

Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

29/04/2014

Dear Minister

Removal of grazings committee members by the Crofting Commission

Crofters are extremely concerned about the manner in which the Crofting Commission has conducted recent events which have led to the removal of grazings committee officials from their posts.

As you are aware common grazings are the backbone of crofting, but less than 50% of grazings are regulated. We have all been trying to increase this percentage and the commission has been very positive, until now. The recent actions taken put any chance of rejuvenation of grazings at great risk and have the potential to lead to more grazings becoming unregulated.

SCF has been very supportive of a majority elected commission, something we fought hard to get, but we feel the credibility of this board is being tried. We are not contesting the legalities of the cases involved, but the manner in which it has been addressed and the wider implications for common grazings.

We therefore request that Scottish Government has a full review of the situation as soon as possible before the damage is irreversible.

Sincerely,



Fiona Mandeville, Chair, Scottish Crofting Federation



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Rooted in our communities, the only member-led organisation dedicated to the promotion of crofting and the largest association of small-scale food producers in the UK.