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Please ensure all charity trustees are aware of this document**

Mr John Esslemont
Galloway and Southern Ayrshire
Biosphere Partnership
c/o Ayrshire Joint Planning Unit Room
208 Liberator House
Glasgow
Prestwick Airport
Prestwick
KA9 2PT

Your ref:
Our ref: RS/STA/13-0240

15 July 2013

Dear Mr Esslemont

Decision on your application for Incorporation as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

I am pleased to tell you that your application for incorporation as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) has been successful. The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) is satisfied that the organisation meets the charity test and the legal requirements for being a SCIO, and has entered it in the Scottish Charity Register. This means it is now is an incorporated body having charitable status under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

The details of your charity's entry in the Register are set out below.
Please check these details and let us know of any errors.

Your SCIO's registered name is:	Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Partnership
Your charity number is:	SC044137
Your SCIO was registered on:	15 July 2013
Your principal contact address is:	c/o Ayrshire Joint Planning Unit Room 208 Liberator House Glasgow Prestwick Airport Prestwick KA9 2PT
Your charitable purposes are:	B - the advancement of education

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Your charitable objects are:

F - the advancement of citizenship or community development

M - the advancement of environmental protection or improvement

4. The SCIO's purposes are: the advancement of education, community development, environmental protection and improvement including care for the heritage of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve area to be exercised following the principles of sustainable development (where sustainable development means development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs).

4.1 In fulfilling these purposes, the SCIO will ensure that all of the policies, actions and activities result in the maintenance of the designation of UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and achieve the Biosphere Partnership's Vision to make life in our Biosphere better while caring for the natural environment. Furthermore, the SCIO will act in accordance with the principles embodied within Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Charter (current version) as appended to this constitution.

Your SCIO's accounting reference date is: 31/07

Charity trustees' duties and responsibilities

The charity trustees of **Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Partnership** are jointly responsible for running the SCIO and managing its assets. The members of a SCIO also share some of the same duties of the

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In summary, a SCIO must by law do certain things, including:

- **Publicise its status as a SCIO:** you must let people know that Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Partnership is a SCIO by including its charity name and (if the name does not already say so) the fact that it is a SCIO on its literature, emails and webpages, and also on documents issued by a third party on the SCIO's behalf. As a matter of good practice, you should also state your charity number on these documents. You must comply immediately with the duty to publicise your organisation's status as a SCIO.
- **Provide information to the public:** you must supply a copy of your accounts and constitution to anyone who asks for them.
- **Provide information to OSCR:** every year you must provide information to us about the activities of your charity and by law we must monitor all charities on the Register. Your charity must fill in an Annual Return form and send this to us along with its accounts. You can find out more about preparing your accounts and reporting to us on our website www.oscr.org.uk.
- **Get consent:** you need to get our consent before taking certain actions, and must tell us about certain decisions you have taken. You can find out when and how to do this on the 'Making changes to your charity' section on our website and in our publication, [SCIOs: A Guide](#).
- **Keep registers of charity trustees and of members:** you must keep a register of your current and former charity trustees and, if applicable, a register of your current and former members. In certain circumstances, you must also supply a copy of these registers if you are asked for them. You can find out more about the registers of charity trustees and members in our publication, [SCIOs: A Guide](#).

Next steps

Your SCIO may be able to claim some forms of tax relief. The enclosed leaflet from HM Revenue & Customs provides more detail. Please note that OSCR does not deal with tax matters.

Please distribute this letter and the enclosed introductory leaflet on 'Being a SCIO in Scotland' to all your charity trustees. You can contact us at info@oscr.org.uk or on 01382 220446 if you have any questions.

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Duncan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Paula Duncan
Registration Team Case Officer
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01382 346879