

22 March 2010



To: Michael Ansell, Director FBU
Cc: Jean Lindsay, Director HR

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Allan MacKenzie
Secretary

Dear Michael

Review of the Forestry Business Units

Thank you for your recent correspondence in which you reply to specific questions raised by the FCTU. Robert Beaney (FCTU Chair) and I met with the FCTU Business Units last Friday and we explored your response in great detail.

The outcome from that meeting was that you should perhaps provide some greater depth to the answers you provide at the forthcoming BU Staff Council meeting. I believe FCTU BU will be putting forward these questions and further questions just to seek clarity on the issues being presented to them.

An area of real concern is that the original Terms of Reference that accompanied the DG's announcement seem to have been reinterpreted from the original and refined as stated in the recent Connect Bulletin, FCTU are concerned that such changes seem to make no reference back to the EB and the Terms of Reference as first stated.

FCTU are somewhat concerned that you are not aware of damaging criticism outline in a recent ConFor document, we would have expected some form of rebuttal even if was to be kept internal. You will be aware that many of our members read this type of information and when they see no response from management you can understand why they feel that they are being undervalued.

(http://www.confor.org.uk/Upload/Documents/14_FCEdocumentdraftformembercommentDec09.doc).

FCTU are very aware that you have set a tight timetable, however we hope that this rush to a conclusion of the project plan allows for a full and frank period of consultation with FCTU and that our views are valued. We would like to be able to contribute in this initial stage and any subsequent stages in whatever format best suits open consultation.

In your final sentence you state that FCTU will be most welcome to raise any other points at the FBU Staff Council on March 24th, I would urge you to set aside a considerable amount of time so that these issues and any other subsequent points can be adequately dealt with.

Yours sincerely

Allan MacKenzie

By email