



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

John Finnie

Member of the Scottish Parliament
Highlands and Islands

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Ball Pàrlamaid na h-Alba
A' Ghàidhealtachd agus na h-Eileanan

Paul Wheelhouse MSP
Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
St. Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

19th March 2020

Dear *Paul*

Island Communities and Covid-19

I appreciate that this is a difficult time for all Scottish Government Ministers and Departments.

Many of the difficulties being raised by the Covid-19 across Scotland will be particularly acutely felt in our Island Communities where smaller populations and physical geography are likely to exacerbate matters. Our Islands are also particularly reliant on tourism for their economies and are likely to be affected long after the initial health concerns have passed.

In light of this, I would ask that the Scottish Government set-up an Island Task Force during the Covid-19 crisis to ensure that the very precise needs of islanders can be catered for.

Kind regards

John Finnie MSP