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**Date:** 25 October 2004 16:36:36  
**Subject:** form submission

feedback\_comments = With respect to the Woodland Strategy, I have been monitoring the proposals for grants made through the Forestry Commission at their website

-<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/gls.nsf/CONS32?OpenView%26Count=999> .

In recent months, the number of applications within the Garnock Valley area has declined, and although there have been several proposals to plant new woodlands in the general area, none will really tackle the dereliction caused by past mining activities on the valley floor between Glengarnock and Dalry, an area which is very much in public view from the adjacent Glasgow-Ayr railway line. Another area which would benefit is the slopes to either side of Kilbirnie Loch.

Given that the Garnock Valley is one of the three areas in Ayrshire where the Woodland Strategy has identified potential for environmental enhancement, is there any more that yourselves %28or indeed the Forestry Commission) can do to encourage landowners in that area to apply for grants to establish new woodlands?

This would be of benefit to the image of that area as well as Ayrshire generally - this is one of the first areas which travellers from Glasgow on their way to Prestwick Airport see if they are travelling by train. The degraded landscape reinforces the notion that the area is unattractive and outdated.

In addition, proposed housing land release in this area through the Structure Plan will require a higher quality of environment if more people are to be attracted to live there.

I would be grateful for your views on the matter.

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Submit = Submit