



01 October 2020

Sophie Reid
Food Farming and Countryside
Commission
Kemp House
160 City Road
London
E: sophie.reid@ffcc.co.uk

Castle House
6 Castle Drive
Carnegie Campus
Dunfermline
KY11 8GG

Customer Helpline
T: 0800 0 778 778
W: www.scottishwater.co.uk
E: Regulation@scottishwater.co.uk

Dear Ms Reid

FFCC Scotland survey

Scottish Water welcomes the opportunity to comment on the above. However we felt it was more appropriate to raise the concerns we have about the omission of any reference to the importance of land management in the protection of drinking water sources by letter, as there is no means of doing so in the online questionnaire. As far as we can gather no-one in Scottish Water was previously aware of the existence of the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission.

Scottish Water works with NatureScot, Scotland's Nature Agency, and other peatland restoration bodies to undertake peatland restoration and tree planting for carbon reduction and for protecting water quality of our drinking water sources.

We would like to draw attention to the fact that in the FFCC final report (and the corresponding Scottish report) protection of drinking water sources is not mentioned and it appears drinking water companies are not represented, despite a dependency on the land and land managers to maintain good practice to ensure the quality of source drinking water.

Scottish Water works closely with landowners in our drinking water catchment areas to help them to understand the impact their activities can have. We would welcome any focus your organisation could bring/place on the impact of land management practices on drinking water source quality.

In addition, whilst the report does focus on the expansion of plant based foods it does not mention the potential increased pressure on source water quality that could arise from higher intensity arable farming.

If you wish to provide further information or discuss the content of this letter please contact the email address above.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Scott
General Manager
Water Services Strategy