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David Babbs - 38 Degrees to 38degrees.org..

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Dear friend,

We've just had a big campaign win! The government has confirmed they're totally scrapping plans to sell-off England's Forests. The phoney consultation has been cancelled. The sinister legal changes to pave the way for privatisation have been dropped.

Thousands of 38 Degrees members did this together. Next time someone tries to tell any of us that signing petitions or emailing our MPs doesn't work, we've got the proof that it can. **Over half a million of us are celebrating what we've achieved together today.**

On the 38 Degrees [Facebook page](#), members are celebrating. Fiona for example says "Fantastic news! And great for letting people see that actually there IS something they can do when they don't like what the government does, and their protest can make a difference!" Even [Sky News](#) seems to agree: "This is a great example of people power". [1]

38 Degrees members voted to start this campaign. We knew that keeping England's forests safe for future generations was something worth fighting for. So we signed the petition, emailed our MPs, put up posters in our local woodlands, organised local events, and chipped in for a people-powered opinion poll and national newspaper ads.

Local groups joined in, as did national organisations like the National Trust, Friends of the Earth, and Greenpeace, and celebrities who spoke out in the press. **Together we stopped the sell-off plans in their tracks.** [2]

We need to keep an eye on what happens next, but we've shown that **if forests are under threat people power can come to the rescue.** Right now let's celebrate that we forced the government to back down from their plans to sell up to 100% of our woodlands!

If people power can save England's forests, that's a reason to feel hopeful for all of our other campaigns too - present and future! When we work together, we can change events - whether it's stopping Rupert Murdoch getting more power, challenging corrupt politicians, standing up for the poor and the vulnerable, or protecting the trees.

Hundreds of 38 Degrees members are celebrating now on our Facebook page and the website. You can click here to join in: <http://www.facebook.com/peoplepowerchange> and <http://www.38degrees.org.uk/forests-we-won-blog>

And if you know someone who thinks writing to MPs or signing a petition is a waste of time, maybe you should forward them this email!

Thanks for everything you do,

David, Hannah, Johnny and the 38 Degrees team

PS - 38 Degrees isn't funded by big business, government or political parties - winning campaigns relies on thousands of us chipping in. To help us keep campaigning on the issues that matter to you, you can chip in by making a: Direct Debit donation: <http://www.38degrees.org.uk/Direct-Debit>
One off donation: <https://secure.38degrees.org.uk/page/contribute>

PPS - Here's what other 38 Degrees members are saying on the Facebook page now:
Fiona N - "Fantastic news! And great for letting people see that actually there IS something they can do when they don't like what the gov does, and their protest can make a difference! Good work 38 Degrees getting this going."
Phil G - "Well done! Now to tackle the planned dismantling of the NHS. God knows there are major problems - this will do absolutely nothing to solve them - we aint seen

**We saved the forests!**

The government has just announced that they're going to scrap the forest sell-off.

Hundreds of 38 Degrees members are celebrating right now on [Facebook](#) and [the website](#)

nothing yet!
Julie M - "People power can work !!"
Dave M - "It's a seriously well done, pat on the back to all involved, from the 38 Degrees Team and us members to the public that got behind it. It goes to show that WE THE PEOPLE rule! Now to get the same response to the NHS campaign, the TAX dodgers and The Robin Hood TAX! And away we go! Woo-Hoo!"
Anne G - "Fantastic. This would never have happened without the power of the Internet and social networking. Let's hope the same can be achieved with the NHS."

You can join in at: <http://www.facebook.com/peoplepowerchange>

Notes:

[1] Forest Sell-Off <http://blogs.news.sky.com/boultonandco/Post:537787ac-7aeb-4fb3-8e58-025a28254511>

Sky News: "Forest Sell-Off Plans 'To Be Axed'" http://news.sky.com/skynews/Home/Politics/Government-Is-To-Abandon-Plans-To-Sell-Off-Englands-Public-Forests-Sky-Sources-Say/Article/201102315933326?lpos=Politics_Second_UK_News_Article_Teaser_Region_2&lid=ARTICLE_15933326_Government_Is_To_Abandon_Plans_To_Sell_Off_Englands_Public_Forests_Sky_Sources_Say

Independent: "Forest farce: Cameron to axe sell-off policy"
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/forest-farce-cameron-to-axe-selloff-policy-2217131.html>

[2] Dozens of groups across the country organised Save Our Forests rallies and meetings. The campaigning also took place on a national scale, with great work by organisations like Woodland Trust, Save Our Forests, Save Our Woods, Save Britain's Forests, Greenpeace, WWF, National Trust, Ramblers and The British Horse Society. All the groups involved are listed here: <http://www.38degrees.org.uk/forests-we-won-blog>

The bigger we are the more we can do. Please forward this email to your friends and ask them to get involved.

38 Degrees brings you together with over 500,000 people to take action on the issues that matter to you and bring about real change. To find out more visit our [website](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

Donate: 38 Degrees doesn't accept money from government, big business, or political parties. We rely on donations from individuals to help pay for the technology, the research, the equipment and the small office we need to organise campaigns. Support our work by donating [here](#).

Unsubscribe: If you no longer wish to be part of our movement and receive our emails you can [unsubscribe here](#)

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