



Scottish Landowners' Federation

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RESERVE FUND APPEAL

On 3rd November 1994 the Bill to abolish Sporting Rates in Scotland became law. This event marked a great success for the Scottish Landowners' Federation, culminating many years of negotiation. It justified the patient repetition of our case and demonstrated the need to treat future problems in the same way. Many members will be relieved of substantial expense and their land should benefit accordingly.

Three years ago we commissioned a report on our organisation with the object of improving our service to members. The recommendations, known as the "Clark Report", were adopted by Council and have been implemented in our Land Use and Legal Departments; Public Relations will be the subject of future development.

In addition to our routine work, we are faced with problems which lie outside the normal scope of our budget and for which we are not adequately funded. For example, a member may be forced to engage in litigation, which may involve a matter of principle affecting our membership at large. We should be in a position to support such a case at the discretion of the Executive & Policy Committee. I am also concerned about the range of new designations, which are being imposed on certain classes of land. The rules of each impose constraints on the owner and the activity which was traditionally his. Land burdened in this way must lose some of its capital value.

To tackle these problems Vice-Presidents and Conveners, past and present, join me in the desire to establish a "Contingency Reserve". This cannot be accumulated from our Membership income, which yields only a small margin over budget. I therefore write to seek your support.

I ask all members or their sporting tenants, who have been spared Sporting Rates, to donate one third of their first year's saving: from others I can only seek contributions of equivalent generosity. I believe that the SLF is now a better organisation and with your help we can develop it much further.

Please respond and send us a large cheque in favour of the "Scottish Landowners' Federation" and cross it "Reserve Fund Appeal".

Yours sincerely,

President