Living the dream – meet some of our tenants

"We had been looking for a tenancy for seven years. It's important not to give up. Stay focused and if at first you don't succeed try, try, try again."

"Ten years will allow us to build on our experience and balance sheet to enable us to compete on a level footing with other established farmers."

Ross & Kirsty Williams, Upper Tullochbeg, Huntly

For further information about Forestry Commission Scotland's starter farm initiative visit www.forestry.gov.uk/starterfarms

If you need this publication in an alternative format, for example, in large print or in another language, please contact:

The Diversity Team
Tel: 0300 067 5046
E-mail: diversity@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Published by: Forestry Commission Scotland, June 2014
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FCS/SK/DMS/June 2014/Edition 1
Breathing new life into Scotland’s farming sector

Forestry Commission Scotland’s starter farm initiative is providing new entrants, who have no direct route into the farming sector, with tenancy opportunities across Scotland.

“We did most of the background work ourselves for the business plan and budgets, so it meant that no interview question was an issue.”

Michael & Fiona Burns, Glenside, Kirkmichael

“This has given me stability to build up an established regular age flock, business awareness and hopefully strong financial cash flow, which will make me a strong candidate to secure my next tenancy.”

Alister Orr, Carserigg, Kirkconnel

“Completing our application ourselves meant that we had analysed every business decision and knew inside and out what it would take to make the business work.”

Mark Donald & Harriet Smith, Rynaclach, Port of Montieth