

**SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT
CONSULTATION ON VARYING MUIRBURN DATES**

1. Do you agree that in order to adapt to the possible effects of climate change on moorland, it is necessary for the Scottish Ministers to be given powers to vary the permissible dates for muirburn in the future?

YES, provided there is no attempt to reduce the current periods.

- 1a Reasons for this.

Main reason for change is related to higher rainfall in the months of February, March and April which would appear to be occasioned by climate change. There are now much larger areas of unburned heather as a consequence of the wetter weather and this is exacerbated each year by the heather being much longer and coarser, making it very difficult to control any muirburn. A further difficulty, although not related to climate change is the increasing number of environmental designations being applied to many areas of Common Grazings.

2. Do you consider that there are any other amendments required to the muirburn provisions within the Hill Farming Act 1946 to adapt to climate change?

NO.

3. Do you consider that there are any other climate change related impacts that affect how you carry out muirburn?

NO.

**John A Maciver, Clerk, 83 Inchcape, Rogart. IV28 3UD
Southside Strathfleet Grazing Committee.**

Response may be made available.

Response may be shared internally.

We may be contacted again in relation to this consultation document