Written submission from Scotwood Macdonald Ltd

Re Land Reform Bill and comments relating to forestry

Forest management in Scotland is already highly regulated and complies with the UK Forestry Standard and is sustainable development. It is long term with inevitable periods of low activity and owners legitimate management objectives during that time must be respected.

Requirements for land managers to engage with local communities over land management decisions should not duplicate what is already a unique and comprehensive scoping and consultation procedure for all forestry operations.

If Sporting rates are to be reintroduced for shooting estates then a distinction must be made between land managed for sporting purposes and woodland where deer control is a necessity. An appropriate exemptions clause should be included in the Bill.