

# Gourdie Land Management plan 2016 - 2026

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Tay Forest District

**Gourdie**

Land Management Plan

Approval date:

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## Summary of Proposals

**Table 1. Relevant issues under the SFS and Tay Forest District Key Themes**

<b>SFS Key Themes</b>	<b>Initial objectives for Gourdie proposals</b>
<b>Climate Change</b>	Potential to increase carbon sequestration, particularly by taking the opportunity to grow high quality broadleaves.
<b>Timber</b>	<p>High quality soils and favourable climate offer the potential to grow a wide range of high quality broadleaves across the site, over a long period of time.</p> <p>Opportunity to grow alternative fruit bearing tree and shrub species which could be managed on a commercial or community basis.</p>
<b>Business Development</b>	The majority of the site will continue to be leased on Short Duration Limited Tenancy for arable production. There is potential for direct sales of farm produce.
<b>Community Development</b>	Potential to develop and manage this area as an amenity site in conjunction with local community interest groups and community councils (Birkhill, Liff and Charleston) co-operating closely with Camperdown Park.
<b>Access and Health</b>	<p>Considerable potential to develop a series of trails through the site, providing a green commuter route to Dundee and the industrial estate.</p> <p>Paths will increase access between existing and future communities and neighbouring woodland areas, offering access to a much wider network of trails.</p>
<b>Environmental Quality</b>	<p>Potential to extend the attractive mixed woodland in Camperdown Park linking with extensive mature trees around the old Liff Hospital site, providing a more attractive environment for local communities and businesses.</p> <p>Soil will be conserved and water managed by establishing woodland on parts of the site known to produce surface runoff .</p>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Opportunity to increase the quality and variety of habitats whilst retaining some of the existing biodiversity features e.g. flowering plants associated with arable fields

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	<p>Consider the implications of using large seeded broadleaves to assist with the preservation of red squirrels in Dundee.</p>
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## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Setting and context

Gourdie, previously known as Gourdie Farm, is located on the western fringe of Dundee, close to the communities of Birkhill and Muirhead to its North, Liff to its west and the Wester Gourdie Industrial Estate to the south. The eastern edge is bounded by Camperdown Country Park across a busy unclassified council road known as Gourdie Brae. On the western boundary is the old Liff hospital site which is currently under development for housing. To the southwest the site borders land identified in the Local Development Plan for the creation of Dundee's Western Gateway, a new development of up to 750 homes with associated employment land. The site is currently urban fringe, surrounded by a mix of housing, light industry, farmland and woodland. Over time the area will become more urban as planned developments are completed.

See Gourdie Map 1 - Location

The site comprises approximately 65 hectares of good agricultural land (grade 2) and is divided into north and south blocks by the unclassified road running east-west linking Gourdie Brae with the Village of Liff.

The site contains a large agricultural shed, with power and water supply, and associated hard standing area. It also has a number of key utilities crossing the site, including:

- One 132kV tower power line
- Four 11kV power lines
- One 33kV power line along the south boundary
- A telephone line running along its boundary
- Sewage and water pipes crossing the site

There are no statutory designations within the site.

There has been considerable public consultation which has contributed to the approach being taken with this site. This has included:

- A site visit to the Gourdie Farm site and neighbouring woodlands
- A compilation of all key stakeholders with contact details
- A site visit with key interested parties with follow up notes and amendments

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- An evening workshop meeting to which all stakeholders and the local community were invited (29 attendees) with follow up notes and amendments
- Further specialist consultation with individual technical specialists
- A open drop in day to present the draft proposals to the public and key agencies (39 responses on the day and after)
- Public display of draft proposals in Birkhill Millennium Hall
- Email consultation on draft proposals with key individuals and agencies

The conclusions of this public engagement process are clear support for woodland creation ideally across the whole site. Large scale woodland creation is viewed as a protection against development as well as offering recreation and landscape benefits. There is also a counter view that the land should remain in agricultural production.

At this point the proposals being put forward are limited in scope to keep future options open and allow FES further time to consider future site management.

