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10 May 2024

Our ref: 7639

Dear Neighbour

## EAST NETHERSHIELDS - WOODLAND CREATION APPLICATION UPDATE

I am writing to update you on developments on the proposal for a new woodland at East Nethershields.

Since the previous design, which we shared in June 2023, we have removed the productive timber area due to safety concerns raised over the timber extraction point on the A723, resulting in a fully native woodland. We have exchanged the field south of Maiden Lea Cottage with a neighbouring field to the north of South Shields Farm, which has enabled us to keep new planting within a more efficient, concentrated area. Other changes include removing three small areas of deep peat (approximately 0.3 hectares each) from planting, developing areas of woodland edge shrubs and small tree species, and adding an open ground buffer of at least five metres along the property boundary. The latest design comprises 68.8 hectares of native woodland.

Further details about how we have incorporated the comments and advice received can be found in the enclosed maps.

Information, including reports and issues log, can also be found online at <https://www.tilhill.com/east-nethershields/>.

We have undertaken this work as per Scottish Forestry's [Woodland Creation Application](#) process to complete our due diligence on the site and engage with all relevant stakeholders. The proposals are now at their Final Draft Stage, and we have submitted sufficient information to allow Scottish Forestry to determine whether an Environmental Impact Assessment will be required as well as a [Forestry Grant Scheme \(FGS\)](#) application.

### Further Opportunities to Comment

Once Scottish Forestry are content with the Final Draft Design, it will be placed on their Public Register, and made available for formal comments to be made directly to them. The Public Register can be accessed using the following link: <https://casebook.forestry.scot/w/webpage/prhome>

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This formal Scottish Forestry consultation period will last 28 days. After this period and once any relevant comments raised during the consultation period have been addressed, Scottish Forestry will give a formal EIA Screening Opinion on the project and consider the design for Forestry Grant Scheme funding.

Should you wish to receive notification of the application being placed on the Public Register, please contact Scottish Forestry directly by Friday 24 May at Bothwell House, Hamilton Business Park, Central Scotland Conservancy, Caird Park, Hamilton ML3 0QA or [centralscotland.cons@forestry.gov.scot](mailto:centralscotland.cons@forestry.gov.scot) .

Best wishes



Olivia FitzGerald  
Forest Manager