

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 May 2023 13:04
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Request of Access to Boylestone Quarry SSSI

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Hi [REDACTED]

1:30 suits me fine. See you at the main gates.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] nature.scot>
Date: Friday, 12 May 2023 at 12:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Request of Access to Boylestone Quarry SSSI

Hi [REDACTED]

Midday should be find for me, should we meet at 1:30?

Perfect, we can discuss your plans on the day!

Thanks for such a prompt reply.

Thanks for offering to grant access and meet me there. Does Monday suits you to meet me there? If yes, what time? If not, I happy to go another day.

We have a key in our office for the lock, but I'm not sure if it is still the correct one.

I'd love to hear your long term plans for the site. We can organise a face to face or online meeting.

Please find attached the information provided from our geologist team when visited the site last July – hopefully this will give you an idea of the things we would like to see in this site and we can align them to your plans.

Best regards,

██████████

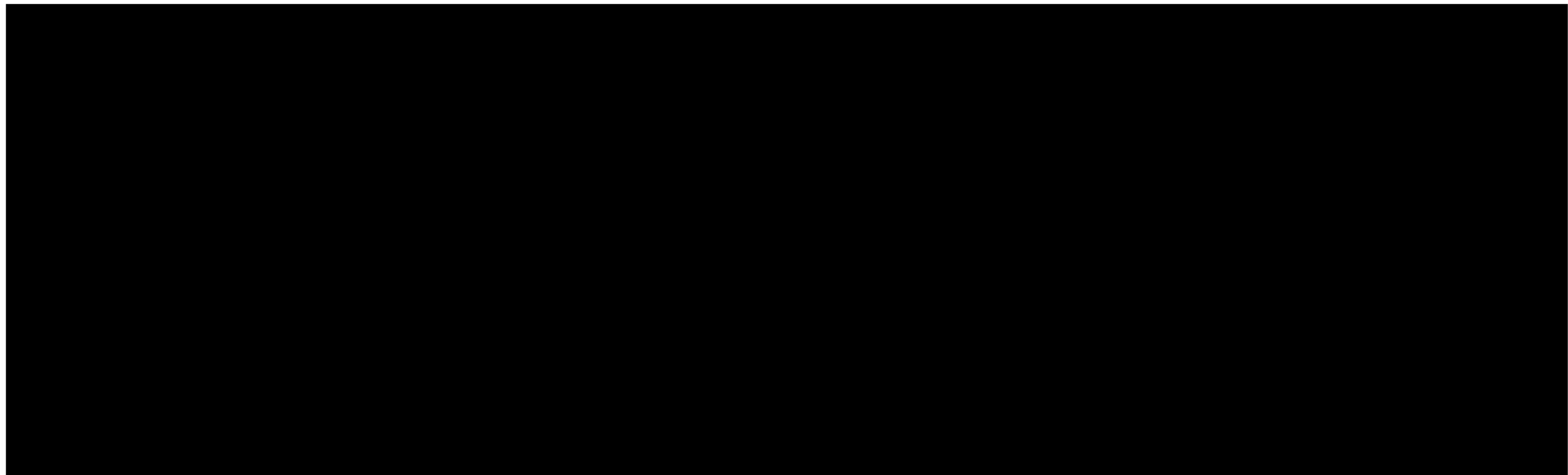
From: ██████████ >
Sent: 11 May 2023 12:10
To: ██████████ nature.scot >
Subject: Re: Request of Access to Boylestone Quarry SSSI

Hi ██████████

No problem at all granting you access. I can meet you there to provide access. Then I can give you instructions on how to lock the gate after if this suits?

Would be good to have a chat with you about our long term proposals for the site and perhaps put together a plan of works in meantime to safeguard some of the eroding sections of the quarry wall.

Kind Regards



From: ██████████ nature.scot >
Date: Thursday, 11 May 2023 at 11:58

To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Request of Access to Boylestone Quarry SSSI

Morning [REDACTED]

Hope this email finds you well.

As part of our Site Condition Monitoring program, we are planning to undertake a site visit to oylestone Quarry SSSI on Monday 15th May. Therefore, I am requesting access to the site. This visit will consist on a walk around the site looking at the different geological features.

If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

[REDACTED] | **Operations Officer**

NatureScot | Caspian House, Mariner Court, Clydebank Business Park, Clydebank, G81 2NR | [REDACTED]

nature.scot | [@nature_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | *Scotland's Nature Agency* | *Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

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Tha am post-dealain seo agus fiosrachadh sam bith na chois dìomhair agus airson an neach no buidheann ainmichte a- mhàin. Mas e gun d' fhuair sibh am post-dealain seo le mearachd, cuiribh fios dhan manaidsear-siostaim no neach- sgrìobhaidh. Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid sùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a- mach bho NàdarAlba.

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling
Date: 10 July 2023 15:48:00
Attachments: image002.jpg
image004.png
image006.jpg
image008.jpg
image010.png

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for contacting the owner at Boylestone as well.

