



## ASSET TRANSFER UNDER THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT

### Forestry and Land Scotland – Community Asset Transfer Scheme

#### DECISION NOTICE – AGREED

To: Craigielands Community Woodlands  
Willow Cottage  
Old Craigielands  
Beattock  
Moffat DG10 9RD

Forestry and Land Scotland  
Apex 1, 99 Haymarket Terrace,  
Edinburgh, EH12 5HD

[fls.communities@forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:fls.communities@forestryandland.gov.scot)

Head of Land Transactions & Development  
Malcolm Pearson

Our ref: 24-25-03RATN

30 May 2025

This Decision Notice relates to the asset transfer request made by CRAIGIELANDS COMMUNITY WOODLANDS (CCW) on 7 October 2024 in relation to 35.2 hectares known as Craigielands Wood, Beattock shown on the indicative plan annexed, “the disposal area”.

Forestry and Land Scotland has decided to **agree** to the request.

The reasons for this decision are as follows:

- CCW’s asset transfer request sets out a clear vision and financially viable proposal to protect and improve community access to the woodland, enhance biodiversity, preserve the historic environment and provide educational and economic opportunities.
- CCW’s proposals would deliver key elements of [Dumfries and Galloway Forestry & Woodland Strategy](#) and meets the objectives of [Scotland’s Forestry Strategy](#) to:

- Increase the contribution of forests and woodlands to Scotland's sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
- Improve the resilience of Scotland's forests and woodlands and increase their contribution to a healthy and high quality environment.
- Increase the use of Scotland's forest and woodland resources to enable more people to improve their health, well-being and life chances.
- The proposed forest management plans set out the long-term aspiration to manage the woodland using low-impact silvicultural systems and avoid large-scale felling coupes.
- FLS acknowledges that CCW has provided evidence that it is increasing its membership and that there is support in the community for the asset transfer, but notes also that some objections have been raised. CCW should therefore continue to build membership to strengthen capacity, community engagement and to develop ways of engaging with more diverse communities. In particular, the CATS Evaluation Panel would encourage CCW to provide a forward programme of community engagement and that the Board explores learning opportunities to build capacity and skills in this area.

The attached document specifies the terms and conditions subject to which we would be prepared to transfer ownership of the land to you. **If you wish to proceed, you must submit an offer to us at the address above by 1 December 2025.** The offer must reflect the terms and conditions attached, and may include such other reasonable terms and conditions as are necessary or expedient to secure the transfer within a reasonable time.

#### Right to appeal

If you consider that the terms and conditions attached differ to a significant extent from those specified in your request, you apply for a review by the Scottish Ministers.

**Any application for a review must be made in writing by 27 June 2025**, which is 20 working days from the date of this notice, to:

Community Land Team  
D Spur  
Saughton House  
Broomhouse Drive  
Edinburgh EH11 3XD

Email: [CRTB@gov.scot](mailto:CRTB@gov.scot)

Guidance on making an appeal is available at [www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/asset-transfer/](http://www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/asset-transfer/).