## 1.2 History of the forest

The site has been formerly managed by the Scottish Crop Research Institute (SCRI) and was acquired by FCS in a Government asset transfer in 2009. A further small area was added in 2012 from the NHS. Whilst under the SCRI the site was primarily used for cereal and potato trials and is currently under arable farming by a tenant farmer. There is no recent history of forestry on the site.

In 2014 and again in 2015 FES offered part of the site as an opportunity in our starter farm programme. The aim was to develop a number of market garden type businesses on the site utilising the existing farm buildings. These offers were not successful in securing a suitable tenant although the concept may be re-visited in the future.

## 2.0 Analysis of previous plan

Gourdie is a new acquisition site and therefore has no previous Forest Design Plan.

## 3.0 Background information

### 3.1 Physical site factors

#### 3.1.1 Geology, soils and landform

The site is south facing with fairly even gentle slopes that are almost flat in parts, although the upper field is slightly steeper than the lower ones. At its closest it lies 2.25km from the Tay Estuary and just over 15km from the North Sea. Its elevation varies from 47m AOD at NO 347 321 to 140m AOD at NO 350 334. The site is largely open although bordered with mature ornate conifers and broadleaves to its eastern side (Camperdown Country Park) mature ornate conifers and broadleaves to part of its Western edge in the old Liff Hospital grounds. There is a drystone wall running along the western edge of the upper field and continuing southwards to cut through the lower fields.

Soils are fertile, predominantly cultivated brown earth over old red sandstone, and the farm has previously been under mainly arable cropping with some potatoes. In the lower fields trial pits have shown the top soil to be extremely deep, over 1m, and classified as a heavy clay loam. This reduces as the elevation increases and the soils become shallower grading to light brown and stonier with sandy clay subsoil.

These soils provide opportunity to grow a very wide range of native and exotic tree species on the site as well as being well suited for agricultural production.

#### 3.1.2 Water

The soils are classed as predominantly freely draining on the upper and middle slopes changing to moderately or imperfectly drained on the lower slopes, depending on the degree of water sorting; the medium to moderately fine textures tend to impede internal soil drainage.

The fields are thought to have been drained some time ago (possibly in Victorian times) and a number of deep (~1.5 m depth), stone field drains have been located on the site, as well as service drains from the farm buildings and local cottages. There are no surface watercourses draining the farm but some parts have been reported to generate surface runoff at times. This was observed and some surface cut off drains dug to protect neighbouring property during the heavy rains of Jan 2016.

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The adjacent industrial estate is cut into the slope with a steep drop below the lower field edge. There was no evidence of water seeping from the face of the drop or running across the tarmac surface below. A deep, open ditch was located below the lower edge of the site at the corner of the industrial estate and was dry at the time of the survey. A number of inspection chambers for service drains were found around the site in various states of disrepair. During high rainfall events a significant amount of runoff presents itself along this boundary. Communication is required with the industrial estate owners to agree how best to present / receive water along this boundary.

In addition, private residence sewage pipes and water pipes passing through the site will require 10m and 6m wayleaves respectively. Scottish Water is also a site neighbour with the Gourdie reservoir located off Gourdie Brae.

### 3.1.3 Climate

Mean temperature and rainfall is typical for the east coast of Scotland, and its sheltered estuarine position, means that daily maximums are slightly higher than coastal areas to the North, particularly in the Spring and Summer months.

The nearest official Met Office weather station is Mylnfield, sited a few miles west of Gourdie providing the detail in table 2 below.

**Table 2. Dundee climate averages**

	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>
Av high °C	5	6	8	11	14	18	19	19	17	13	9	7
Av low °C	0	1	2	4	6	9	11	10	8	6	3	2
Av precip. Mm	65	47	49	43	62	55	89	72	61	76	71	71
Days precip.	16	13	13	11	13	12	15	14	13	14	15	16
Hrs sunshine	53	81	104	146	174	174	158	142	125	93	57	41

Overall the site may experience around 761mm of precipitation per annum over 165 days and some 1,348 hours of sunshine. The wind is predominantly from a WSW direction followed to a much lesser extent from the east.

