



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Joan McAlpine MSP
South Scotland Region

By email.

Our ref: JM/RC

04 April 2018

Dear Mr Showalter,

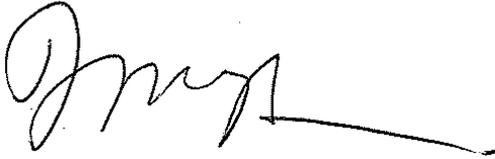
Thank you for contacting me about your plans for the Young's Pinneys plant in Annan, which have caused shock across Scotland. You say in your correspondence "*meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.*" This is what I am doing now. The closure of the plant will devastate hundreds of local families. Here are my questions on behalf of my constituents:

1. You say the decision to close the plant is made "with regret". What options have you explored to keep it open?
2. Why is the site "no longer financially sustainable" when you have secured major supply contracts from UK retailers?
3. You say your "One Youngs' strategy focuses investments "on centres of excellence". Why is this centre of excellence in Grimsby and not Annan given that the bulk of the UK's salmon is reared in Scotland?
4. You talk of "exceptionally challenging market conditions". Can you explain what these are?
5. You say you have chosen to exit deli and meals production. Can you tell me if deli and meals production continues at another Young's site?
6. Will the formal consultation with staff include rethinking your "One Young's" strategy?
7. Have you entered into discussions with the Scottish Government to explore ways to keep the site open?
8. If not, will you do so?
9. If you are unwilling to continue operations at the Annan site will you co-operate with any proposal to sell it to another seafood processor who will commit to continuing the employment of Pinneys loyal workers?
10. What severance packages will you offer to employees and will you offer enhanced terms to workers who have been employed by you for many years on a casual basis or contracts?

I look forward/...

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joan McAlpine', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Joan McAlpine
MSP for South Scotland