



**Forestry Commission**  
Scotland

**South Scotland  
Conservancy**

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Conservator  
John Dougan

Mr D Marshall  
Galloway House Gardens Trust  
Galloway House Gardens  
Garlieston  
Wigtownshire  
DG8 8HF

Our Ref: GRA 6.1

19/5/09

Dear Mr Marshall

**GALLOWAY HOUSE GARDENS - TREE FELLING**

I am writing to confirm the detail of our discussion on the trees that had been felled at the gardens recently.

I had a look through the woodlands and found that the large trees that had been felled recently were either dead, unstable due to the windblow or had sufficient rot to make them dangerous. I appreciate that it is a difficult balance to retain the older trees that the public like to see while also keeping the public safe as they walk round the woodlands. I can confirm that the older trees that you have felled would have had an exemption from the need to obtain a felling licence under the Forestry Act due to the potential danger to the public

I also noted you had removed a small number of young sycamore to tidy up access and again can confirm that the volume removed was less than your quarterly allowance under the Forestry Act of 5 cubic metres.

When older trees have to be removed for any reason it is a good time to look to adding new younger trees to the Garden. I would suggest therefore that you start replacing these trees where there is enough daylight getting through the tree canopy. As the exotic trees get older they will start to fail in increasing numbers and therefore you should look now to planting their replacements.

If you have any questions on this matter or wish advice on the need for a felling licence please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Alasdair Hendry  
Woodland Officer