### 3.2 Biodiversity and environmental designations

There are no environmental designations attached to the site and resident wildlife is minimal. Although no specific resident wildlife species of interest

have been identified on the site, the surrounding woodland and green spaces are known to be home to buzzards, great spotted woodpeckers, jays, pipistrelle bats, red squirrels and roe deer.

Red squirrels nest locally (Camperdown Country Park and Templeton Woods) and are considered to be under threat in the area while roe deer are frequently seen on the Gourdie site.

## 3.3 The existing forest

### 3.3.1 Age structure, species and yield class

There is no existing forest on the site.

### 3.3.2 Access

Due to its urban location and strategic location adjacent to significant development this site has considerable potential to provide access and recreation for nearby residents. Gourdie may provide an important link from the new developments into Dundee, which could develop over time into more formal facilities for example surfaced cycle ways. This would depend on need and funding availability.

The current main access point to the site is from the south end of Gourdie Brae, via private residences and the large disused agricultural shed. There is also additional vehicular access to the north and south adjacent to Whitelawson Cottages on the Liff road.

Gourdie Brae road, although it has a 40mph speed restriction in place, is a dangerous road with a number of 'blind-spots' and would cause safety issues relating to vehicular access to the site. The current management proposals do not propose to provide any car parking facilities for recreation, only access for agricultural or management purposes.

Working with the council access officer we intend to increase the number of pedestrian access points to the site.

### 3.3.3 LISS potential

Good rooting depth in deep soils, favourable aspect and elevation coupled with predominantly broadleaved planting mean that the site is ideal for management under a LISS (Low Impact Silvicultural Systems). The exact type of LISS management is difficult to predict with certainty at this early stage. This plan will seek to successfully establish some initial woodland areas and ensure that the options for future management are as broad as possible.

### 3.4 Landscape and landuse

#### 3.4.1 Landscape character and value

The site sits on the edge of Dundee adjoining Camperdown park. Westwards towards Perth the Carse of Gowrie is famed for good quality agricultural land with a favourable southerly aspect. The landscape is a mix of agriculture and smaller often broadleaf woodlands or shelter belts.

SNH's Tayside Landscape Character Assessment divides Gourdie into two landscape character types, with the area below the minor road cutting across to Liff being classed as Firth Lowlands<sup>1</sup>, and that above the road being classed as Dipslope farmland<sup>2</sup>.

The main relevant elements of the LCA are the fertility of the land, hence the large arable rectangular fields, which have created an open exposed landscape in places. Tree cover is limited to shelterbelts on poorer ground, policy woodlands and field boundaries with fragmented hedges and decaying hedgerow trees. It is historically an orchard area. There is a lack of commercial conifer plantations due to the fertility. There is a need to screen some developments.

#### 3.4.2 Visibility

The site affords excellent views outwards, particularly across the Tay Estuary to the south and the distant hills and mountains to the east. To the north the views are constrained by the rising slope of the site and to the west by the boundary conifer and broadleaved planting of Camperdown Country Park. Views to the south also include Wester Gourdie Industrial Estate (opportunity for screening) and the city of Dundee beyond.

The site is largely open and is therefore clearly visible from Gourdie Brae and the road cutting across to Liff. The site is also clearly visible from the taller office buildings in the industrial estates and business parks to the

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<sup>1</sup> Tayside Region Landscape Character assessment pages 204-209

<sup>2</sup> Tayside Region Landscape Character Assessment pages 217-222

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west of the city and from some of the taller buildings towards the west of the city centre. It is also visible from the A90 as vehicles approach the first of Dundee's bypass roundabouts heading east towards Dundee.

### 3.4.3 Neighbouring land use

The site has residential, agricultural, recreational, industrial and utility neighbours:

- There are ten neighbours with residential properties abutting the site
- There are two main farms operating beyond the site boundary using the neighbouring land for both arable and livestock (sheep)
- Camperdown Country Park on the western side is a popular recreational resource or amenity park with wildlife park, play area, visitor centre and café, golf course, ranger service and a major building restoration project
- The Wester Gourdie Industrial Estate to the south comprises mostly light industry and distribution businesses on the immediate boundary
- Utility neighbours include Scottish Water at Gourdie Reservoir on Gourdie Brae and the electricity substation at the south west corner of the site as well as the SSE power lines passing over the site
- Residential developers own land (Dundee Western Gateway) adjoining the site to the south west notably Springfield.

