

## Revisions to Tables in the “Estimate of Community Owned Land in Scotland 2017” publication – Summary Note

Please note that the figures in the [Estimate of Community Owned Land in Scotland 2017](#) publication, released in December 2017, on community ownership have been revised. This is as a result of a survey carried out of community groups known to the Scottish Government to own land parcels/assets. In addition, updates have been received from the Big Lottery Fund, Highland and Islands Enterprise, LEADER and Community Woodlands covering the second six months of 2017.

The revisions as a result of the survey carried out by the Scottish Government are predominately due to one or more of the following reasons:

- Area, date or year of purchase or transfer of ownership or local authority of land parcel/asset has been provided where it was previously unknown or incorrect. The local authority of the community group may also have been corrected;
- The community group does not own the land parcel/asset (although in some cases it may be in the process of acquiring it), or the land parcel/asset has been transferred or sold to an organisation (e.g. private or public sector) and no longer meets the definition of community ownership; and
- The community group is no longer in existence.

The new estimate of the total land area in community ownership as of December 2017 is 547,691 acres, a decrease of 14,539 acres on the previous total as of June 2017. Most of this decrease occurs at the start of the series (1990) where there is a substantial fall of 13,783 acres. Please note that if the purchase or transfer date of a land parcel/asset was unknown or before 1990 the purchase or transfer date was defaulted to 1990. Changes in the records of just three land parcels/assets account for all but 235 acres of this difference in the figures for 1990. These consist of:

1. The exclusion of one land parcel/asset of 9,000 acres which was found to be privately owned, with a community group having shared land use rights, and therefore does not meet the definition of community ownership used in the [Estimate of Community Owned Land in Scotland](#) publication;
2. The exclusion of one land parcel/asset of 3,000 acres where the transfer to community ownership has not yet been completed; and
3. As a result of the survey, the purchase or transfer date of one land parcel/asset, which was previously defaulted to 1990 as it was unknown, was recorded as 2016. In addition, the area of the land parcel/asset was revised down from 1,548 acres to 1,265 acres.

In the tables contained in the [Estimate of Community Owned Land in Scotland 2017](#) publication, which covered up to June 2017, there were six land parcels/assets with a purchase or transfer date of 2017. In the revised tables covering the whole of 2017 there are 28 land parcels/assets with a purchase or transfer date in 2017. Of these 28 land parcels/assets, 21 have provided the area of the land parcel/asset. This has resulted in the new area in community ownership in 2017 increasing from 94 acres to 234 acres. Please note that it is possible that some of these land parcels/assets may have purchase or transfer dates earlier than June 2017.

Overall there were 43 land parcels/assets which were not present in the originally published tables. Of these, 11 had a purchase or transfer year of 2017 and 32 had an earlier purchase or transfer year (including where missing years were defaulted to 1990). These contributed a total area of 123 acres. The total number of land parcels/assets in community ownership as of December 2017 is 508, an increase of 16 on the originally published tables. There was however a decrease in the number of community groups owning land parcels/assets from 403 to 388. This decrease is due to community groups that were included in the previous figures being found either to be no longer in existence or to not own any land parcels/assets.

Please note that in some cases, where the area of the land parcel/asset was already present in the existing Scottish Government records, the additional data which was obtained did not provide an updated value for the area. In these cases the area of the land parcel/asset was left unchanged.

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