

James Dornan MSP
Convener of the Local Government and
Communities Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

17 February 2020

Dear James

COMMON FRAMEWORKS: HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES PLANNING

I refer to my letter of 19 July 2019, updating the Committee on the development of the above draft non-legislative framework. I advised that I would provide a further update as the framework progressed through the Phase 3 development process.

Update on Phase 3 of the Framework Process

I can confirm that following a successful engagement session with stakeholders, the draft framework was scrutinised by an official level Review and Assessment panel and refined accordingly by officials in the Scottish Government, together with those in the UK Government and the other devolved administrations.

The UK Frameworks Project Board noted, on Thursday 30th January 2020, the progress that has been made and were content for the finalised draft to be submitted to the Joint Ministerial Committee (European Negotiations), for provisional agreement at a future meeting.

After the JMC(EN) provisionally agrees the draft outline framework, it will be submitted to the relevant portfolio Ministers in each of the administrations to lay the provisional outline framework agreement together with any related information, such as any concordat associated with the framework, in each respective parliament.

I recognise the crucial role parliamentary scrutiny plays in the development, implementation and oversight of the framework. I will, therefore, write again in the very near future to provide a copy of the finalised draft outline framework for your consideration as soon as possible after it is agreed.

I hope this is helpful in the meantime.

Yours sincerely

KEVIN STEWART