It is also important to note that the site crosses the two Council areas of Dundee City Council and Angus Council (north of the Liff road).

## 3.5 Social factors

### 3.5.1 Recreation

At present the site is not used for any formal recreation although aerial photographs show desire line footpaths leading to and across the site suggesting that it is used as a crossing point from Liff, Muirhead and / or Birkhill to Dundee. Once people are welcomed onto the site with improved access points and FC signage we expect the pattern of use to increase and develop.

Over time, management of the site will need to be flexible to respond to changing usage patterns associated with adjacent development. In particular the southern edge of the site may provide an attractive route from areas of new housing over to employment, shopping and recreation facilities in Dundee.

## 3.5.2 Community

Gourdie is surrounded by people and communities. The key neighbouring settlements include:

- Birkhill and Muirhead – two adjacent villages to the north of Gourdie with an estimated current population of 2,130 people. They include a primary school, two nursery schools, active scout's hall and an array of local shops and services
- Liff – a small hamlet to the west of Gourdie with an estimated current population of 720 people. It includes a primary school, hall and church
- Liff Hospital – site of Royal Dundee Liff Hospital, a large psychiatric institution situated in the grounds of an expansive estate. Much of the hospital is now closed and the area is being developed as executive homes by Cala and GL Residential. At the time of writing the NHS is about to embark on further demolition creating residential development opportunities adjacent to the Gourdie boundary at Liff. The current site includes completed, under construction and planned housing as well as the red squirrel children's nursery
- Wester Gourdie Industrial Estate – to the south of the site is a major industrial estate containing a wide mix of light industry businesses, such as distribution, fabric, light engineering and automotive companies. Also on the industrial estate is a large ASDA store.
- Dundee – beyond the Industrial Estate lies the City of Dundee with a population of 142,000
- Future residents of the Western Gateway development – in total 750 or more homes

[http://www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk/development\\_area/446](http://www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk/development_area/446)

The local community have been involved in the development of this plan and are supportive of developing woodland on this site.

## 3.5.3 Heritage

A search of the Historic Environment Scotland list of Scheduled Monuments has confirmed that there are no Scheduled Monuments on the site. The only landscape feature of note on the site is the long drystone dyke running north south along the western edge of the northern field and cutting through the lower part of the site, which will be retained and utilised within the site layout.

## 3.6 Statutory requirements and key external policies

There are no designations affecting management of the site. Policies relating to agriculture and urban woodlands are both highly relevant and need to be balanced. The proposals link with the Dundee Local Plan providing community woodland in the area and with Dundee's Urban Forestry Strategy to increase the amount of public owned woodland within the city. There are already a number of core paths crossing or linking the site with the potential to enhance and improve these linkages as the site develops.

## 4.0 Analysis and Concept

### 4.1 Analysis

The analysis map and the table below show the factors which, through our site visits, consultation and review, have significantly influenced the design and long term vision for the site.

The main issues are:

- Ensuring safe and suitable access to and from the site for pedestrians
- Connecting locations through and across the site
- Allow for improved site lines to assist with vehicular safety at the Liff Road junction on Gourdie Brae
- Protecting red squirrels and benefiting local wildlife
- Ensuring suitable clearways and access routes are in place for power lines and water / sewage pipes

See Gourdie Maps 2 and 3

The table below summarises the key factors, constraints and opportunities on the plan and how they link to concept development.

