

MacNally C (Catrina)

From: Fergusson, Ian <Ian.Fergusson@forestryandland.scot>
Sent: 26 November 2019 21:33
To: Fergusson I (Ian)
Subject: FW: For Information: Fox Control - (Tay Forest District)
Attachments: Draft briefing note For Fergus Ewing.doc

From: Bekier, Paul <paul.bekier@forestry.gsi.gov.uk>
Sent: 01 June 2018 15:37
To: Fergusson, Ian <Ian.Fergusson@forestry.gsi.gov.uk>
Subject: Fw: For Information: Fox Control - (Tay Forest District)

There you go,

Been a few changes as received more feedback from FDM Kenny etc.

Think it looks better, you could tweak it forever but it would still say the same so Sent as is.

Again thanks

Paul

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Bekier, Paul <paul.bekier@forestry.gsi.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, 1 June 2018 14:37
To: Hymers, Michael; Thompson, Siobhan
Cc: Kortland, Kenny; Ellis, Jo; PS FESHO; Young, Matthew
Subject: RE: For Information: Fox Control - (Tay Forest District)

Hi Siobhan/Michael,

See attached draft briefing note as requested.

I have involved Matt in the process has FDM in Tay and having been heavily involved in coordinating the original responses.

It is worth noting Kenny Kortland concerns over the use of public funds to control foxes however this is common practice across FES where Foxes are controlled to protect sensitive species such as Nightjar but also to prevent the unsustainable loss of lambs on neighbouring farm land. Eradication of any species is not the aim but to reduce populations to levels where objectives can be met.

Any questions let me know.

Thanks

Paul

Paul Bekier
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From: Hymers, Michael

Sent: 31 May 2018 14:41

To: Bekier, Paul

Cc: Kortland, Kenny; Ellis, Jo; PS FESHO

Subject: For Information: Fox Control - (Tay Forest District)

Paul

Apologies!

I've just come off the phone from Private Office and they have amended their request.

They are now treating the above as a Diary Case and therefore they don't require a 'draft' response to Graeme Dey MSP, there just require a briefing note. In addition we have more time. We don't need to submit the briefing note until Wednesday (i.e. 06 June 2018).

With that in mind if you could provide Siobhan with your 'draft' before close of play on Tuesday that would be ideal.

Let myself or Siobhan know if you require any further information or additional clarification.

Thanking you in advance.

Regards

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Head of Corporate Support

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From: Bekier, Paul
Sent: 30 May 2018 18:09
To: Hymers, Michael; Kortland, Kenny
Subject: RE: Urgent Response Required: Fox Control - (Tay Forest District)
Importance: High

Hi Michael,

I will start working on a draft tomorrow for you and I thank Kenny for his latest response and you will see that much of the info he has supplied has been included in my response to your request.

To clarify is it a response to your latest concerns to Graeme that we are replying to? If so that's fine as I have worked with you many years ago and I have been heavily involved in fox control both with and without hounds for many years so should have a balanced knowledge of the process.

Thanks

Paul

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From: Hymers, Michael
Sent: 30 May 2018 15:46
To: Kortland, Kenny; Bekier, Paul
Cc: Lamont, Willie; Ellis, Jo; Owen, Trefor
Subject: Urgent Response Required: Fox Control - (Tay Forest District)
Importance: High

Kenny/Paul

As you will see below FES has received a request for a 'draft' response and associated Briefing paper for the Cabinet Secretary in advance of a meeting he intends to have with Graeme Dey MSP regarding our recent response to Glen Prosen Estate's request to control foxes on Scotland's National Forest Estate.

Please note that Graeme Dey is the Deputy Convenor of the ECCLR Committee.

I would be grateful if you and your team could review the concerns raised and 'draft' an appropriate response on the Cabinet Secretary's response.

Unfortunately we don't yet have a deadline but it good be before close of play on Friday (the item is being fast-tracked). Given that Mr Ewing has referred to previous issues in Inverness, Ross & Skye it may be worth drawing in Willie.

Let myself or Siobhan know if you require any further information or additional clarification.

