715
euclords@parliament.uk
www.parliament.uk/lords

16 July 2020

Victoria Prentis MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Block
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

Dear Victoria,

EM 7153/20: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 and Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 as regards specific measures to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak in the fishery and aquaculture sector

Thank you for your letter dated 27 May on the above Regulation, which was considered by our Environment Sub-Committee on 15 July 2020.

Thank you for the detail you provided regarding the domestic support initiatives that have been launched for the fishing and aquaculture sectors in each part of the UK. We welcome your efforts to support these sectors at this challenging time.

In your letter you note that both Wales and Northern Ireland are considering the use of the EMFF amendments to support temporary suspension of aquaculture production, as this sector is not covered by their domestic support schemes. Please update us on whether they decide to do so.

You also state that an assessment will be completed in early summer of whether any EMFF-supported projects are no longer viable, thus releasing funds to be repurposed as COVID-19 recovery funds. Please update us on the outcome of this assessment.

The Committee continues to take an active interest in this matter and we would therefore welcome being kept updated on developments. We look forward to a response in due course.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Cash MP, Chair of the Commons European Scrutiny Committee; Jessica Mulley, Clerk to the Commons Committee; Les Saunders, Cabinet Office; and John Leach, Departmental Scrutiny Coordinator.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Kinnoull', with a horizontal line underneath.

Lord Kinnoull
Chair of the European Union Committee