Factor	Constraint	Opportunity	Concept Development
The requirement for some vehicular access to the site	Difficult vehicular access to the site and user conflict at Gourdie farm buildings	To limit vehicular access to agricultural use and management activity.	To restrict use of the current access at the shed limiting it to agricultural and management traffic.
Pedestrian access and community links	Road safety across Gourdie Brae linking with Camperdown and neighbouring land owners limit options for linking with Birkhill and Muirhead	Current and proposed housing developments on the site boundary increase options and users	To plan planting and trails for immediate and future access points and desire lines.
Local schools and nurseries	Lack of involvement in consultation process to date and difficult access from Birkhill	Liff (Red Squirrel) nursery and Liff School have the safest and easiest access	Create suitable access points and encourage involvement through later Visitor Experience Plan

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Red squirrel protection	The community mostly favour deciduous trees	Conifer woodland is located to both the west and east of the site	Include some ICONIC conifers in the planting. There will be a need to monitor squirrel use over time and carry out grey squirrel management if required
Resident and site view protection	Tree growth may restrict some views	To identify and highlight the best views from the site	To consider resident views and user viewpoints in planting design.
Arable land retention	Opposition from the farming community to turning good agricultural land over to forestry	To offer the greater part of the site for agricultural use on a SLDT for an initial 3 year period.	Aim to maximise agricultural production allowing a wider range of cropping options.
Broadleaf preference	Impact upon red squirrels	Wider variety of suitable tree species and possibly some more unusual species.	Consider red squirrels in broadleaf tree choice and also plant for seasonal colour. Look to planting at Camperdown and Liff for ideas and continuity.
Community / amenity use	The size of the site and access difficulties limit options	To maximise use by neighbouring residents and workers	To provide a network of trails. Access links at the edges of the site and through routes may be particularly important.
Deer access to site	Deer are common on the site and will hinder tree growth	To exclude deer but maintain friendly and welcoming feel to the site	Use individual protection for swift establishment without the need for fencing.

## 4.2 Concepts of the plan

### 4.2.1 Summary

Following 2 unsuccessful attempts to establish a starter farm on the site the current proposals seek to make progress on developing some woodland cover as well as embedding improved access routes. At the same time the majority of the site will be retained in agricultural production on a Short Limited Duration Tenancy (SLDT) for a period of 3 years. This will give FES a natural review point in 3 years time when the direction of management can be continued or changed responding to developments in the built environment round the site as well as the access usage and policy changes.

In summary the plan comprises:

- Limited amenity woodland mainly composed of broadleaf trees
- A network of unsurfaced access routes
- Continued agricultural use possibly utilising the existing large agricultural shed
- Potential to incorporate some specimen conifer planting
- An increased selection of pedestrian access points
- Local residents views are protected
- Wayleaves for utilities

### 4.2.2 Tree types

The physical site factors allow for a wide choice of species with the potential for woodland to be highly productive. To preserve views some areas of shrub planting are proposed.

The following table sets out the intended planting. For this initial phase of planting a mainly broadleaf mix has been selected with a high proportion of shrubs and smaller stature trees to suit the scale of the planting and its often linear nature. Reflecting the diversity of planting in the adjacent Liff and Camperdown sites a small number of specimen conifers and more unusual broadleaf trees have been included. The table below is indicative but substitutions may be needed depending on plant availability.

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<b>Species</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Alder (CAR)	494	3
Aspen	3244	23
Bird Cherry (BCH)	592	4
Blackthorn	310	2
Cherry (WCH)	394	3
Dog rose	310	2
Elder	240	2
Field maple	360	3
Giant sequoia	20	0
Guilder rose	430	3
Hawthorn	202	1
Hazel (HAZ)	737	5
Hornbeam (HBM)	372	3
Horse chestnut	20	0
Japanese maple	20	0
Norway maple	931	6
Oak (SOK)	558	4
Red Oak	1369	10
Rowan	84	1
Scots Pine	270	2
Serbian spruce	642	4
Small leaved Lime	811	6
Sycamore	931	6
Walnut (Jugland regia)	20	0
Willow	989	7
	<b>14351</b>	<b>100</b>

Total planted area (Ha)	4.7
Average stocking (trees / Ha)	3053
Native BL	80%

## **Ground preparation**

Planters will hand screef each planting location.

## **Protection**

Tree tubes with a stake will be applied for the oak. All other species will have protection in the form of an easy rap tube, 60cm tube, or a spiral with cane.

### 4.2.3 Community use

Via the original community consultation process opportunities were identified for allotments, community orchard, outdoor classrooms and quiet

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areas for wildlife viewing. These options remain open and anyone wishing to progress any of these, or who have other ideas, should approach the local FES office.

