Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 - Participation Requests Scottish Natural Heritage Annual Report 2017-18

Reporting Period

The period of this report is 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

Summary of Participation Requests

Number of requests received	1
Number of requests agreed	0
Number of requests refused	0
Number of requests which resulted in changes to a public service provided by, or on behalf of, the public service authority	0

In September 2017, SNH was named as another public service authority in a Participation Request made by Jordanhill Community Council to Glasgow City Council (GCC) about Victoria Park in Glasgow. This is home to Fossil Grove Site of Special Scientific Interest. SNH welcomed the Participation Request and provided a positive response to GCC within the prescribed timescale. During the reporting year, GCC have not decided whether to agree or refuse that Participation Request.

Actions to Promote and Support the Use of Participation Requests

During 2017/18, SNH raised awareness, and developed guidance and an assessment process for our staff. This was so that we would be ready to support communities wanting to make Participation Requests. We created a <u>Participation Request webpage</u> with details of how to make a request and how it will be processed. We have a dedicated email address – <u>communities@snh.gov.uk</u> – for responding quickly to inquiries and requests for support.