

Asset Transfer Request made by Ettrick & Yarrow Community Development Company for the purchase of 173 ha of Gamescleuch Forest and the Ettrick Marshes

Representation received by email on 6 August 2017

Rebecca Carr
Community Asset Transfer Manager
Forest Enterprise Scotland
231 Corstorphine Road
Edinburgh
EH12 7AT

Dear Ms Carr

Gamescleuch Forest and the Ettrick Marshes - representation

As a local resident, and very regular user (normally twice daily) of the Gamescleuch Forest and Ettrick Marshes/Boardwalk footpaths, I am very familiar with the project area in its entirety. I am therefore writing to state my support of the project of EYCDC for the purchase of this area.

Since 2016 Borders Forest Trust have ceased all maintenance in this area and footpaths, boardwalks, bridges, etc. have become unusable, overgrown, or have been decommissioned in places. It is not now possible to sensibly complete any of the circular routes around the Forest due to wind-blown and lack of suitable walkways.

As a member of EYCDC, and having attended all of the presentations on this project, the main benefits of this project, from my personal view, are as follows:

- 1) The repair, upgrade and maintenance of the boardwalk and footpaths etc. as well as the restoration of the various permutations of circular routes.
- 2) The overall management of this forest area in the hands of the local residents by way of the Community Company (EYCDC).

With regards to this, I have spent the past 3 weeks canvassing a basic petition among local residents (both members and non-members) and have, to date, gathered over 90 signatures in support of the project, with very few declining.

Thank you for your time in considering this representation, please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.