



Letter by email only to:
lfassconsultation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
cc: neil.fleming@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

19th December 2008

Dear Sir / Madam

**CONSULTATION ON THE LESS FAVOURED AREA SUPPORT
SCHEME IN SCOTLAND (2010-2013)
RESPONSE FROM THE SCOTTISH COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE
(SCA)**

The Scottish Countryside Alliance is a membership organisation representing Scotland's rural communities. Many of our members live and / or farm within the designated Less Favoured Areas of Scotland.

The SCA is grateful for the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the Less Favoured Area Support Scheme in Scotland (2010 -2013).

We have liaised with our colleagues at NFU Scotland, and read the paper that NFUS has submitted in response to this consultation. The SCA would like to request that our consultation response be recorded as 'an endorsement of the response submitted by NFUS'.

Points which the SCA particularly wishes to emphasise are as follows:

- LFASS is an essential funding stream for many farms and crofts in Scotland. Loss of this support would leave many businesses unviable.
- Agriculture is the main land management driver in rural Scotland, viable farms and crofts are needed to maintain and enhance our natural heritage.
- Without viable rural businesses, particularly farms and crofts, already fragile rural economies and communities would collapse in many areas.

In summary, the SCA views LFASS as a vital tool in sustaining the economies, communities, landscapes and cultures of rural Scotland. We hope that our views, and those of NFU Scotland, will be taken account of when the LFASS in Scotland for 2010-2013 is designed and implemented.

Yours faithfully

ROSS MONTAGUE
Head of Policy and Campaigns

**SCOTTISH
COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE**

WEST MAINS COTTAGE
ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOWGROUND
INGLISTON, EDINBURGH, EH28 8NF

TELEPHONE
0131 335 0200

FAX
0131 335 0201

EMAIL
info@scottishcountryside-alliance.org

WEBSITE
www.scottishcountrysidealliance.org