

## **Woodland Strategy Advisory Panel – Role and Working Arrangements**

### **Purpose**

**‘To act as an Advisory Panel to both Ministers and Forestry Commissioners on the implementation of the Wales Woodland Strategy and its periodic reviews’**

### **Terms of Reference**

- Advising on the implementation of the Wales Woodland Strategy by all partner organisations based on a thorough understanding of current activity and policies
- Monitoring and reporting to the National Committee, the implementation of the Wales Woodland Strategy by all partner organisations via regular consideration of progress towards objectives as defined in the finalised ‘Targets and Indicators’ monitoring framework
- Advising on specific issues that the National Committee assigns to the Panel
- Horizon scanning to enable the Strategy (and FC Wales as the government department responsible for forestry policy development and the organisation with the primary responsibility for strategy delivery) to respond to new issues and agendas
- To develop networking opportunities across organisational positions and sectors with the ambition of promoting the benefits of forestry for the people of Wales
- *To adjudicate in disputed applications for grant aid or felling licences and in disputes by the statutory bodies arising from Forestry Commission design plans (via a sub-committee of the Panel as and when required)\**

*\* The words in italics describe the role of the statutory advisory element of the Panel’s remit as defined in the Forestry Act (1967)*

### **Other Agreed Mechanisms**

- The Panel will report to Ministers and to the GB Forestry Commissioners, if relevant, via the FC Wales National Committee
- The Chairman of the Panel will have a seat on the FC Wales National Committee.
- Panel members will be appointed by the FC Wales National Committee, which will seek to ensure a balance between commercial, environmental

and social interests. For the 4-year term of the Panel starting January 2007, 5 members will be appointed to fill each of these portfolios, with 3 additional Non-portfolio members (18 members in total).

- The National Committee, when making appointments will also consider issues of private, public and voluntary sector balance as well as gender balance where possible.
- Members will sit on the Panel as individuals. Where a member works for a Woodland Strategy partner organisation it may be necessary on occasions to make it clear whether the member is articulating their individual or organisational opinion (if they differ).
- FC Wales will provide the Secretariat to the Panel. The Commission will not be represented on the Panel. The Department of Innovation, Enterprise and Networks of the Welsh Assembly Government will provide a participating 'observer' who will also form part of the secretariat.
- Where members work for a Woodland Strategy partner organisation, they can ask a named (in advance) deputy to attend meetings in exceptional circumstances. The secretariat will keep a list of named deputies.
- Subsequent to the presentation of a paper at a Panel meeting, members will generally be granted two weeks to submit further written comments to the FC Secretariat.
- Members of the wider Woodland Strategy Partnership and the public will be able to comment on the work of the Panel either via the FC Wales website, or by contacting a member of the FC Wales Secretariat.

### **Other Working Arrangements**

- The Panel will aim to meet 3 times per year and some meetings will include field elements to allow members to remain up-to-date in respect of recent developments concerning the implementation of the Woodland Strategy.
- The Panel will aim to meet around Wales, although a strict rotation between North, Mid and South will only be possible where the geography of the field-trips allow.
- The working language of the panel will be English, but papers will be available to the public in English and Welsh.
- The FC Secretariat will maintain a broad database of individuals interested in the Wales Woodland Strategy. This list of individuals will be known as the '**Woodland Strategy Partnership**' and will be inclusive, based on interest alone. This partnership will be the primary audience for information and consultation from the FC Secretariat on issues relating to the strategy.

- The FC Secretariat, in consultation with the Panel, will organise occasional events to which all partners will be invited. The aim will be 2-way communication of Strategy delivery and ongoing challenges.
- The Policy Advice Groups, as well as a number of steering group and fora will operate under the umbrella of the '**Woodland Strategy Partnership**'. On occasions, it will be appropriate for the Panel to consider issues raised by these groupings and if necessary make recommendations to the National Committee. When these issues are tabled to the Panel, the chair or a representative of these groups will attend the relevant meeting to present the group's issues or advice.

### **Panel Members (January 2007 – December 2011)**

**Dr Roger Cooper – Chairman**

**Nigel Ajax Lewis\***

**Alex Brownlie**

**Dr John Edington\***

**Helena Fox\***

**Rory Francis\***

**Dr Alun Gee**

**Sue Gittins\***

**David Hughes\***

**Chris Inglis\***

**David Jenkins\***

**Tim Kirk\***

**Bernard Llewellyn\***

**John Lloyd Jones\***

**Hilary Miller\***

**Phil Morgan**

**Professor Colin Price**

**Dr Tim Stowe\***

**Celia Thomas\***

**Bob Vaughan\***

**Gareth Price [DEIN – WAG] to attend meetings as part of Secretariat**

\* indicates statutory disputes sub-committee member as per Terms of Reference

**Clive Thomas**

**FC Wales Secretariat**

**November 2006**