

## ASSET TRANSFER UNDER THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT

## Forestry and Land Scotland – Community Asset Transfer Scheme

## **DECISION NOTICE – AGREED**

To: Sunart Community Company

Creag Ard

5 Longrigg Road

Strontian

**PH36 4HY** 

Our ref: 22-23-05NWIP

Forestry and Land Scotland Commercial Development Glentress, Peebles EH45 8NB

fls.communities@forestryandland.gov.scot

Interim Head of Acquisition & Disposals

Robin Waddell

3 May 2023

This Decision Notice relates to the asset transfer request made by Sunart Community Company on 9 January 2023 in relation to Longrigg Woodland 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:

- Forestry and Land Scotland has notified its intention to dispose of the Longrigg Wood.
- The asset transfer request sets out a strong vision and makes a clear case for benefits, based on the classification of the area as 'fragile', with low incomes and high cost of living.
- Sunart Community Company has a strong track record on asset acquisition and management and the SCC Longrigg Committee leading on the Longrigg Woodland project has significant relevant experience.

- The partnership between Sunart Community Company and Ardnamurchan High School
  will create a resource base at Longrigg Wood to strengthen access of students in school
  and further education to field experience of biology and forestry. Partnerships with other
  stakeholders including mental health and older people's charities and Lochaber
  Countryside Rangers will maximise the potential for improvements in health and
  wellbeing outcomes.
- Sunart Community Company plans to replace the current commercial plantation with a
  more biodiverse and accessible, will make the woodland much more resilient to deal with
  the climate changes and aligns with Forestry and Land Scotland's proposed land
  management plan for Drimnatorran Forest, including Longrigg Woodland.

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 **6 November 2023**. 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 may appeal to the Scottish Ministers.

Any appeal must be made in writing by **30 May 2023**, 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

Guidance on making an appeal is available at <a href="www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/asset-transfer/">www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/asset-transfer/</a>.