

15 March 2011

Dear Forestry Commission Customer

Sent by email: Forestry Regulation Task Force - Consultation and Call for Evidence

At the APF Show held in Cannock last September the Forestry Minister for England, