

**Email from SEPA to Friends of the Sound of Jura
15 September 2018**

Dear Friends of the Sound of Jura,

Thank you for your email last Tuesday (11 Sept 2018) about SEPA's approach to regulating fish farms, including specific issues such as biomass limits and the example of four current applications.

I want to make clear that, at this date, there is no change in the way SEPA regulates FinFish Aquaculture (fish farms). You are correct in pointing out that there has been no conclusion yet to our DZR consultation.

Since we released the DZR consultation paper and other material for comment, we have been reviewing submissions, speaking to a range of stakeholders, conducting further scientific research and carefully considering potential approaches to improving the way we regulate fish farms.

We are pulling this work together into a consolidated package and which we will release for a further round of consultation in the next few weeks. We have decided to add this additional consultation step because of the scientific complexities involved and the divergence of views that have been expressed. This extra, intensive round of consultation will give everyone an opportunity to help us make sure we are setting the right framework for the regulation of this industry over the next few years. I then hope we will finalise our new regulatory approach later this year or early next year.

I will personally get involved in this final round of consultation and would welcome the opportunity to visit the Sound of Jura and meet with your group to discuss your views.

Finally, I reiterate that, until we have concluded all this work, the existing rules apply to any fish farm applications we receive.

If you want to speak to me about your concerns before we release our draft package, please call me on xxxxxxxxxxxx.

Regards,
Terry.

Terry A'Hearn
Chief Executive, SEPA