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Mr Thomas HL Paterson
Cartref
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Helensburgh
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Our ref:AB00002

12 December 2019

Dear Mr Paterson

NOTICE BY THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS UNDER PART 3A OF THE LAND REFORM (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003

Scottish Ministers have received an application from Helensburgh Community Woodlands Group for consent to exercise a right to buy land at Castle Woods, Helensburgh under Part 3A of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (“the Act”), the Community Right to Buy Abandoned, Neglected or Detrimental Land.

Under section 97G(9) of the Act, Scottish Ministers must invite the owner of the land to give their views on the application. You have been identified as the landowner in the application form, and I now invite you to give your views on the application in writing. Any views you wish to send must be received by Scottish Ministers by 10 February 2020 either by email at the above email address or by post at the address below.

Under section 97G(10) of the Act, you are also invited to give information about the following matters:-

- whether you consider that it would be in the public interest for Scottish Ministers to consent to the application,
- whether you, the owner of the land, continuing to own the land would be compatible with furthering the achievement of sustainable development in relation to the land,
- whether you consider the land to be wholly or mainly neglected or abandoned or, as the case may be, to be used or managed in such a way as to result in or cause harm, directly or indirectly, to the environmental wellbeing of a relevant community,
- any proposals that you have for the land,

- any rights or interests in the land which you are aware of but that are not mentioned in the application form, and
- any other matter that you consider to be relevant to the application.

Under section 97G(13) of the Act, copies of any views received will be sent to the community body who will be invited to provide its responses to these views, if any, within 60 days.

Scottish Ministers will take into consideration all views and responses to those views received when considering whether to consent to the application.

I would also like to inform you that under regulations 11 and 12 of the Community Right to Buy (Abandoned, Neglected or Detrimental Land) (Eligible Land, Regulators and Restrictions on Transfers and Dealing) (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (“the Regulations”) that, beginning on the date the application appears on the Register of Applications by Community Bodies to Buy Land (RoACBL), **you are prohibited** from transferring the land subject to the application (or any land that includes land subject to the application) or taking any action with a view to transferring such land other than in accordance with the exceptions under regulation 13 of Regulations.

Scottish Ministers shall, no earlier than 180 days from the date of receipt of the application, send notice of their decision on the application and their reasons for it to Helensburgh Community Woodlands Group, you as landowner, any other person who was invited to give their views under section 97G(9)(a) of the Act and the Keeper of the Registers of Scotland.

Please note – If a local or public holiday exists during your 60 days to provide any views, you should contact Scottish Ministers as soon as possible to advise them, in order for Scottish Ministers to calculate any revised time period. The local and public holiday will only have an effect if, the land subject to this application, is covered by that holiday.

A copy of this letter and a copy of your response will be sent to the community body.

Yours sincerely

VICKY REYNOLDS

On behalf of Scottish Ministers