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Our Reference: 202000100368  
Your Reference: Short-Term Let Consultation

29 October 2020

Dear Fiona

Thank you for your letter of 08 October to Kate Forbes MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Fergus Ewing MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Tourism, and the First Minister, regarding your concerns with our short-term lets licensing scheme. I am responding as the Minister with lead responsibility for this policy.

The Scottish Government is committed to getting the regulation right. Neither Scottish Government nor local authorities want to unduly curtail the many benefits of short-term lets to hosts, visitors and the Scottish economy. We are committed to monitoring and evaluating the impact of our proposals to ensure that they are effective and targeted. We can take action in the next Parliament if this is not the case.

I can assure you a Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment will be completed for the licensing and planning legislation and laid at the Scottish Parliament at the same time. Any information you can share with my officials to inform such an assessment would be very helpful.

I thank you for your participation in the consultation to help ensure we strike the right balance between community, industry and local government interests at this challenging time.

I appreciate your engagement with the development of the short-term lets regulations and your commitment to the recovery of the self-catering sector and tourism from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kind regards





**KEVIN STEWART**

