

**Secretary to the Forum**

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**Countryside  
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for  
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If calling ask for

Our reference

Your reference

Fiona MacLeod

17<sup>th</sup> March 2008

Dear Sir Henry,

**Development of Tree Safety Policies**

Further to your letter regarding the above, I am responding on behalf of the Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex (CAFWS), **an independent statutory advisory body** set up to give access advice to a number of bodies, including all levels of government. The Forum is keen to contribute to this process to ensure that proposed changes meet the needs of local people and that the chance is taken to improve opportunities for countryside access for present and future users.

Your letter was discussed at our last Forum meeting and the view of members was that, although CAFWS itself is not developing tree safety policies, we would like to be advised of the organisations contributing to the policy, and be kept informed of progress. The Forum will pass any relevant information to West Sussex County Council and have regard to any changes in legislation that may affect the Forum's deliberations.

The Forum was delighted to have the opportunity to be included in a consultation from the Forestry Commission. Indeed, we have been seeking a Forestry Commission presence at one of meetings for some considerable time to inform our members on access issues. However, I am pleased to say that I am now in contact with Mr Abbott, Environment & Planning Manager, based at Bucks Horn Oak, Farnham, who is scheduled to present at the Forum's July meeting

In closing, may I emphasise that the Forum is keen to have dialogue with the Forestry Commission and look forward to being consulted again as and when appropriate. I am enclosing copies of our current Annual Report for information and circulation.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona MacLeod  
Secretary  
Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex  
[www.westsussex.gov.uk/cafws](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/cafws)

Sir Henry Studholme  
The Forestry Commissioner  
Forest Enterprise Head Office  
340 Bristol Business Park  
Coldharbour Lane  
Bristol BS16 1EJ

Copy for information to:

Ronnie Perrin – Chairman, CAFWS  
Peter Brown – Vice Chairman, CAFWS  
Lisa Creaye-Griffin, Group Manager, Rural Strategy, WSCC  
Jane Noble – Senior Access Officer, WSCC  
All members of CAFWS