

From: Bob Davis Sent: 05 December 2008 15:36
To: liz.kirk@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: Scottish Climate Change Bill Consultation

RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION:

Q.1 A good idea but FC must be the body in overall charge. It could prove very damaging if the FC simply played a minor role i.e. 'here is a piece of forest, get on with it' They have to be the dominant partner in any scheme.

Q.2 Problematical. There would have to be stringent safeguards on any such leasing agreement, but if there were then such a scheme could work. Once again FC would have to be at worst a full joint partner. Simply leasing an area of forest and letting someone else do what they like would be a disaster. Such a scheme could and in all probability would lead to asset stripping unless extremely stringent and enforceable regulations (overseen by FC) were put in place.

Q.3 (i) Excellent idea as at present the public sector are finding it all but impossible to get access to any funding for woodland creation/management owing to the incredible bureaucracy now involved in grant applications, it is a complete nightmare!
(ii) No the landlord should retain ownership/interest in the land.
(iii) No, that could and probably would lead to even more bureaucratic bumbling. No problem if they wish to offer some (non mandatory) guidance but FC would be a much better body for advice or stipulation of constitutional content.

Q.4 Simplify the present forestry grant schemes otherwise no one will apply or at least get any grant.
The establishment (grant-aid the private sector or directly through FC) of coppice woodland for fuel log production. Encourage further development and creation of wood pelletisation plants and the use of wood-fired boilers.

Bob Davis
05/12/08

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