## 4.2.4 Access and parking

See map Gourdie 2a

Pedestrian access will be provided at a number of points around the periphery of the site. These access points have been chosen to link with surrounding networks. Minor works such as removing existing fences and erecting threshold signage will be required to establish these entrances. Depending on levels of use and available funding these access points and the pathways across the site may be formalised and or upgraded over time.

Access points have been identified with safety and trail connections in mind and aim to link:

- The north and south parts of the site across the Liff Road
- Gourdie with Camperdown Country Park – at the safest crossing points, north of the Liff Road only
- Gourdie with Wester Gourdie Industrial Estate and Dundee
- Gourdie with Liff and the Liff hospital development (West Green Park)
- Gourdie with Birkhill and Muirtown – at present access between Gourdie and Birkhill is not agreed and is not being encouraged although the potential access point allows for this to change in the future.
- Access to and across the site from the Western Gateway development area.
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Under the current proposals there is no provision for visitor parking. An opportunity to review this will be available in late 2018 when the agricultural tenancy will expire.

## 4.2.5 Trails

At this stage no surfaced trails are proposed. As public use of the site grows desire lines will become established and consideration will be given to future surfacing of routes. Being freely drained without watercourse crossings desire line paths have been found to naturally create a reasonable surface.

## 4.2.6 Retained farmland

During the course of the consultation process there has been a significant call from the farming community to retain all or part of the site as arable farmland due to the soil quality and landform. With this in mind the proposals aim to retain a significant agricultural element to the site.

## 5.0 Planting Design

The planting design should be seen as a first step allowing for improved access and the establishment of trees and woodland while keeping options for future management open.

See Gourdie map 4

The limited planting proposed at this stage has been positioned to assist with access provision while having a minimum impact on the ongoing agricultural activity. The planting areas also coincide with parts of the site which have issues with management of surface water runoff during heavy winter rainfall. Maintenance of ground vegetation should help to alleviate erosion during these events.

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## Appendix I: Forest Design Plan Consultation Record

In the course of producing this Land Management Plan over 200 individuals have been contacted. The record below provides a summary of the main consultation issues and responses.

Statutory Consultee	Date contacted	Date response received	Issue raised	Forest District Response
Iain A Richmond, Scottish and Southern Energy plc	25/01/2011	18/02/2011	Notes the multiple overhead electricity lines passing over the ground: a 132kV tower line there, four 11kV lines and one 33kV line along the south boundary. Each of these lines will require wayleave corridors so that anything planted under the line will not grow into it over time. Vehicle access will also be required	All addressed through FDP proposals with 20m wayleave for 132kv line and 12m for 11kv and 33kv lines
Scott S Leith SEPA Senior Environment Protection Officer Dundee & Angus Team,	25/01/2011	31/01/2011 and 04/10/2011	Wants to know that the proposals will follow the Forest and Water guidelines and the CAR Practical guide (covers engineering, Point Source, Abstraction etc activities). Surface water runoff for new car parks or roads will need to be treated via Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems. In addition any toilets will need to be connected into Scottish Waters foul sewer	Replied that these will be followed and required consideration has been applied to planning proposals
Paul Clark Countryside Access Officer Angus Council	25/01/2011	14/02/2011	Over the longer term would like to try to establish new path links between Gourdie and the core paths network, if there are community aspirations to do so	Discussed with community and others and in the plan as an objective

