

Conservator Highland & Islands Response to Aigas

From: Risby, John
Sent: 18 November 2009 15:50
To: Wield, Malcolm
Subject: RE: NFLS application Aigas Forest

Malcolm,

In response to the request for comments on the proposed purchase of Aigas Forest by Aigas Community Forest and specifically to the question "Are there any implications for private forestry support if a transfer of ownership takes place? "

I think that this community group has great potential to take on and develop the woodlands for a broad range of community benefits. They have prepared a clear feasibility study and business plan which would enhance the management of the forest. The business plan indicates potential funding from Rural Priorities-Rural Development Contracts and it would appear many of the proposals would be eligible for grant, however as this is a competitive scheme, an early application would be recommended.

John Risby
Conservator Highland and Islands