



## NEWS RELEASE

**Use: Immediate**

**Date: 25/07/2017**

### **Scottish Crofting Federation welcomes croft relets and urges more to be done**

The Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) has welcomed the Crofting Commission's announcement that five croft tenancies have been relet to new tenants, and that a further five are shortly also to have new tenants.

SCF chair Russell Smith commented: "We welcome the news that the Commission has successfully relet these tenancies and that there are more to come. We have been advocating for years that more needs to be done to free up unused croft land for the many people who are desperate to take on a croft and work it. We know from our own membership and from others who contact us that there are many people who would love to become crofters; and it is a source of frustration that so few are successful in obtaining a croft.

"Crofting and crofting communities need new, young people with enthusiasm and commitment to regenerate neglected land and to re-invigorate our townships. We congratulate the Commission on getting to this stage, and urge them to continue and widen this work, which is vital to the health of crofting.

"We look forward to seeing many more tenancies being freed up so that crofting can better fulfil its role of strengthening communities and stewardship of the environment."

End

#### Contact:

Russell Smith, SCF Chair	01863 766 144 / 07899 896 001
Yvonne White, SCF Vice-Chair	01470 532 729 / 07545 459 929
Patrick Krause, SCF Chief Executive	07739 941 199
SCF Office	01599 530 005

#### **Notes to editors**

- Pictures can be found at: <http://www.crofting.org>