

8/1/58

LATE 2008?



Coimisean | Forestry
na Coilltearachd | Commission
Alba | Scotland

Dear Stakeholder

DISTRICT CHANGES IN SCOTLAND

Following a review, Forest Enterprise Scotland (FES) has undergone a significant reorganisation of its Forest Districts, with effect from April 1 2009. The restructuring of the Forest Districts, into fewer but stronger teams, will help increase FES's effectiveness in delivering core policies.

The number of Forest Districts has been reduced 14 to 10. The local significance of this is that the two formerly independent districts of Moray and Aberdeenshire have been merged to form an integrated Moray & Aberdeenshire Forest District with single extended District office in Huntly. This change was implemented in late march/early April with the relocation of staff from the former Moray office at Balnacoul.

Silvicultural delivery under Alastair Young was merged between the two units approximately 3 years ago so the amalgamation of other functions, whilst requiring a number of adjustments, will be simplified on a number of issues. No redundancies arose as a consequence of this amalgamation and a new outstation has been created at Newton a short distance west of Elgin to provide a base for staff working primarily in Moray. The merger of the staff resource provides us with greater flexibility to address some pinch points, not least the creation of a dedicated post for community engagement.

The senior staff structure within the merged unit is as outlined below:

John Thomson – Forest District Manager (01224 440701 – john.thomson@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

Alastair Young – Operations Manager (01224 441215 – alastair.young@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

Ewan Reid – District Forester Communities Recreation & Tourism (01224 440702 – ewan.reid@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

David Henderson – District Forester Planning & Estates (01224 441206 – david.henderson@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

In many cases the staff with whom you were previously engaged will remain the same. If however you do have any query arising from this process or are looking for further clarification please do not hesitate to contact the office directly at the address above and we will be pleased to discuss with you.

Yours sincerely