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				for the future
Ewan Band, Asset Planner, Tayside Water (Scottish Water)	11/01/2011	17/01/2011	Identifies location of water mains and sewers and wayleave requirements	All adopted within the FDP design
Stewart Roberts Angus Countryside Officer	02/2011	02/2011	All favourable support for the proposed woodland and notes the considerable opportunities for developing path networks to and between existing and proposed residential areas and existing core paths	n/a
Paul Macari, Dundee City Council (Planning)	25/01/2011	15/03/2011	The main issue appears to be access, both vehicular and pedestrian	Addressed through site option proposals, limiting vehicle access and highlighting the safer Gourdie Brae crossing points
Mike Giblin, Dundee City Council (Planning - Roads)	03/2011	03/2011	Believes that the speed limit on Gourdie Brae could be reduced if there was a strong enough case to warrant it	To be considered for the future based upon user numbers and traffic data
Bob Frost, FCS WIAT Officer Brian MacGillivray, Dundee and District Ramblers Association Colin Hunter, Muirhead and Birkhill Community Council Ian Young, Dundee Ramblers Martin Bonnar, Dundee City Council/TWIG Rob Coope, FCS Biodiversity manager)	22/02/2011 (afternoon site visit with Robin Lofthouse and Hamish Murray)	22/02/2011 (on site discussion)	A dangerous road to cross between Camperdown and Gourdie - future access points should be considered that aren't necessarily where current ones are Roe deer damaging young trees Local vandalism of trees and infrastructure Drainage and flooding (historically of the Gourdie Industrial Estate and currently of the road crossing the site) Potential for motorcycles using the site	All issues discussed and addressed through subsequent site option proposals and drainage / flooding through a separate drainage study

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<p>Bob Frost, FCS (WIAT)          Brian MacGillivray, Dundee and District Ramblers Association          Colin Hunter, Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council          David Martin, Dundee Local Access Forum / Dundee and District Cycling Association          Donald Langlands, Woodland Trust          Doug Shearer, Dundee City Council Forestry Section (Camperdown Park)          Dougie Ramsay          Eric Orchiston          Euan Caldwell, SCRI Fowlis          Gillian Zealand, Sidlaw Path Network          Grant Cunningham          Grant Kidd, Backmuir Woods Group          Iain Davidson,          Ian Young, Dundee Ramblers          Jimmy Rodger          John Whyman, Dundee City Council Outdoor Access          Ken Neil, Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels</p>	<p>22/02/2011          (Open / invited public meeting with workshops and discussion)</p>	<p>22/02/2011          (Open / invited public meeting with workshops and discussion)</p>	<p><b>Access, traffic and parking</b>          Concern over pedestrian safety for any crossing points between Gourdie Farm and Camperdown Country Park – general fear regarding speeding traffic on Gourdie Brae          Concern over safe vehicular access to and from proposed car park(s) and the appropriate location of these car park(s)          How to provide safe pedestrian access to Dundee (across the Kingsway)  <b>Site management and maintenance</b>          Fear over insufficient future resources / funding to manage the site properly          Fear of apathy, lack of interest or antagonism from neighbouring communities          Fear that onsite facilities may be insufficient and lead to problems (i.e. toilets)          Fear that there could be a missed opportunity here for a good partnership approach to working (i.e. multi-agency / public / organisations / stakeholders)  <b>User group conflict</b>          Primarily concerns regarding horse riders. Some worried that trails will be covered in horse manure and keen to exclude horses, while others are worried that horse riders will be excluded          Concerns over conflict between dogs and wildlife  <b>Impacts upon wildlife</b>          Fears that planting the wrong trees will</p>	<p><b>Access, traffic and parking</b>          Safest crossing points identified Car parking not offered at this stage.</p> <p><b>Site management and maintenance</b>          To continue community involvement as the project progresses and continue to work in partnership with local agencies and stakeholders</p> <p><b>User group conflict</b>          To promote as accessible to all and monitor use and potential for conflict</p> <p><b>Impacts upon wildlife</b>          Species choice to protect red squirrels</p>
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<p>Mark Orchiston          Martin Bonnar, Dundee City Council/TWIG          Moira Watson          Mrs RodgerPam Watson, Dundee Access Forum / BHS rep          Ron Dalrymple          Rosemary Ramsay          Roy Partington, Dundee Local Access Forum / Scotways</p>			<p>encourage access by grey squirrels and lead to red squirrel decline          Fears that the tree selection will not sufficiently encourage biodiversity          Concerns for wildlife and road safety when crossing roads to link with neighbouring woodlands  <b>Impacts upon residents</b>          Fears that new tree planting to close to houses will block views and sunlight          Concerns over increased pedestrian and vehicular access close to properties          Concern over the maintenance of the private road to the Farm buildings  <b>Antisocial and irresponsible behaviour</b>          Fear of the site being used for fly tipping          Fear of site users dropping litter on the site and leaving dog mess on the trails          Fear of teenagers using the site for drinking and drugs          Fear of the site being used as a track for motorbikes          Fear of the site and its facilities being the subject of vandalism</p>	<p>as much as possible while also encouraging wider biodiversity benefits</p> <p><b>Impacts upon residents</b>          Proposals aim to preserve resident views and manage visitors away from private properties</p> <p><b>Antisocial and irresponsible behaviour</b>          To encourage appropriate use through a sense of community ownership and monitor issues</p>
<p>A total of 39 feedback responses from the local community and key stakeholders on the day and during the subsequent community hall display and</p>	<p>28/09/2011 (drop in Birkhill to present and hear</p>	<p>28/09/2011</p>	<p>The main comments were:          Car parking required for the site as a whole and for the orchard and allotments          Ensure community allotments are easily accessed from public transport, i.e. closer to the road / bus stop          More use of Hazel and Walnut in tree planting</p>	<p>Most issues addressed through the final proposals with the following exceptions or comments:</p>