While I didn't expect him to have / be able to put funding into this project I think it would be reasonable to ask for an in kind contribution.

Do you think it is worth going back and saying that you have managed to get me to put aside some extra funds to pay for the woodland felling as well as paying for the sign manufacture, but wondered if he would be able to commit enough personal or staff time to install the signs?

As per the below discussion I can start working on paperwork for the Access Agreement/Permission and 5 year MA for the signs
[Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Felling & Fossil Signs - Correspondence with \[REDACTED\] Re Possible Funding - sent 06 July 2023 \(A4103476\)](#)

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] nature.scot>
Sent: 10 July 2023 12:41
To: [REDACTED] @nature.scot>; [REDACTED] nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi guys,

This is new information about the landowner no having any budget :/ and only the resources he highlights below. I don't really know how could we proceed this way.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 July 2023 12:25
To: [REDACTED] nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] @nature.scot>; [REDACTED] nature.scot>
Subject: Re: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Hi [REDACTED]

Yes, more than happy to have signage within my boundary and on gate.

As before I do not have a budget for any tree felling. And I can't justify spending time and resource on it, especially since it is not within my boundary. I have chainsaws and labour, would be happy to carry out the work if you have a budget to cover my guys wages and fuel. Otherwise if you have someone you use regularly and would prefer to have them carry out felling, then no problem at all.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 July 2023 09:45
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Felling & Fossil Signs - Possible Funding - sent 06 July 2023

Hi [REDACTED], cc [REDACTED]

Much obliged for your responses below.

So in summary:

- You think the owner will be happy enough with our contractor doing the work, maybe his contribution could be to create the habitat piles, etc that he mentioned previously. This also means he is responsible for placement of material so any damage, accidents, fires, etc are minimised;
- Happy if [REDACTED] can mark individual trees if [REDACTED] can indicate preferred working/thinning areas on a map;
- Happy with [REDACTED] wording suggestion if that suits [REDACTED], will wait for his confirmation of wording (assume single language signs are ok in this instance); and
- Sounds as though minimum of 3 signs needed for the site, with potentially 3 spare as well?

Last points from me to consider. While we are talking thinning and/or scrub clearance to create more visibility and therefore improve the condition of a geological feature, we also need to remember that:

- Only able to undertake limited thinning activity to ensure don't breach felling licence requirements (may want to double check & confirm with SF anyway);
- Standing deadwood could provide some advance biodiversity wise and would improve visibility to an extent;
- Pollarding or coppicing some smaller trees may be appropriate to consider as well.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Sent: 05 July 2023 16:25
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Felling & Fossil Signs - Possible Funding - sent 30 June 2023

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see my comments below in [green](#).

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Sent: 30 June 2023 10:26
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Felling & Fossil Signs - Possible Funding - sent 30 June 2023

Morning [REDACTED], cc [REDACTED] for info & paperwork

Apologies for not responding before this, afraid I have been snowed under and struggling to even look at emails.

Anyway moving on to the two main actions that have been discussed below:

Tree Felling

- Minor Works iBid has funds available (iBid 117291 Minor Works Programme) ;

- I have a contractor on call off that could be sent out to do the work for the land owner;
- To do this I would need the owner to sign an access permission document allowing the specific work to take place. See an example for [REDACTED] below;
- [REDACTED] [SSSI - \[REDACTED\] - Access Permission - INNS - DRAFT \(A4073443\)](#)
- If they are happy with that I can so the Subsidy Assessment for the file; but
- I would need the trees marked on site before hand. It is better doing this that just leaving it to the contractor with detailed instructions;
- Also the marks allow the owner to see exactly what is being felled & stacked and it isn't as big a shock once it is done - which has happened in the past.

Signage

- Again I could use the Minor Works iBid for signage;
- I am happy to write the business case & subsidy assessment for this and get it to [REDACTED] for when he comes back from leave (I hope);
- I would need the land owner to sign a 5 year agreement similar to the one I am writing for [REDACTED] - see below
- [REDACTED] [SSSI - \[REDACTED\] - Management Agreement - Signage - Offer Letter - DRAFT \(A4073428\)](#)
- Is the sign it to be similar to that for [REDACTED] or can it be softer like the [REDACTED] example;
- [REDACTED] [SSSI - Fossil collection sign - Fossil sign A3 - 7 April 2016 \(A1935878\)](#);
- [REDACTED] [- Management Works - 20150119 - Signage Contract - Artwork proofs - 19 February 2015 \(A1538984\)](#)
- [REDACTED] [SSSI - Signage - Feature Info & Vehicle Access - New Sign Design DRAFT - 20 June 2023 \(A4073304\)](#)
- Whatever wording / style is decided on could this be supplied please;
- Are the specs for the sign in Section 2: Goods/Services section of the below SoR appropriate?
- [REDACTED] [- Management Works - 20141205 - Signage - Specification of Requirements - 05 December 2014 \(A1468630\)](#)
- [REDACTED] [SSSI - Fossil collection sign - Specification of Requirements - 11 April 2016 \(A1935877\)](#)
- If not then can other specifications please be provided; and
- Is the sign to be installed in one place only or a couple - assume that we would make at least 2 more signs than locations so we could give the owner spares to use as replacement if the originals are damaged.

