

The long-term role of the Forestry Commission England Public Forest Estate: consultation.

Yorkshire and The Humber Stakeholder consultation event.

The aim of the event was to stimulate discussion on the issues raised by the consultation, allow people to hear the views of others and to encourage people to submit a written response to the consultation.

Details

Date of meeting: 17 September 2009

Location: Dalby Forest Visitor Centre

Number attending: 40

Chair: Martin Glynn, RAC Member and Director for Rural Development Initiatives

Forestry Commission England National Committee attendee(s): None

Study Working Group attendee(s): Joe Watts

Key points raised during whole meeting discussion

- Attendees welcomed the chance to take part in the consultation exercise. The following points were raised during the Q&A session.
 - Concerns over the increased costs associated with managing community woodlands and the importance of ensuring the Public Forest Estate is sustainable in terms of income / costs.
 - The important role the private sector can play in supporting delivery on the Public Forest Estate. The FC were also recognised as having a key role in improving Health and Safety amongst the contracting community.
 - Concern over how to ensure the forestry sector attracts new people into the industry, particularly with the skills to work challenging sites (skyline etc). This provoked a wider discussion on apprenticeships.
 - The duty of care placed on the FC to manage sensitive sites such as geological features of interest at Givendale.
 - The importance of maintaining a strong public commitment towards the work undertaken on the Public Forest Estate.
 - The importance of considering local users who enter the forest by bike / horse via the bridle way network.

Public Forest Estate consultation

Comment from Chair

Martin Glynn summed up the event by thanking stakeholders for taking the time to attend the event and for their collective contributions in the group working session. He went on to highlight the importance of formally responding to the consultation exercise with all the details being available on the Forestry Commission website

Note taker: Sandra Chapman / Crispin Thorn

Date notes finalised: 21 September 2009

To find out more go to www.forestry.gov.uk/england-estatestudy or contact:

Dominic Driver

Senior Projects Officer | Policy and Programmes Group | Forestry Commission

620 Bristol Business Park | Coldharbour Lane | Bristol | BS16 1EJ

0117 906 6003 | pfe.consultation@forestry.gov.uk