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<p>email consultation</p>	<p>feedback on three site options)</p>		<p>Perhaps slight increase in conifer linking Liff with Camperdown Park across the site          Concern over deer fences close to properties          Make all path surfaces suitable for all users          To make the farm size smaller          More fruit trees along path edges          A woodland ride through the plantings to the west of the farmland          Requests to leave the whole site as farm land          Allotments and orchard should be located in the same area preferably in the south east of the site          The area between the reservoir and Liff road should be retained as a natural wetland area          Species choice, concern was voiced choosing sycamore in regards to self seeding areas as opposed to beech          Care will need to taken on location of detail at road crossing points and consideration of a car park          Possibly include wild flower planting between trees / shrubs to enhance wildlife habitats          Possible parking issue with land immediately above Wester Gourdie Cottages and it being used by people to park their car to get access to the woodland          Anti motorbike styles required at path entrances / exits (but still allow horse access)          Proper crossing required to Camperdown          Needs information and interpretation, including info on tree types etc          High grade security 'fence' at the southern boundary required          Concern about the impact of mixed use by horses, bikes and walkers with conflicts between walkers and the others emerging          As well as community orchards and allotments there were additional suggestions for a community nursery growing plants / heritage</p>	<p>Orchard is an option for future planting.</p> <p>Natural wetland area is not considered possible due to ground conditions</p> <p>Future discussion with Council roads planners required to make Gourdie Brae crossing points as safe as possible</p> <p>Mixed use user groups to be managed as usage becomes established.</p> <p>Community to have ongoing input into the design, management and use of the site if desired</p>
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			trees etc	
Ian Moncrieff, Tenant Farmer	08/09/2011	08/09/2011	Objection to the loss of valuable agricultural land and conversion to irreversible forestry	Short term continued agricultural use.
Pamela Clayhills-Henderson, Neighbouring farm / property owner	12/09/2011	13/09/2011	Concern regarding access over land between Birkhill and Gourdie, impact of woodland on property views and increased road side car parking, irresponsible users, increase in deer numbers and dangers of crossing Gourdie Brae	Access on to land removed from plan, property views protected, Safest crossing points identified
Colin Forest	17/11/2011	26/11/2011 and 17/01/2012	Highlighting opportunities for Gourdie to act as an ideal trials site for tree species	Tree trials may be incorporated at a later planting phase.
Colin Hunter, Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council	10/2011	10/2011	Some car parking should be provided. People with allotments would want to get equipment there and produce away, people with pushchairs or wheelchairs would require parking and so would people coming from a distance. The bus services are not great and the support of the FCS to at least maintain the current services - 30, 31 and 51 would be helpful. The Community Council would like to see these services developed and made more viable	Provision of car parking most likely to be accommodated in the future at a new entrance off the Liff road. FCS to note for future desire to develop and protect public transport links

*As noted above, many more individuals, businesses and organisations were consulted in the process, including local schools and nurseries but responses were not received. The above summary is only of responses.*

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