Procurement process for both of the above:

- Felling - the call off contractor I have went through a full procurement process for the Minor Works Contract - felling, scrub, INNS, path works etc - so I can use them for this type of work without any other bids being required;
- Signage - design and manufacture of these are hopefully going to be less than £1K so I can follow a reduced procurement process (may still have to do all excessive SoR paperwork though) and get a single written/email quote from one or 2 contractors e.g. Boder signs

If you could both have a think about this and come back to me on:

- If the owner would accept the call off contractor doing the work (fully insured, etc) or not; I don't see any issues with this and we can check how much £ will be his collaboration for the tree felling.
- Who would mark the trees on the ground - we have time as cannot do felling till the late autumn anyway - suggest [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] could you highlight the main areas. [REDACTED] live more local to the site – so they could be a bit more suitable.
- What wording / design is needed for the sign; and I'll leave this to [REDACTED] to let us know. But, I think something similar to the [REDACTED] could be appropriate.
- How would the sign be installed - on a post (so need post & concrete too) so could get the call off contractor to do it or attached to existing gate/fence, so the owner or us could do it, etc One sign should installed at the main entrance gate; even though, I doubt this gate is used to access as it is closed. And, it looks like there are two more entrances to the site looking at the aerial images. This will need to be checked with the landowners.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
 Sent: 27 June 2023 11:37
 To: [REDACTED]@nature.scot>
 Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
 Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Morning [REDACTED]

I got the following reply from the landowner, the area doesn't reach to the quarry faces. I have cc'ed [REDACTED] to check if there is any funding from our side to buy and install the signage and we can focus with this owner to do some tree felling.

The areas in question at the quarry face are under the golf courses ownership, therefore I couldn't justify any purchase of signage at this time. Having discussed other matters with them in the past I know that they will not be interested in funding anything relating to the quarry as their budget simply won't allow it.

I would have thought that by opening up the site with the tree felling around the quarry face it would reduce unwanted removal of material, my fear would be that by placing signage without felling the trees it would be little deterrence as they could still operate with discretion.

As before I would be happy to arrange tree felling, or indeed printing and fitting of any signage deemed suitable if there is any funding available.

Regards,

██████████

From: ██████████
Sent: 02 June 2023 11:47
To: ██████████ <██████████@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Morning ██████████

Thanks for your reply.

I just noticed that you are on A/L at the moment; therefore, I will proceed to discuss the signage with the landowner as a priority. If he has any remaining budget for tree felling then I will advise him of the area to do and method as you have mentioned below.

I'll keep you updated.

Best regards,

██████████

From: ██████████ <██████████@nature.scot>
Sent: 31 May 2023 17:23
To: ██████████ <██████████@nature.scot>
Subject: FW: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi ██████████

Further to my email below, in relation to mineral specimen removal from the site, it may be worth further discussion with the landowner to ascertain their thoughts on the matter. Installation of signage that requests that people do not remove large amounts of mineralised rock to sell could be appropriate. It could probably be a better use of money for site conservation than tree clearing. Perhaps acting on controlling collecting may be more appropriate after the SSSI damage case has been closed, either through dismissal or prosecution.

A teams chat could help our thinking on this.

Regards

██████████

From: ██████████
Sent: 31 May 2023 13:22
To: ██████████ <██████████@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi ██████████

I am fine thank you, I hope you are too.

Removal of some trees from the north-western margins of the quarry would, from the geconservation perspective, enhance the condition of the site both in terms of access and visibility. We recommend that trees should not be allowed to grow closer than 10 metres from any rock face or, for that matter, loose rock/ quarry spoil (that occurs at and against the base of the quarry faces). Therefore, clearing trees away from quarry faces and spoil in a zone up to ten metres away from these features would be highly desirable. Cut wood and debris need not necessarily be removed from the SSSI provided such material is moved away from where it is cut and placed on flat vegetated

Due to the limited access from the gates we would not be able to take any vehicles or heavy machinery up. Therefore, a walk with some chainsaws would be the only way. We will then be left with the problem of the timber. Would it be possible to setup insect and wildlife stacks to encourage insects and nesting?

That way we wouldn't have to remove any material from site. And the potential habitat loss from removing the trees can be offset.

Did you manage to enquire about possible funding?

Also, on another matter. I remember you mentioning that it was illegal to remove specimens from the site and sell them. Whilst doing some research into some of the minerals. In particular Analcime. I came across a seller who appears to be selling specimens from the quarry site on an Etsy page:

https://www.etsy.com/uk/listing/1070126260/analcime-with-calcite-boyleston-quarry?click_key=85fb814510b708b03ef8f237288004e05037bb21%3A1070126260&click_sum=cde82e11&ref=shop_home_active_37&pro=1

Not sure if any action can be taken against him. But thought it best to report it.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 November 2024 11:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi [REDACTED], cc [REDACTED]

Just touching base about this site.
Did you get out to do the SCM and tree marking?

