



NEWS RELEASE

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CROFTING FOUNDATION ‘DISMAYED BUT NOT SURPRISED’ AT OUTCOME OF LONDON MEETING

The Scottish Crofting Foundation (SCF) today expressed its disappointment at the failure of UK Environment Secretary Hilary Benn to make any offer of compensation to Scotland’s beleaguered livestock industry at yesterday’s meeting with industry representatives and Scottish MPs. SCF Chairman Norman Leask said, “We are dismayed but not surprised by this outcome. We would assure our members that this will not affect the light lamb welfare scheme already announced by the Scottish Government. What is urgently needed is, firstly a welfare scheme for cast ewes, and secondly realistic compensation for the devastating losses suffered by our members, who are the innocent parties in this fiasco. Who pays for it is of secondary importance. We are trying not to get involved in the Edinburgh versus London argument, but if this ends up being paid for out of the hard-pressed Scottish rural development budget, we will in effect be paying for compensation out of our own pockets.”

Ends.

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Pictures available on www.croftingfoundation.co.uk