

Statistics Work Plan 2011-12

The Forestry Commission's Statistics Team produces statistics on forestry to meet the needs of a wide range of users, provides advice on statistics and enables all parts of the Forestry Commission to comply with the standards set out in the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The work of the team contributes to the Forestry Commission's GB Corporate Plan objective for a robust evidence base.

This work plan for the year April 2011 – March 2012 has been developed to meet the needs of users of our statistics and services, including all parts of the Forestry Commission (FC), international organisations and external stakeholders. See:

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7zejnv>

The work plan for 2011-12 is based on a total expected staff resource of 3.0 full time equivalents (1 Statistician, 1 Assistant Statistician and 1 Administrative Support).

1. UK Official Statistics publications

Work on UK Official Statistics is expected to account for 1.1 person-years of staff resource and to comprise the following:

- Carry out surveys and data collection to cover UK timber industries (February to April), as agreed with Expert Group on Timber & Trade Statistics.
- UK Wood Production and Trade (provisional figures) first release (May), as in 2010, based on UK industry statistics and surveys and Overseas Trade Statistics.
- Timber Price Indices first release (May and November), as in 2010
- Woodland Area, Planting and Restocking first release (June), as in 2010.
- Nursery Survey (September), as in 2010.
- Forestry Facts & Figures (September), as in 2010.
- Forestry Statistics (September), as in 2010.

2. Official Statistics for international organisations

Work on Official Statistics for international organisations is expected to account for 0.2 person-years of staff resource and to comprise the following:

- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (provisional May, final September) for timber production and trade, as in 2010.
- Timber Committee Questionnaire (September) for timber production and trade forecasts, as in 2010.
- Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounts for Forestry (July) – annual economic data, as in 2010.

3. Compliance with standards

Work on compliance with standards is expected to account for 0.5 person-years of staff resource and to comprise the following:

- Develop and maintain statistics documentation to meet the requirements of UK Statistics Authority and GSS guidance.
- Provide advice to others in FC to assist them to identify and develop other official statistics and to comply with the Code of Practice (includes National Forest Inventory, climate change, FC National Offices, Forest Research).
- Prepare for and assist the UK Statistics Authority's assessment of FC National Statistics outputs (including potential NS approval for the National Forest Inventory)
- For Survey Control, advise all parts of FC on possible surveys, and prepare reports to obtain ministerial approval.

4. Statistical services

Work on statistical services is expected to account for 1.2 person-years of staff resource and to comprise the following:

- Support development and reporting of indicators for country forestry strategies (England, Scotland, Wales).
- Report on UK Public Opinion of Forestry survey and support FC National Offices and others on commissioned surveys.
- Participate in collaborative household surveys on recreation in Scotland, England and Wales.
- Support on-site visitor monitoring, including All Forests Survey (Scotland), Quality of Experience and local surveys.
- Advise Human Resources Division on diversity monitoring reporting.
- Assist other parts of the FC by advising on surveys and analysis.
- Advise on environmental monitoring and social and economic research.
- Provide statistics for other government publications, PQs, researchers, public enquiries.

Comments on this work plan for 2011-12 or possible future work can be directed to the address below.

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