If so do you have a map showing the trees that have been marked and some details about them in terms of number, height, dbh, etc.
Depending on this will depend on if we need a felling licence for "Thinning without removal".

Plus of course permission from the owner to do this – which will need to be provided in writing before any works occur, so I will need to draft something up.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Sent: 24 October 2024 10:29
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]@nature.scot>; [REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Morning [REDACTED]

Hope you are doing well.

We are planning to visit Boylestone quarry on the 07 November to mark the trees to fell; therefore, I am writing to request access to the site. Please let me know as soon as you can.

You are welcome to join us if you are available. We are possibly meeting there around 10:30am but we can be flexible. We have the key to open the lock in our office, but please let me know if the lock has been changed.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 July 2023 11:23
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]@nature.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi [REDACTED]

I understand your point about the signage. We will fund ourselves the signs. However, we think they will be more suitable to place in your land, if that's okay with you. Please see the locations I think people access the site (blue dots) – if you think there is another place more suitable please let us know. For the main gate, we can put the sign directly on the gate, for the other locations it will need to a post put them.

geo.View map



Regarding tree felling, our geologist and an operations officer are going to organise with you a visit to the site to mark the trees to fell. We have a contractor that we have used for this work; hence, we could use the same person, if that's okay with you. Could you please let us know an estimate budget you have for this work? We will supplement your budget with the leftover funds from the signs.

My colleagues [REDACTED] will be in touch with further details.

If you have any questions please let us know.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 27 June 2023 11:16

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED] @nature.scot >

Subject: Re: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Hi [REDACTED],

Apologies for the delayed response!

The areas in question at the quarry face are under the golf courses ownership, therefore I couldn't justify any purchase of signage at this time. Having discussed other matters with them in the past I know that they will not be interested in funding anything relating to the quarry as their budget simply won't allow it.

I would have thought that by opening up the site with the tree felling around the quarry face it would reduce unwanted removal of material, my fear would be that by placing signage without felling the trees it would be little deterrence as they could still operate with discretion.

As before I would be happy to arrange tree felling, or indeed printing and fitting of any signage deemed suitable if there is any funding available.

Kind Regards



From: [redacted] <[redacted]@nature.scot>
Date: Tuesday, 27 June 2023 at 11:08
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Good Morning [redacted],

Hope you are doing well.

I'm just wondering if you had the opportunity to have a look at my previous email. I'm almost going on [redacted], so it will be better to contact my colleague [redacted] (cc'ed) to take this conversation forward.

Best regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 02 June 2023 11:56
To: [redacted] >
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi [redacted]

Regarding your question about the illegal fossil collection and the item for sale you found in etsy, see below our geologist advice and knowledge of this issue.

Regarding the mineral specimen for sale, you may be aware that someone has been charged with damaging the SSSI through the extraction and removal of many kg of mineralised rock some of which they are selling. Their action has damaged the SSSI and I don't suspect that this occurrence is on the same scale. However, the owner may wish to pursue this with police given that their property has been taken and is being sold presumably without their permission. Such action depends on whether or not the new owner also owns the mineral rights. Given that it's one specimen and a quick look at the seller's website has not yet revealed other specimens, from the site or elsewhere in Scotland, I am tempted to just keep an eye on it. But I would encourage the owner to take whatever action they thought appropriate including reporting theft and reset to the police. (FYI the case of damage to the SSSI is currently with Crown Counsel to establish if it should go to court).

In relation to mineral specimen removal from the site, it may be worth further discussion with the landowner to ascertain their thoughts on the matter. Installation of signage that requests that people do not remove large amounts of mineralised rock to sell could be appropriate. It could probably be a better use of money for site conservation than tree clearing. Perhaps acting on controlling collecting may be more appropriate after the SSSI damage case has been closed, either through dismissal or prosecution.

Please let me know your thoughts about the signage and if that could be something that you can purchase. Then, if there is any remaining budget for tree felling we can discuss the crucial areas and I am hopeful we can provide some funding for that (which I am still awaiting a reply).

Have a nice weekend!

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 May 2023 13:03
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies I haven't written to you earlier. I am waiting for some advice from other colleagues to send you a full response with all the points we discussed.

It will be completely fine to just use chainsaws, as most the trees next to the rock faces are quite small. The idea to create insect and wildlife stacks should be fine too. However, it is important to keep in mind the vandalism issue and that wood could create a fire hazard – so it will be good to think where it is safe to place the wood stacks. These stacks should be placed away from the rocks to avoid any damage to the visibility.

The best time to do the tree felling is autumn and winter, so please let me know when will be looking to do it. I have inquired about some funding, I'll let you know as soon as I get a reply. Hopefully, we can get the same contractor to do the job.

