



1 July 2019

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Dear Sir/Madam

Forestry and Land Scotland – Draft Corporate Plan 2019-22

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above plan. We broadly support the draft plan and the intentions and actions outlined within.

Scottish Water provides drinking water for 97% of the Scottish public and certain forestry operations within drinking water source catchments can pose risks to public water supplies in terms of water availability, treatability and water quality.

Where these risks are not properly managed the quality of our source waters can be impacted leading to increases in chemical and energy usage within our water treatment processes and increases in the risk of drinking water quality failures. Forestry activities could also cause damage to our water infrastructure, potentially resulting in interruptions to the public water supply.

Our Sustainable Land Management team works in collaboration with land owners and developers to help manage these risks and to protect drinking water sources throughout Scotland. We believe that the draft Corporate Plan could be further improved by giving consideration to the following:

1. Any actions that could be taken by Forestry and Land Scotland to manage the impact of forestry activities within drinking water source catchment areas, in order to protect drinking water supplies.
2. How Forestry and Land Scotland intends to work with other agencies, such as SEPA, to protect drinking water supplies.

We would welcome the inclusion of the above in the finalised Plan and would be happy to provide you with more information if necessary.

Yours faithfully

Simon Parsons
Director of Strategic Customer Service Planning
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