



Highland Regional Chair Recruitment Pack





Message from David Johnstone, Chairman

From estates to campsites and from community owners to farmers, our members represent a diverse cross-section of Scottish life. We've acted as our members' voice for over a century, helping rural Scotland thrive. We help our members to prosper through the knowledge, advice and relationships we're able to provide. Together, we are an association of people and enterprises committed to promoting a healthy and vibrant rural sector.

Our vision is to have the true contribution of rural land-based businesses recognised and valued both publicly and politically. We work towards this by championing and supporting rural businesses that provide economic, social and environmental benefit to the countryside. We believe we have combined over 110 years of experience with new approaches to improve the work that we do on behalf of our members, but there is always room to improve even further.

We also represent members' views to politicians and other decision-makers, to identify opportunities and risks for land-based businesses, to celebrate rural successes, and to provide support to those with a stake in land and property in rural Scotland.

As an organisation we've made some exciting changes over the past couple of years to better prepare us for the future. An active regional network is a key part of this. We are looking to recruit a Highland Regional Chair from our membership, to play a key role in steering the regional activity of the organisation and ensure that Highland members' interests are fully considered in everything that we do.

So, if you are passionate about helping rural Scotland thrive, then we'd love to hear from you.



David Johnstone
Chairman

Role purpose

As a membership organisation, our regions are a key element of our member, political and stakeholder engagement. Each region has a workplan which steers the activity of the Regional Support Officer, Chair, Committee and the input from the rest of the organisation. These workplans reflect regional priorities including increasing the profile of the organisation and its members, increasing diversity of membership, raising public and political awareness of the contribution of SLE members, and providing support and advice to members through a varied events programme and sharing good practice.

The Chair also acts as the regional voice of SLE and will be required to speak at member events and attend key meetings with stakeholders and politicians. They may also be asked to provide press comments or interviews – for which support will be provided by the SLE communications team.

Essential information

To apply for this role, you must be a landowner, land manager or professional member of Scottish Land & Estates.

Frequency: Regional Committees generally meet quarterly. In addition, Regional Chairs are asked to attend four Regional Chairs meetings per year as well as host the annual SLE regional event in their area. In addition, the Highland regional chair is expected to attend two or three key SLE events such as Moy Game Fair.

Time commitment: Eight meetings per year (each lasting around three hours) plus preparation of around two hours per meeting, and attendance at two to three SLE events per year. Occasional emails and papers between meetings but no more than the equivalent of 0.5 days per month. In addition, Chairs will meet regularly with SLE Regional Support Officers to review and plan regional activity. It is estimated that this equates to a further one day per month. Regional Chairs will also be asked to attend some key meetings with stakeholders and politicians. In total it is estimated that the maximum time commitment is 25 days per year.

Remuneration: Regional Chairs receive an honorarium plus travel and subsistence expense.

About you

We are looking for members who:

- Are passionate about the rural land-based sector and have a good understanding of the issues affecting the sector
- Have strong communication skills
- Have strong regional networks
- Can help bring diverse views and expertise to the work of SLE
- Demonstrate a commitment to act in the best interests of SLE, and its membership, without regard to personal interest or benefit
- Are able to take and be accountable for decisions
- Are able to steer and support regional staff
- Have the necessary time to be an effective Regional Chair

How to apply

Please send us your CV along with a short covering letter or email outlining why you are interested in being a Regional Chair.

You may include any other information that you consider appropriate to your application.

Email your letter and CV to Joyce Karch, PA to the Chairman
joyce.karch@scottishlandandestates.co.uk by **12 noon on Monday 9 March 2020**.

For an informal chat please contact our current Highland Chair Gordon Robertson
swordale@googlemail.com or SLE Chairman, David Johnstone, Chairman Designate, Mark Tennant or Chief Executive, Sarah-Jane Laing either directly or via Joyce Karch.