I'm still doing the report of my site visit, I'll send you a copy as soon as it is ready.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Best regards,

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 25 May 2023 22:38
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: Boylestone quarry - tree felling

Hi [REDACTED]

I was up at the quarry again today and had another look at the logistics around felling the trees obscuring the rock face.

Due to the limited access from the gates we would not be able to take any vehicles or heavy machinery up. Therefore, a walk with some chainsaws would be the only way. We will then be left with the problem of the timber. Would it be possible to setup insect and wildlife stacks to encourage insects and nesting?

That way we wouldn't have to remove any material from site. And the potential habitat loss from removing the trees can be offset.

Did you manage to enquire about possible funding?

Also, on another matter. I remember you mentioning that it was illegal to remove specimens from the site and sell them. Whilst doing some research into some of the minerals. In particular Analcime. I came across a seller who appears to be selling specimens from the quarry site on an Etsy page:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] if any action can be taken against him. But thought it best to report it.

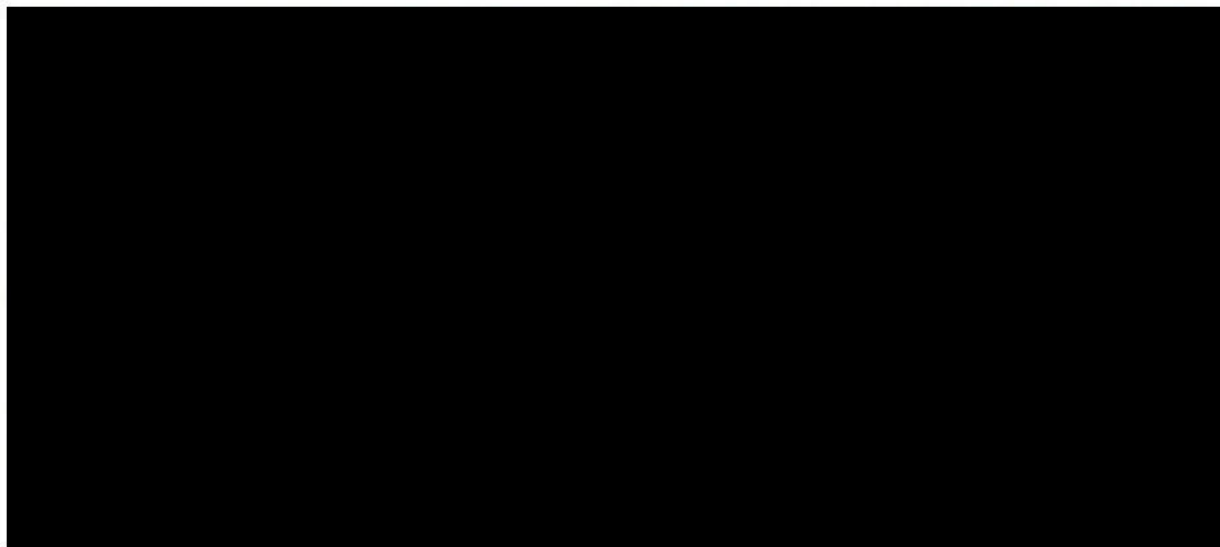
Kind Regards



Boylestone Quarry SSSI site visit 13 February 2025 – notes for necessary tree work.

- Access: Path to quarry is approx. 600m from site of works. No vehicle access. Requires key for gate – will be arranged through [REDACTED].
- Trees and scrub to be removed from 10m buffer zone from base of the rockface/rockface spoil. 95% in buffer zone, 5% on rocky slopes. Leave broom.
- Does NOT require a felling licence. Will herbicide be used to keep trees from growing back?
- Extensive badger signs and an active sett found. Look up rules for disturbance, time of year constraints. Noted Raven flying over quarry with nesting material.
- Cut brush and trees to be piled in different locations around the site. Acceptable to be inside 10m buffer zone. However, must NOT be placed near Badger den.
- Trees 50% willow and 50% silver birch. ~500 stems to be cut.
- Trees mostly under 10 dbh ~7m height.
- Limited visitor pressure.
- North and north-western part of the quarry are the key areas of interest.
- NatureScot staff onsite to talk through work on day 1. When will works be done? Needs to be done in Feb to avoid breeding bird season (March). Otherwise works need to be carried out Sep-Nov 2025. Avoiding both breeding bird and badger seasons.

Area map of proposed works



Legend

Blue line – base of rockface

Green band – 10m width area for tree removal

Orange line access route 600m – no vehicle access

Grid ref points :

Blue circles - North ridge NS49088 59776

- South ridge NS49095 59692

Red circle - Badger sett NS49096 59762

North and South boulder ridges act as landmarks bordering work area. The badger set is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 February 2025 16:02
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Boylestone Estates Limited - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 20 February 2025
Attachments: Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Boylestone Estates Limited - [REDACTED] - Tree & Scrub Works - Access Permission Letter - One off Works - 20 February 2025.pdf

Dear [REDACTED],

My colleague [REDACTED] has passed on your details as the appropriate person to be contacted with regard to the above site and works.

