

Dr David Kenyon
Scotland Chief Plant Health Officer
SASA Headquarters
Roddinglaw Rd
Edinburgh
EH12 9FJ

23 March 2026

Dear Dr Kenyon,

I am writing on behalf of the Potato Processors' Association (PPA), representing UK manufacturers who collectively purchase approximately 1.52 million tonnes of GB potatoes annually.

We share the serious concerns that have recently been raised by the BPTA regarding declining service levels at SASA. Specific issues—including communication difficulties, delayed labelling, and slow PCN sampling turnarounds—are already jeopardising planning for the 2026 seed potato crop.

Furthermore, given the rising prevalence of Potato Leaf Roll Virus in Scotland, it is vital that SASA is adequately resourced to maintain the integrity of the Scottish SPCS during the upcoming inspection season and into the future.

We are particularly concerned that resource constraints have apparently led to the cancellation of the BPTA crop inspection course, as well the visit for delegates from the GB Potatoes/BPTA Potato Development Program both of which are a useful introduction to new entrants into the industry.

Further to your meeting with the BPTA, we support BPTA's request that you explore all options to ensure that the adequate resources are available to enable the essential services that SASA provide continue to be delivered for the benefit of the potato sector both in Scotland and the UK.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Curtis
Director General
Potato Processors' Association