

Guide to the Completing the Successor's Application Form

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Purpose

This form should be used for all Forestry Commission grant schemes in England.

This Successor Form should be completed by the new occupier where there is a change of ownership or occupancy on land which has an existing Forestry Commission grant scheme. Depending on the type of grant scheme and the particular circumstances, the form should be completed if you wish to receive future grant payments and/or are willing to continue necessary work to fulfil the conditions of the scheme. For further advice on change of ownership please refer to Operations Note 14 and the specific guidance relevant to your scheme, which is available on the Forestry Commission website or from your local Forestry Commission office. Your local Woodland Officer will also provide guidance on the options available to you.

For the purposes of this guidance, references to 'ownership/owner' should also be taken to include 'occupancy/occupier'.

General details

Question 1 - Grant Scheme

Please tick the type of grant scheme that you are succeeding. You can tick more than one box, for example if you are taking on a Woodland Grant Scheme with associated Farm Woodland Premium Scheme payments.

Question 2 - Scheme reference number

You should enter the reference(s) of the grant scheme(s) that you are taking on.

Question 3 - Property name

Please insert the generally recognised name of the property, e.g., Elmsworth Estate or Oak Tree Farm.

Question 4 - New Main Applicant's details

The Main Applicant is the individual or organisation who has responsibility to take on the grant scheme. This may be a 'sole occupier' or the lead partner in a formal Partnership or Trust, or the representative of a Company.

Organisation: If you are applying on behalf of an Organisation please tell us what position you hold (i.e. in what capacity you represent the Organisation).

Are you? Sole Owner, Partner, Lessee, Tenant or Trustee: Please tick all that are appropriate (you must tick at least one).

Are you the main contact? Yes/No: As the Main Applicant you may wish to deal with all aspects of your application directly; alternatively you may wish a partner, another representative or a professional agent to act on your behalf in making this application. Please use these boxes and those in questions 5 and 6 to indicate to whom we should address correspondence.

Address, telephone numbers and E-mail: Please provide full contact details including postcode. If you provide an email address we will normally use this as the primary means of communication.

Income from farming: Do you receive more than 25% of your income from farming? Yes/No: If the grant scheme you are taking on (a) involves EWGS Farm Woodland Payments (b) the original agreement was approved after 1st January 2007 and (c) you do not receive more than 25% of your income from farming, then your Farm Woodland Payments will be capped at €150 per hectare per year. For other grant schemes this question must still be completed as it determines the amount of European Commission funding that the Government can claim back.

SBI number (Single Business identifier): You and your land must be registered with the Rural Payments Agency to receive Forestry Commission grants. Please enter your SBI number here.

CPH number: Please provide your County/Parish/Holding number.

CRN (Customer Reference number): new owners must register on the Rural Payments system to receive future grant payments.

Question 5 - Other New Applicant's details

Please use this section to provide details of any other parties such as formal partners, other trustees etc. Please use an additional form if there is more than one other party.

Question 6 - Managing Agent's details and authority

If you have employed an agent to act on your behalf please provide their details here. Agents must register on the Rural Payments system and provide their CRN.

Question 7 - Previous Applicant's details

If possible, please provide contact details for the previous owner. This may prove helpful if there are any queries arising from the scheme succession.

Property details

Question 8 - Which of the following categories best describes the ownership of the property?

Please tick one of the following:

<i>Personal occupier</i>	You or your family own the property, or hold it as a family trust, partnership or family farm
<i>Business occupier</i>	Company, forestry investor, business partnership, syndicate or pension fund
<i>Voluntary organisation</i>	Funded by public subscription, a charitable trust or community organisation
<i>Government departments & their agencies, regional and non-departmental</i>	Development agencies, hospitals & health boards, public bodies, including: the Armed Forces and Crown Estates (not including land personally owned by members of the Royal Family) and The National Forest.
<i>Local and unitary including</i>	Schools, national park authorities, local education authorities and local authorities

Question 9 - Which of the following categories best describes the use of the property?

Please tick one of the following:

<i>Farm</i>	Farming or horticulture
<i>Mixed estate</i>	Large areas of both farming and woodland
<i>Mainly woodland</i>	Mainly woodlands
<i>Private residence</i>	An area round a private house, but not a farm
<i>Recreation</i>	Used for recreation, such as a golf course, country park, hotel or conservation area
<i>Public building</i>	School, hospital, retirement home – whether publicly or privately owned
<i>Industrial</i>	Has been a mine, factory, an office or is now derelict

Question 10 - Woodland Certification

Is your woodland certified to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard? Yes/No

Who is the certifying body or resource/group manager? If you have undertaken the certification process as an individual give us the name of the certifying body that issued your certificate. If a resource or group manager has certified your woodlands tell us their company name.

When does your Certificate or your Group Manager's Certificate expire? Insert date.

Question 11 - Landowner's permission

If you are a tenant please confirm that you have obtained your landlord's consent to carry out the work proposed. The landlord will have to sign section 15 of this form.

Question 12 - Land resumed from tenants

If you are an owner-occupier or landlord of the land please tell us if the land has been resumed from a tenant by means of a notice to quit or is currently the subject of such an action. You may not be eligible for grants if this is the case.