I know you have already indicated to [REDACTED] that you are willing for the NatureScot appointed contractor to take access through the land owned by yourself, and [REDACTED]. This will be to carry out the proposed works within Boylestone Quarry SSSI on land owned by the [REDACTED].

I would therefore appreciate it if you would read over the attached paperwork and if content, sign and return it to me for our files.

In the meantime, if you have any queries about this work, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me

Regards

[REDACTED]

The Hamilton Office currently has limited opening hours - normally Tuesday to Thursday, with staff working from home on other days.
If you wish to speak to me, please try my work mobile number [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] - West Central

NatureScot | Cadzow Court | 3 Wellhall Road | Hamilton | ML3 9BG | t: [REDACTED] | DD: [REDACTED]
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba | Cùirt Cadzow | 3 Rathad Wellhall | Hamilton | ML3 9BG | Fon: [REDACTED] | DD: [REDACTED]
Scotland's Nature Agency | Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba
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If you receive this email late at night or early in the morning it means I am working flexibly but please do not feel that you have to pick this up outside of your own normal working hours.

20 February 2025
Our ref: SIT/SSSI/250/MAN

Dear [REDACTED],

**Boyleston Quarry Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [REDACTED]
Tree & Scrub Management Works – Access Permission**

Following my colleagues recent visit to Boyleston Quarry SSSI, please find the details of the Tree and Scrub Control Works that NatureScot wish to undertake within the Boyleston Quarry SSSI, aimed at improving the condition of the SSSI.

While these works are outwith the area of land owned by yourself, this letter seeks your permission for the appointed contractor to take access across your land and carry out the works. All work are to be undertaken in line with standard best practice methodologies and will include:

- Thinning of understorey with trees under 15cm DBH being felled and stacked as habitat piles;
- Scrub control works, including cutting and treatment, within the area outlined on the attached map;
- Timing of works expected to take place between February 2025 and March 2025;
- Access by the contractor for works will be via the main gate; and
- Liaison by the contractor, [REDACTED], directly with you regarding exact dates for access.

NatureScot will pay the contractor directly for these works and may refer to these works, with photographs where appropriate, in order to promote or demonstrate activities which have benefited Scotland's nature.

If you are content for these works to progress please print and complete the relevant parts of the reply slip attached and return it to me by email (scanned) or post. Alternatively if you do not have access to printing / scanning facilities please send an email to confirm your acceptance to myself at [REDACTED] [nature.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@nature.scot).

In the meantime, if you have any queries about this work, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
West Central National Operations Team

[REDACTED] [nature.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@nature.scot)

Encs: Reply slip

Reply slip

Boylestone Quarry Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [REDACTED]
Tree & Scrub Management Works – Access Permission

Name of owner/occupier: [REDACTED]

Please tick the appropriate box, and provide further contact details where relevant:
(* = delete as appropriate)

1. I give permission for access for the proposed works to be undertaken, in accordance with your letter dated 20 February 2025, and no contact from the contractor is required.

2. I give permission for access for the proposed works to be undertaken, in accordance with your letter dated 20 February 2025, and wish the contractors to contact me/ my representative to confirm dates and any other details before going on site.

Day/Evening telephone number:

Name Representative (*where applicable*):

Position of Representative:

Signature:

Date:

Position:

24 March 2025
Our ref: SIT/SSSI/250/MAN

Dear [REDACTED],

**Boyleston Quarry Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [REDACTED]
Tree & Scrub Management Works – Access Permission**

Following my colleagues recent visit to Boyleston Quarry SSSI, please find the details of the Tree and Scrub Control Works that NatureScot wish to undertake within the Boyleston Quarry SSSI, aimed at improving the condition of the SSSI.

While these works are all outwith the area of land owned by yourself, this letter seeks your permission for the appointed contractor to take access across your land to carry out the works on neighbouring ground. All works will be undertaken in line with standard best practice methodologies and will include:

- Thinning of understorey with trees under 15cm DBH being felled and stacked as habitat piles;
- Scrub control works, including cutting and treatment, within the area outlined on the attached map;
- Timing of works now expected to be between September and December 2025, with exact dates confirmed prior to access being taken;
- Access by the contractor for works will be via the main gate; and
- Liaison by the contractor, [REDACTED], directly with you regarding exact dates for access.

NatureScot will pay the contractor directly for these works and may refer to these works, with photographs where appropriate, in order to promote or demonstrate activities which have benefited Scotland's nature.

If you are content for these works to progress please print and complete the relevant parts of the reply slip attached and return it to me by email (scanned) or post. Alternatively if you do not have access to printing / scanning facilities please send an email to confirm your acceptance to myself at [REDACTED] [nature.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@nature.scot).

