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Dear Bill,

Thank you for your letter of 12 May regarding the UK Agriculture Bill.

As you indicated, the Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations confirmed in his letter of 5 February, officials from the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government are discussing a new protocol for scrutiny of Scottish Ministers' consent to statutory instruments made by UK Ministers. These discussions are ongoing.

The intention is that this protocol would apply to all instruments made by UK Ministers arising from EU exit that include devolved provision, including any such provisions in SIs made under powers in the UK Agriculture Bill.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

**FERGUS EWING**

