



NEWS RELEASE

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More staff for regulation very welcome says Crofting Federation

The Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) has welcomed additional staff to the Crofting Commission to work on processing crofting regulatory applications.

"It is very encouraging that the Crofting Commission has budget to employ more staff", said Donald MacKinnon, chair of the SCF. "This is an issue that we have raised countless times, and recently with the Cabinet Secretary Mairi Gougeon. It is gratifying that the Scottish Government has listened to concerns and acted upon it.

"It has been a long-standing bone of contention that the commission has not been able to regulate effectively due to a lack of staff to deal with breaches of duty. They have had to move staff off the more important work, trying to get a rising backlog of basic regulatory applications processed. Now that there are additional staff to do this it means that the experienced members of the Regulation and Land Use team can return to their posts and make an impact on getting neglected crofts back into use.

"The fact that many of the new staff will be working in communities throughout the crofting counties is an added bonus" said Mr MacKinnon.

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