In the meantime, if you have any queries about this work, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
West Central National Operations Team

[REDACTED] [nature.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@nature.scot)

Encs: Reply slip

Reply slip

Boylestone Quarry Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [REDACTED]
Tree & Scrub Management Works – Access Permission

Name of owner/occupier: [REDACTED]

Please tick the appropriate box, and provide further contact details where relevant:
(* = delete as appropriate)

1. I give permission for access for the proposed works to be undertaken, in accordance with your updated letter of 24 March 2025, and no contact from the contractor is required.

2. I give permission for access for the proposed works to be undertaken, in accordance with your updated letter of 24 March 2025, and wish the contractors to contact me/ my representative to confirm dates and any other details before going on site.

Day/Evening telephone number:

Name Representative (*where applicable*):

Position of Representative:

Signature:

Date:

Position:

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 March 2025 11:47
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 24 March 2025

Hi [REDACTED]

That is smashing if he will sign the adjusted letter as we cant do work now till the autumn.

[REDACTED] – can we have a quick chat today before I go back to the golf course folks?

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Sent: 31 March 2025 10:08
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>; [REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 24 March 2025

Morning all,

I managed to talk with [REDACTED] today. He is happy for us to access through his land and will sign the letter Wednesday – he has being away for a couple weeks.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Sent: 24 March 2025 12:32
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>; [REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 24 March 2025

Hi [REDACTED], cc [REDACTED] for info

If you can get hold of him that would be good.

However, there will be a change in timing as there is no way to get the works done before bird breeding season starts. So the access would have to be a general permission to go on site later in the year.

I think the current letter stated work would be done between February & March, even though the Future MA I put on MIDAS has a year for the work. I have tweaked the letter and if you can phone him to discuss and then email the below to him again for a signature that would be great.

[Boylestone Quarry SSSI - \[REDACTED\] - Tree & Scrub Works - Access Permission Letter - One off Works - 20 February 2025 \(A5006353\)](#)

[REDACTED] – I am happy to contact the chair of the golf club again to discuss change in timing – are you happy I do this?

Or because I know they also wanted to discuss something on site with relation to soil loss/ collapse near the quarry would you rather approach them for the change in timing and then also learn more about what their concerns are so that you/we/Geo Advisor can go out on site and look at the location before we do the tree works.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Sent: 21 March 2025 09:18
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 20 February 2025

Hey [REDACTED],

Did you manage to get a reply from this landowner? I can call him.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Sent: 11 March 2025 12:34
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: Boylestone Estates Limited - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 20 February 2025

Afternoon [REDACTED],

Hope all well with yourself.

Just a quick email to see if you have had time to consider the below access request with regard to the work that NatureScot would like to do on the ground owned by Ferezene Golf Club.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 February 2025 16:02
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 20 February 2025

Dear [REDACTED],

My colleague [REDACTED] has passed on your details as the appropriate person to be contacted with regard to the above site and works.

I know you have already indicated to [REDACTED] that you are willing for the NatureScot appointed contractor to take access through the land owned by yourself, and [REDACTED]. This will be to carry out the proposed works within Boylestone Quarry SSSI on land owned by the Ferezene Golf Club.

I would therefore appreciate it if you would read over the attached paperwork and if content, sign and return it to me for our files.

In the meantime, if you have any queries about this work, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me

Regards

[REDACTED]

The Hamilton Office currently has limited opening hours - normally Tuesday to Thursday, with staff working from home on other days. If you wish to speak to me, please try my work mobile number [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] - West Central

NatureScot | Cadzow Court | 3 Wellhall Road | Hamilton | ML3 9BG | t: [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba | Cùirt Cadzow | 3 Rathad Wellhall | Hamilton | ML3 9BG | Fon: [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

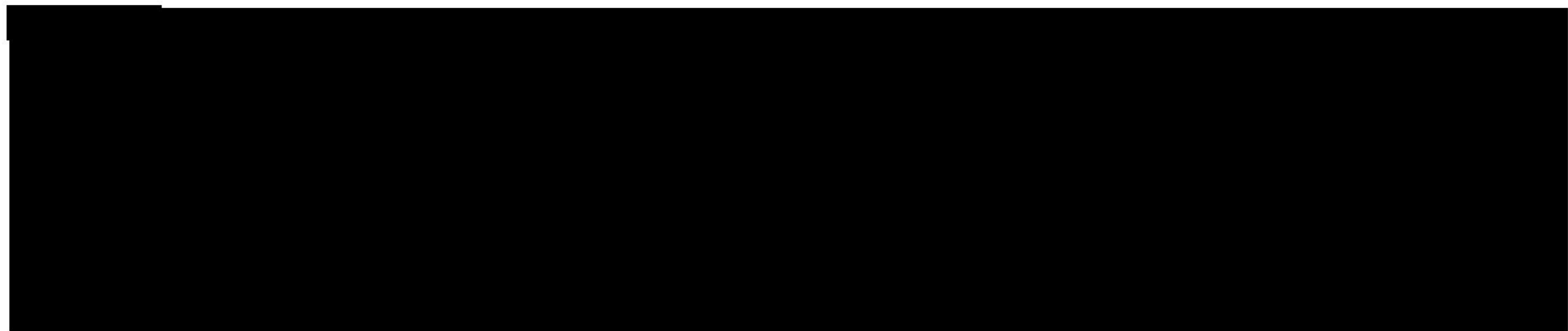
From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 28 May 2025 11:32
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 20 February 2025
Attachments: Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Boylestone Estates Limited - Najafian - Tree & Scrub Works - Access Permission Letter - One off Works - 20 February 2025 - signed.pdf

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for delay. Find attached duly signed form.

