

Equality Impact Assessment Summary

Name of policy, function or service

Water and Soils and Welsh Woodlands and Trees Policy Position.

Purpose and aim(s) of the policy, function or service

This policy, written by Forestry Commission Wales (FCW), has been developed on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG). Its purpose is to define the WAGs position on water and soils and Welsh woodlands and trees, as a response to their Woodlands for Wales strategy document (2009). It sets out the evidence for action and suggested agenda for action for all owners and organisations in Wales concerned with the management of woodlands and trees.

Who will benefit mainly from this policy, function or service?

- The people of Wales who will benefit from the maintenance and enhancement of soils and water quality and functions.
- Woodland owners and other landowners will benefit from the use of trees to better manage the quality and functions of soils and water. This will contribute towards an integrated approach to land management.
- Private woodland owners who may receive payments for the services provided by their woodlands.

Information and Data (evidence) used

A full EqIA has been undertaken for the Woodlands for Wales strategy. The results of this can be accessed here: [Woodlands for Wales - WAG Equality Impact Assessment](#).

A summary of how E&D evidence is reflected in the Water and Soils and Welsh Woodlands and Trees policy position is found in appendix 2 of the document itself

This policy position is of such a high level that there is no evidence to show that any specific E&D group will be disadvantaged.

Summary of Impact

The outcomes of this policy will have positive benefits for the people of Wales including those included in the six diversity strands. Positive benefits include the management of flood risk, the maintenance and enhancement of water quality and the prevention of soil erosion.

The aims of this high level policy position will be beneficial to all people in Wales including E&D groups, however specific projects which will arise may require more focused EqIAs to consider impacts and give opportunities to promote diversity. Local consultations may be appropriate in some instances.

There is no evidence relating to the specific impacts of this policy position on any of the six diversity strands. However no negative impact is envisaged.

Monitoring/Evaluation

Monitoring will take place through the Woodlands for Wales Action Plan monitoring procedures

Further Information

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