

Maximising the Margins – Agenda

Scottish Land & Estates Annual Conference 2019

The Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh

15th May 2019

9.00 – 10.00

Breakfast reception and exhibition

Registration, informal networking breakfast and exhibition

10.00 – 10.05

Introduction

Ken Rundle, conference chair

10.05 – 10.15

Welcome address

David Johnstone, Chairman of Scottish Land & Estates

10.15 – 11.00

Keynote speech followed by an audience Q&A

Mairi Gougeon, Minister for Rural Affairs and Natural Environment

11.00 – 11.20

Refreshments, networking and exhibition

11.20 – 12.20

The lie of the land

Our series of expert speakers will build on several of the themes addressed in the keynote, examining particular threats and opportunities for remote and fragile areas in more detail.

1. Professor Davy McCracken, Head of Department of Integrated Land Management and Head of Hill & Mountain Research Centre, SRUC
Setting the scene
2. Sarah-Jane Laing, Scottish Land & Estates
Improving the economic resilience of land businesses and the communities they serve
3. Athole McKillop, Galbraith
The realities of delivering public goods from private land
4. Simon Hart, EGGER Forestry
Does the forest strategy provide a new lease of life for some of Scotland's marginal land?
5. Graeme McNaughton, Barclays
Opportunities and challenges of investing on marginal land

Followed by a brief panel discussion with questions from the chair

12.20 – 13.20

Lunch, networking and exhibition

13.20 – 13.45

Facing up to Reality – What is the future for Scotland's marginal areas

Jamie Blackett, Arbigland Estate

13.45 – 14.45

Lessons from the ground

Always one of the most popular features of our conference, member case studies help to share best practice, new innovations and problems to avoid

1. Rottal Estates
Holistic approach to upland estate management
2. David Fuller-Shapcott
Lessons from the 2018 British Farming Awards Arable Innovator Winner
3. Innes Estate
Future proofing a traditional estate
4. Aberdeenshire Highland Beef & Leys Estate
Supporting tenants businesses development
5. Laggan Outdoors
Maximising income from marginal land

Followed by an audience Q&A

14.45 – 15.05

Refreshments, networking and exhibition

15.05 – 16.00

Panel debate

Marginal areas often pose the most intriguing challenges for land managers and local communities, requiring fresh thinking to maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits. Our varied panel of guests will provide their own perspectives on how best to face the future.

- Eleanor Kay, Scottish Land & Estates
- Rob Yorke, Rural Commentator
- John Fyall, National Sheep Association Scotland
- Andrew Howard, Moray Estates

An audience Q&A will follow the moderated panel discussion

16.00 – 16.10

Concluding remarks

David Johnstone, Chairman of Scottish Land & Estates

16.10 – 17.10

Networking drinks reception and exhibition

17.10

Close