



Department
for Environment
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The Earl of Kinnoull
Chairman
Select Committee on the European Union
House of Lords
London
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13 October 2020

Dear Lord Kinnoull,

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 of 30 September in which you ask how we will replace the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).

This Government has made a commitment to maintain funding for fisheries during this parliament. Defra is creating a replacement scheme for England that will support the sector to adapt to the new trading conditions and opportunities as we leave the EU, recover from the impact of Covid-19, and become more economically and environmentally sustainable in the longer-term.

As fisheries funding is a devolved matter, each of the Devolved Administrations is creating their own scheme to replace the EMFF. The necessary powers for this have been included in the Fisheries Bill currently passing through parliament. The Memorandum of Understanding and the Joint Fisheries Statement that arise from the Fisheries Bill will be an opportunity to set out the framework for joint working between the administrations in regard to future funding schemes.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Cash MP, Chairman of the European Scrutiny Committee. I am also copying this letter to the Clerks of the Commons and Lords Committees, Jessica Mulley and Chris Johnson respectively; Les Saunders, Cabinet Office; and Steve Wigham, Defra Scrutiny Co-ordinator.

Yours sincerely,

Victoria Prentis

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