Thanking you in advance.

Regards

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From: Cummings, John
Sent: 30 May 2018 09:59
To: Hymers, Michael
Cc: FES Corporate Support
Subject: MACCS Case, On the ground
Importance: High

Michael

This case will be coming through as a fast track (see below) – will let you know the deadline asap.

Many thanks

John

From: Lauren.Wilson@gov.scot [mailto:Lauren.Wilson@gov.scot] **On Behalf Of** CabSecREC@gov.scot
Sent: 30 May 2018 09:46
To: CorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot
Cc: CabSecREC@gov.scot; Cummings, John; Taylor, Jonathan Michael; Hugh.Dignon@gov.scot
Subject: FW: On the ground

PEU

Please add to MACCS as a fast track diary case for Mr Ewing as he has agreed to meet with Mr Dey.

Cab Sec would appreciate if the PS minute covers an update on this matter as he would like to make sure he fully understands what has been the approach to this as he has raised this matter before in other areas and had reached a good outcome.

Thanks

Lauren Wilson
Assistant Private Secretary
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity
CabsecREC@gov.scot
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From: "Dey G (Graeme), MSP" <Graeme.Dey.msp@parliament.scot>
To: "Ewing F (Fergus), MSP" <Fergus.Ewing.msp@parliament.scot>
Subject: On the ground

Fergus

Hope you don't mind me bringing this to your attention.

It relates to an estate in my constituency that is an example of exactly how you would want such a business to operate.

The attached outlines my exchanges with FCS and failed attempts to find a sensible compromise.

Below, reproduced as sent to me, is from the head keeper/manager of the estate within the last few days.

The final letter from FCS means there can be no compromise because of the identified presence of Wildcats.

And I get that.

But email lays out what that means in practice for a responsible land manager.

I care passionately about enhancing our natural environment and protecting biodiversity but when threatened species of ground nesting birds are in jeopardy because FCS are not dealing with vermin then something surely needs to give.

I'm not seeking an intervention from you on this. But I promised I would share details of the impact in the hope that might lead to commonsense prevailing in future such cases.

Have a good weekend.

Graeme

Graeme

"So foxes and the forestry, this one is not going to go away. I feel the need to keep you informed on such things. Very few have a clue on real countryside matters, and you have

become my ear to burn on such matters, sorry. You do however have some understanding of some of the burning issues, and are in a position to influence what happens next.

You will remember the story, I seek permission to run hounds through the commission woods pre lambing / nesting, Forestry say no due to presents of wildcats etc etc, they tell us they are killing foxes and all is well.

Here's the reality, here who has just become a father again at 48 (not recommend!!) has spent at least half of the thirty odd nights since his daughter was born laid on the hillside in a sleeping bag trying to kill foxes that are taking sanctuary with the FCS wood of Glen Markie. Why, because I fully understand and have witnessed the destruction these animals cause to ground nesting bird whilst they feed their young. There are at least three foxes currently hunting from within the forestry into neighbouring land.

Number one priority for me is to have a shootable surplus of grouse each summer, that is what keeps me and the six other full timers here in jobs and homes. Key to this is vigorous and thorough legal vermin control. Bye product of this, is an abundance of waders.

Here's my point, a privately funded half educated project protecting cats that have be cross breeding with domestic cats since the Romans first brought cats to the country is directly working against the Scottish government funded working for waders project, and baring heavy on the financial strains of

These foxes need to be controlled and the easiest most time affective, and financially viable option is the use fox hounds in the woods pre spring.

These countryside matters need to be managed by people experienced in the consequences of decisions and not office bound civil servants."

From: Florence M (Marco)
Sent: 25 May 2018 10:14
To: Dey G (Graeme), MSP <Graeme.Dey.msp@parliament.scot>
Subject: FW: Was it just the responses you wanted?

From: Florence M (Marco)
Sent: 24 May 2018 10:09
To: Dey G (Graeme), MSP <Graeme.Dey.msp@parliament.scot>
Subject: Was it just the responses you wanted?

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