

Dear [REDACTED]

17<sup>th</sup> August 2017

Community Petition in Support of Purchasing Ettrick Marshes and Part of Gamescleuch Forest

Please find enclosed 9 sheets of signatures from residents living in Ettrick who are either registered to vote at the Boston Hall or who would be eligible to vote there as they live within the catchment.

These are the original signatures, not copies, and we have promised residents that they will not be shown on line and will be kept by yourself.

They were gathered by five volunteers who called at houses in the area between 14<sup>th</sup> July and the 14<sup>th</sup> August, sometimes twice or thrice in an effort to catch people in. All questions were answered with some residents requesting a repeat visit once they had read the business plan in full. We have managed to speak directly with over 120 people, the vast majority of whom (112) have signed the petition to show agreement with the proposed purchase.

Please also find enclosed the working sheets based on the electoral roll which can be matched to the signatures. The original list had 140 names, some of whom were found to be living elsewhere now or working away from home, etc., bringing that number down to 123. Furthermore, we have added 23 more names of people who own property or now live in the area, bringing the total target for the Petition to 146.

Statistically we have 112 YES signatures, being 77% of the total target population (and being 93% of those contacted). There were 8 people who declined, ie. 5% of the total target population. Several properties were visited several times without success, but where possible emails or communications have been sent to those people to advise of the availability of the Petition at the Honey Cottage Caravan Park Shop.

We closed the petition as we wanted to submit it by the middle of August but there were still several people who indicated that they would sign but had not yet managed to get to the shop, and several who had yet to make up their mind. Therefore some of those shown on the working sheet as 'no response' are actually possibles who have been to the public meetings or who have been visited.

In summary: 146 residents living with the 5 mile radius of the forest and within the voting area of the Boston Hall; 112 signatures in support; 8 declined; 26 either not reached, still undecided or didn't have time to sign.

We trust this shows to your satisfaction that the residents of Ettrick are very aware of the project and that a majority are in favour.

Kind regards