Kind Regards



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Date: Tuesday 11 March 2025 at 12:34
To: [REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 20 February 2025

Afternoon [REDACTED],

Hope all well with yourself.

Just a quick email to see if you have had time to consider the below access request with regard to the work that NatureScot would like to do on the ground owned by Ferezene Golf Club.
I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 February 2025 16:02
To: [REDACTED]

20 February 2025
Our ref: SIT/SSSI/250/MAN

Dear [REDACTED],

**Boyleston Quarry Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [REDACTED]
Tree & Scrub Management Works – Access Permission**

Following my colleagues recent visit to Boyleston Quarry SSSI, please find the details of the Tree and Scrub Control Works that NatureScot wish to undertake within the Boyleston Quarry SSSI, aimed at improving the condition of the SSSI.

While these works are outwith the area of land owned by yourself, this letter seeks your permission for the appointed contractor to take access across your land and carry out the works. All work are to be undertaken in line with standard best practice methodologies and will include:

- Thinning of understory with trees under 15cm DBH being felled and stacked as habitat piles;
- Scrub control works, including cutting and treatment, within the area outlined on the attached map;
- Timing of works expected to take place between February 2025 and March 2025;
- Access by the contractor for works will be via the main gate; and
- Liaison by the contractor, [REDACTED], directly with you regarding exact dates for access.

NatureScot will pay the contractor directly for these works and may refer to these works, with photographs where appropriate, in order to promote or demonstrate activities which have benefited Scotland's nature.

If you are content for these works to progress please print and complete the relevant parts of the reply slip attached and return it to me by email (scanned) or post. Alternatively if you do not have access to printing / scanning facilities please send an email to confirm your acceptance to myself at [REDACTED] [nature.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@nature.scot).

In the meantime, if you have any queries about this work, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED]
West Central National Operations Team
[REDACTED] [nature.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@nature.scot)
Encs: Reply slip

Reply slip

Boylestone Quarry Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Boyleston Estates Limited
Tree & Scrub Management Works – Access Permission

Name of owner/occupier: Mohsen Najafian

Please tick the appropriate box, and provide further contact details where relevant:
(* = delete as appropriate)

1. I give permission for access for the proposed works to be undertaken, in accordance with your letter dated 20 February 2025, and no contact from the contractor is required.

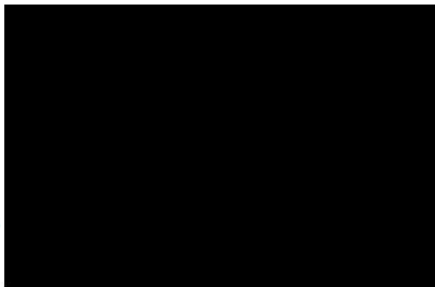
2. I give permission for access for the proposed works to be undertaken, in accordance with your letter dated 20 February 2025, and wish the contractors to contact me/ my representative to confirm dates and any other details before going on site.

Day/Evening telephone number: [redacted]

Name Representative (where applicable): [redacted]

Position of Representative: [redacted]

Signature:



.....

Date: 28/05/25

Position: ...

.....

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 June 2025 11:20
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission Acknowledged - sent 05 June 2025

Morning [REDACTED] cc [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for returning the signed access permission.

As [REDACTED] may have already mentioned to you, due to contractor availability and the added complication of the bird breeding season starting, we were unfortunately unable to undertake the works in March as planned. As such we have postponed them until later in 2025, probably some time between September and November.

We will of course get in touch with you beforehand to confirm the exact dates that contractors will be on site and taking access over your land at the quarry, and also ensure that the contractor gets in touch with yourself as well.

I would therefore be grateful if you could confirm, by return email, that you are happy to extend the agreement for access across your ground to undertake the tree thinning and scrub removal works on the land owned by the neighbouring Fereneze Golf Club until the end of 2025. As previously stated, these works are aimed at improving the condition of the designated features at Boylestone Quarry SSSI.

Regards

[REDACTED]

The Hamilton Office currently has limited opening hours - normally Tuesday to Thursday, with staff working from home on other days. If you wish to speak to me, please try my work mobile number [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] - West Central

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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 28 May 2025 11:32
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] - Boylestone Quarry SSSI - Tree Thinning - Access Permission - sent 20 February 2025

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for delay. Find attached duly signed form.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]