**Correspondence:**

**[Address 1**

**Address 2**

Insert name of Commons Association

**Town, Postcode]**

email: [insert email]

«Title»«FirstName»«Surname»

«Address1» date: [inset date]

«Address2»

«City»«Postcode»

Dear «Title»«Surname»,

**Notification of Application of [Common] to the SFI Moorland Scheme to Grazing Commoners**

I am writing to you on behalf of [XXXXX] Commons Association who are proposing to enter the SFI Moorland Scheme, a new agri-environmental scheme that was released last year.

This scheme does not require any changes in stocking levels rather involves a survey of the vegetation and soil depth which will help the Association understand the public goods on the common and decide how they might benefit from future schemes from Defra. There is no obligation to enter a further ELM scheme as SFI is a standalone scheme and due to the nature of the actions involved SFI Moorland can run alongside any current HLS or CS scheme. Accompanying this letter is a one-page description of SFI Moorland to provide further information.

**As can be seen in this description the payment rate for Commons is £16.45/ha meaning that for (XXXXX) the payment would be approximately (XXXXX) per year for three years.**

The Commons Association is required to inform all those who own common rights that the application for SFI is being made and also would like to invite you to participate in the scheme. As part of this process the Association is updating its records about who owns or rents the common rights.

Accompanying this is an expression of interest form sheet which we would be grateful if you could check through and amend as necessary and return to me in the attached envelope or via email to: [XXXX] by [date].

Our understanding is that you are grazing the common but if this is not accurate or you expect this to change, please note this on the form.

If you have any queries, please contact me via email [xxx] or via phone [yyy].

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,