

**Sarah Coffey**

---

**From:** Patrick ;  
**Sent:** 10 January 2012 11:06  
**To:** Development Control  
**Cc:** Zoe Wangler; Derek Flynn  
**Subject:** Support for 11/02007/MFUL

Dear Ms Fish

I would like to express the support of the Scottish Crofting Federation for the application **11/02007/MFUL** for 'Plot C' on the **Greenham Reach Smallholdings**, submitted by the Ecological Land Co-operative (ELC). In fact we support the whole development, Plots A, B and C but I think only C has a reference at the moment.

The Scottish Crofting Federation wouldn't usually be involved in a development application to a council outwith Scotland, but in this case we feel it is very important and relevant for us to show our support. We have considerable experience of small agricultural holdings (being the representative organisation for the land tenure system of the Highlands and Islands consisting of over 18,000 crofts) and being a national advocate of small-scale food production and land management.

This scale of land tenure has huge benefits to the local and wider community in environmental, social and economic terms. As you will be aware there is a great deal of discussion taking place about land use and food production, not only because of the reforms to the Common Agricultural policy (the legal proposals of which support more small-scale, ecologically sound holdings) but also because we have to be much more conscious of our resource use if we are to have a sustainable future considering climate challenge, fuel poverty, fossil fuel depletion and so on.

It is very difficult for anyone to get into agriculture now and we see small holdings (crofts) as an appropriate route in (and indeed a viable form of land use anyway). Having read the proposal it seems to us that the ELC have given very careful thought to the long term viability and protection of the site and they seem to have a robust management plan in place. We also think that the proposal is in line with local, regional and national planning policy – in fact it is a very strong example of an appropriate development proposal.

Sorry to go on at length about this, but we find it heartening that there are people willing to put in the work to create ecologically sound holdings that will benefit us all. We sincerely hope that you agree and will support this application.

With our best wishes

Patrick Krause



Patrick Krause  
Chief Executive, Scottish Crofting Federation

Scottish Charity SC031919

[www.crofting.org](http://www.crofting.org)

Rooted in our communities, the Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) is the only member-led organisation dedicated to promoting crofting and is the largest association of small-scale food producers in the UK.

Our mission is to safeguard and promote the rights, livelihoods and culture of crofters and their communities.