



FK178AY

21.11.19 RE COILHALLAM WOODS.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM, THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF 83 ACRES OF COILHALLAM WOODS APPEARS TO BE A PAPER EXERCISE AND THE IMPRESSION GIVEN BY THE GRANDLY NAMED "CALLANDER DEVELOPMENT" IS THAT THE MAJORITY OF CALLANDER RESIDENTS ARE "FOR" THIS TRANSFER.

I AM NOT FOR THIS

TRANSFER ON THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS.

a) THE WOODS ALREADY BELONG TO THE PEOPLE AND A TRANSFER TO A WELL MEANING, SMALL GROUP, IS NOT AT ALL NECESSARY. THE BEST PEOPLE TO MANAGE THESE WOODS ARE FOREST SCOTLAND AND THEY HAVE THE FOREST

WORKERS AND EXPERTISE TO CARRY OUT THIS TASK. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO HAS PAID MONEY FOR RUNNING SCOTLANDS FORESTS AND IF THE TRANSFER OF THE WOODS GOES AHEAD THEN THE TRANSFER SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE FUNDS TO PAY FOR THE RUNNING OF THE WOODS. I HAVE, WHEN TALKING TO PEOPLE ABOUT THIS, HAD PEOPLE SAY "WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES AFTER THE TRANSFER." THIS LOOKS TO ME LIKE TAKING AN ASSET, THE WOODS, FROM ONE PUBLIC BODY, TRANSFERING THEM TO ANOTHER GROUP, AND THEN ASKING A THIRD PUBLIC BODY, THE GOVT, TO FUND IT. I THINK THAT IF THIS WAS BEING DONE BY A COMPANY THE DEAL COULD ALLEGEDLY BE CALLED DUBIOUS.

I ALSO THINK THAT IF THE VOLUNTEERS ARE LOOKING FOR A WAY TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES

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IN THE RUNNING OF THE WOODS THEM-
THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE ASSET TO
BE TRANSFERRED, THE PEOPLE COULD FORM
A GROUP AND PUT THEIR SKILLS TO GOOD
USE UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF FOREST
SCOTLAND.

b. THE TRANSFER OF THESE WOODS WILL BE
AN ONGOING LIABILITY ON THE PEOPLE
OF CALLANDER AND INEVITABLY WITH
THE PASSAGE OF TIME, THE WELL MEANING
COMMITTEE URGING THE TRANSFER WILL
"PASS ON", LEAVING A MANAGEMENT VOID
THAT NO ONE WILL WANT TO FILL. THE
WOODS ARE ALREADY PART OF A PLAN AND
AS TIME PASSES THEY WILL CONTINUE TO
BE PART OF "FOREST SCOTLAND RESPONSIBILITY".
I WOULD URGE YOU TO REJECT THIS
TRANSFER REQUEST.

YOURS SINCERELY
