



Forestry Commission
Scotland

Our Ref: S13/21
Your Ref: 06/1065/PP
11 December 2006

Central Scotland Conservancy
Bothwell House
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Mr G. Russell
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RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL										
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & TRANSPORT										
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Conservator
Keith Wishart

Dear Mr Russell

**CONSULTATION ON CONSTRUCTION OF A MOTORWAY JUNCTION ON LAND AT INTERSECTION OF M8/A8 GREENOCK ROAD
PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: 06/1065/PP**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the planning application for a proposed new motorway junction at the intersection of M8/A8 Greenock Road. Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) comments will concentrate on any impacts of the development on existing woodland and any proposed mitigation measures.

Comments:

- 1 The southern boundary of Site A of the proposed development appears to impact on a small area of semi-natural woodland resulting in the loss of woodland cover. Forestry Commission Scotland under the Forestry Act 1967 (as amended), has a duty to protect Scotland's forests and requires a felling licence when woodland is felled except where exemptions apply e.g. granting of planning permission. Therefore, **FCS strongly recommends** that no felling take place prior to a felling licence being issued or the granting of planning permission;
2. We also recommend that all proposals for the establishment of woodland under the proposed mitigation measures for the development meet the **sustainable woodland management standards stated in the UK Forestry Standard (2004)**. In addition all woodland operations should be carried out using best practice techniques illustrated in Forestry Commission Guidelines, Guidance Notes and Forestry Practice Guides and Notes (refer to: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/publications>); and



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3. The management and establishment of woodland and other habitats should contribute where possible towards the protection, enhancement and expansion of the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Green Network - outlined in the Alteration to the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Structure Plan (2005).

Please contact me if you would like to discuss these comments further.

Yours sincerely



Keith Wishart
Conservator