

RELATING THE PROJECT TO THE SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL OUTCOMES

In addressing the outcomes (<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome>) our interpretations are made in direct relation to the guidance provided by the Scottish Government (SG) in the hyperlink associated with each outcome.

1. *We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.*
<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/business>

SG guidance on this outcome identifies the utilisation of Scotland's natural and energy resources more efficiently as a driver to being attractive for business. The vision of continuous-rotation broadleaf woodfuel production is an efficient use of energy resources (see <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-9PEG3U>) in terms of low cost and low CO₂/kWh. The proposed scale of 7 ha is small in total impact, but it both contributes directly to the efficient use of these resources, provides a model for larger resources and other communities, and opportunities to learn the necessary skills. The vision encompasses using the woodland and the proposed activities to support and help in the development of local woodland businesses.

2. *We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.*
<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/employment>

SG guidance on this outcome identifies the objective of providing an opportunity to succeed within everyone's reach and where full use is made of people's skills to boost productivity. In this context woodfuel activities provide 'green jobs' and opportunities for sustainable forestry (see <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-9PEG28>) supporting rural employment opportunities. The woodland activities and services considered in our vision would primarily support and sustain local businesses and supply chains with relatively few employees, and it is these businesses which provide the majority of employment in rural areas (Understanding the Scottish Rural Economy; Scottish Government 23/02/2018). PCT has been proactive in contacting and inviting local contractors to develop mutually beneficial business proposals, and PCT propose to create a part time job over two years to assist with the establishment of the project.

3. *We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation.*
<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/research>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However SG point to knowledge transfer as being an important aspect of this outcome as it is vital to economic wellbeing. The proposal promotes a traditional system of wood production which is not widely practiced and in this sense the project has an outcome of transferring knowledge through its outdoor learning.

4. *Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.*
<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/youngpeople>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However the vision offers opportunities for young people to explore woodland culture, understand biodiversity and the relationship to habitat, and perhaps discover vocations through outdoor learning.

5. *Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.*
<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/children>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However SG point out that the biggest gains to improved outcomes will arise from stronger communities which are positive places to grow up in. The success of this bid will help further PCT in its community objectives from providing a boost to the feeling of empowerment of communities to manage its environs, thereby furthering the objectives of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, and in turn build stronger and more positive communities.

6. *We live longer, healthier lives.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/healthier>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However one of our objectives is to safeguard the Sustrans Tweed Valley Railway Path through the woodland which promotes exercise *per se*, or exercise in travelling from Cardrona to Peebles through cycling, jogging, or walking. It is a common finding of medical studies, and a common theme in medical advice, that exercise promotes healthier and longer lives. The legal opinion we have received is that the current SBC/FCS agreement on the terms of access concerning the Sustrans path will fall on sale by the FCS. Our objective is to maintain this route in partnership with SBC.

7. *We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/inequalities>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However our objectives are inclusive. The objective of maintaining the Sustrans path will assist disabled access to the countryside as it forms a major section of paved surface alongside the Tweed.

8. *We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/childfamilies>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome, but it has no negative consequences for the outcome, with a marginal benefit arising from stronger more empowered communities.

9. *We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/crime>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome, but it has no negative consequences for the outcome.

10. *We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/susplaces>

SG guidance on this outcome concerns supporting people's physical and mental wellbeing through encouraging social interactions cultural amenities and green space, with high quality rural environments that are sustainable, where sustainability is defined by high quality standards and energy efficiency. Our project contributes to this outcome as it will contribute a high quality rural environment, which is accessible, positive for biodiversity, attractive in landscape, a contributor to energy efficiency by its woodfuel production, and promoting energy-efficient transport by safeguarding the Sustrans path. SG point out that the involvement of the local community is crucial to the outcome – and the proposed project directly delivers this.

11. *We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/communities>

SG guidance on this outcome concerns living in a more sustainable way that is better for the environment with cohesive communities involving themselves in local issues. For the reasons outlined in 'Outcome 10' the proposed project directly contributes to this outcome.

12. *We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/environment>

SG guidance on this outcome concerns living as part of nature, within environmental limits, adapting our society to a greener approach, respecting the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity. This project delivers a unique biodiversity objective in safeguarding the only known Scottish site of *Lampronia capitella*, which is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species (see

letters of support from Butterfly Conservation), and more widely the woodfuel production and coppicing approach proposed will contribute to increased biodiversity (see <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-9PEG28>). In addition the project's management will contribute to saving Scotland's Red Squirrel, which is also a UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species (<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5170>), as the woodland is in a Priority Area for Red Squirrel Conservation. The contributions to our natural environment will be made simultaneously with contributions towards living within our environmental limits on energy resources. The SG guidance also recognises that the local community are especially skilled at engaging members of the public in improvement works. Therefore the project will contribute to this outcome directly and, powerfully, way beyond its size.

13. *We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/natidentity>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However SG guidance on this outcome points out that the national identity is concerned with the quality of our landscapes, and the values placed on our heritage, which encompasses woodland heritage. Therefore the project will contribute a marginal benefit to this outcome.

14. *We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/envImpact>

SG guidance on this outcome points to a need to make much greater use of our renewable energy resources and promote energy efficiency in our homes. The proposal on woodfuel production directly contributes to this.

15. *Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/indLiving>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However it has no negative consequences for this outcome.

16. *Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.*

<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome/pubServ>

The project is not primarily targeted towards this outcome. However it has no negative consequences for this outcome.