

Agenda Item 5

16th July 2010

WNC 23.10

WOODLANDS FOR WALES POLICY POSITION: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE

Purpose

1. To present to the National Committee for comment and approval the final DRAFT of the *Woodlands for Wales* Policy Position on Economic Development and Enterprise.

Background

2. The purpose and process for developing Policy Positions in support of *Woodlands for Wales* has been previously discussed and agreed. Some of the key points are shown at Appendix 1.
3. This Policy Position is for Economic Development and Enterprise and is framed to set out the aspects of policy relevant for developing programmes specific to economic and enterprise development using woodlands. The Agenda for Action reflects the *Woodlands for Wales* Action Plan.
4. The following Policy Positions are all under development or agreed.
 - Welsh woodlands - their extent, nature and character [**agreed March 2010**];
 - Water and Soils [**agreed July 2009**];
 - Biodiversity;
 - Landscape, culture and heritage [**agreed November 2009**];
 - Economic development & enterprise [**tabled**];
 - Education, Learning and skills [**agreed November 2009**];
 - Community involvement [**agreed September 2009**];
 - Health & well-being [**agreed July 2009**].

Recent progress

5. This Policy Position was sent to 30 stakeholder organisations and two forums representing a further 15 organisations, arising from the EqIA screening, with an interest in both the policy issues as well as 15 groups covering the 6 strands of diversity. WSAP members were also consulted, as well as a range of internal members of FCW. Responses were received from the Countryside Council for Wales, the Wales Tourism Alliance, two WSAP members, and 4 FCW staff. All comments were supportive and most have been incorporated into this final draft. The consultation matrix is available.

National Committee

Financial Implications

6. Affordability will manifest itself in two ways. Firstly between programmes ('How much) and secondly through business planning ('When'). Agreeing this resource allocation is the role of the Corporate / Business Plans. However because of our attempts to improve alignment from policy through to delivery, all those involved in setting policy or undertaking the corporate 'translation' need to take into account resource issues.

Risk Analysis

7.

Risk Component	Risk Type: Economic Reputational Env. & Social	Impact / Likelihood Score	Risk Score	Controls
That we do not achieve better strategic alignment	Reputational	5 / 3	15	Development of effective processes
That the 'outputs' are not useful	Reputational	3 / 4	12	Development of effective processes
That the 'outputs' are not used	Reputational	4 / 4	16	Effective governance & people management
Risk Score 0 – 5 Insignificant / 6 – 10 Low / 11 – 20 Medium / 21 – 25 High				

Communications

8. The Policy Positions will be published on the WAG and FC websites and will be used by the Policy team in taking forward with partners many of the tasks identified in the 'Agenda for Action' sections, as well as for continual development of the *Woodlands for Wales* Action Plan.

Recommendation

9. The committee is asked to comment on and approve the content of this FINAL DRAFT Policy Position.

Clive Thomas
Policy and Programme Development Team
July 2010

Appendix 1

Key aspects of Policy Positions in support of *Woodlands for Wales*:

- These Positions are a policy tool for setting down the detailed evidence and also to enable some strategic spatial analysis (if applicable) to be done. They are effectively appendices to the strategy itself and help to link to the Action Planning necessary for delivering the strategy.
- They deal with the 'why' and introduce the 'what and how' via the 'Agenda for Action' section. They are a vital component for developing the rationale for FC corporate responses (programmes) to the revised *Woodlands for Wales*. Through the development of the Action Plan for the strategy, we will seek to influence their use in a similar way by other delivery partners. As such, the main audience for Policy Positions is the FC Wales Policy team, as well as a wider policy/strategy/audit stakeholder audience.
- Some WSAP members have input to the specific work on the Policy Positions, whilst the wider process of revising the strategy has informed their development as well.
- As these Policy Positions are in support of the revised *Woodlands for Wales* strategy and its associated Action Plan, they should be presented as such.
- A number of the Policy Positions, along with the FC Wales Corporate Programmes developed from the 'Agendas for Action', will be of interest externally to stakeholders and will merit the production of a publication. However these publications are separate to both the Policy Positions and the Corporate Programmes.