Question 13 - Date of Change

Provide the date the land occupation changed. For all Forestry Commission grant schemes, it is important that we know the date the previous owner stopped occupying the land, as well as the date you started to occupy the land. Under the rules of the schemes, you must submit this form to the Forestry Commission within 12 months of the previous owner stopping occupation. Tick yes if you have taken over the whole grant scheme area. If you tick no, list the work areas/compartments that you are taking on.

Question 14 - Declaration and form signature

The form must be signed by the successor before the FC can accept it and process the succession.

Before signing this form it is important that you understand the conditions of the scheme you are taking on. If you have any doubts you can get further information from your local Forestry Commission office or from the Forestry Commission website:

EWGS terms and conditions: www.forestry.gov.uk/england-terms-ewgs

WGS general info: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forestry.nsf/byunique/infd-6dfklb>

FWPS general info: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forestry.nsf/byunique/infd-6zcfxq>

FWS general info: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forestry.nsf/byunique/infd-6zcgfz>

By signing this form you are agreeing to the conditions of the declaration and relevant grant scheme(s). All successor parties must sign the form. For example, if the new ownership involves two people as partners, then both partners must sign the form. Alternatively one person may sign the form provided written authority is provided by other parties.

Question 15 - Landlord Consent

If a tenant is taking on the scheme, their landlord must also sign the form.

The Data Protection Act 1998

The Forestry Commission (FC) will use the information submitted on the application forms primarily to support the administration of the application. The FC or its appointed agents may also use it, in keeping with the safeguards of the Data Protection Act in the following ways:

- For the administration of the Common Agricultural Policy, the England Rural Development Programme and other aid schemes.
- For publication on the FC's Public Register (the entry on the Register will include the name of the property, value and timing of grants applied for).
- For communication with other organisations including Defra, other government departments (and their agencies) and local authorities in the administration of the application and subsequent grant agreement.
- For producing operational information and statistics that do not identify individuals.
- To contact applicants or their agents in connection with occasional research aimed at improving the services that the FC provides.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and The Environmental Information Regulations 2004

The FC is required to release information, which may include personal data and commercial information, to comply with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, the FC will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will it act in contravention of its obligations under the Data Protection Act.



Successor's Application

This form can be used for any Forestry Commission grant scheme including EWGS, WGS, Farm Woodland Premium Scheme or Farm Woodland Scheme. It should be used by new landowners on land which has an existing scheme.

Before completing this form you should acquaint yourself with the accompanying guidance, the rules of the relevant scheme and any woodland plan agreement that was made under that scheme by the previous occupier, including undertakings entered in to. If there is any part of the scheme which you do not understand, please contact your local Forestry Commission (FC) office. In particular, you should be aware of the time limits in which successor applications can be made which vary between the schemes.

General details

1. What type of grant scheme does this succession relate to? *You can tick more than one box*

- English Woodland Grant Scheme Woodland Grant Scheme Farm Woodland Premium Scheme
 Farm Woodland Scheme Other - *please specify:* _____

2. Scheme ref no(s): _____

Date received:
(for Office Use only)

3. Property name: _____

4. New Main Applicant's details

Title: _____ Forename: _____ Surname: _____

Organisation/Business: _____ Position: _____

Are you? *please tick* Sole Owner Partner Lessee Tenant
 Trustee

Are you the main contact? *please tick* Yes No

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel: _____ Mobile: _____ E-mail: _____

If you provide us with an e-mail address, we will normally use this to correspond with you.

Income from farming

Do you receive more than 25% of your income from farming? Yes No

SBI Number: _____

CPH Number: _____ (not needed if EWGS)

Owner CRN number: _____

5. Other New Applicant's details

Please complete details for additional applicants: for instance all partners, all trustees, etc. Provide details of further applicants on copies of this page.

Title: _____ Forename: _____ Surname: _____

Organisation: _____ Position: _____

Are you? *please tick* Sole Owner Partner Lessee Tenant Trustee

Are you the main contact for this application? *please tick* Yes No

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel: _____ Mobile: _____ E-mail: _____

Owner CRN Number: _____

If you provide us with an e-mail address, we will normally use this to correspond with you.

6. Managing Agent's details and authority (if applicable)

Title: _____ Forename: _____ Surname: _____

Organisation: _____ Position: _____

Is this the main contact for this application? *please tick* Yes No

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel: _____ Mobile: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Agent CRN number: _____

If you provide us with an e-mail address, we will normally use this to correspond with you.

If you would like your Managing Agent to have the authority to: Sign grant contracts, agree amendments to contracts, claim grants, agree changes to payee details or agree to felling licence conditions you must provide a signed Agent Authority Form

If no, please list the work areas this succession includes -

RLR Parcel Ref	Area of Parcel Purchased(ha)	Compartment No.	Woodland Name	Notes

You must provide a map highlighting the land which the succession refers to. Map included

14. Declaration

*I/We certify/declare that:

- *I/We *am/are familiar with the scheme rules and any agreement made under the scheme by the previous occupier;
- *I/We *am/are familiar with the scheme undertakings signed by the previous occupier;
- the information provided in this application is correct;

**delete if appropriate*

Signed (**New Main Applicant**):

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signed (*Other New Applicant*):

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signed (*Other New Applicant*):

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signed (*Other New Applicant*):

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

15. Landlord's Consent

If the scheme is being taken on by a tenant, the landowner must also sign this form. By signing the form the landlord is giving consent for the tenant to take on the scheme.

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____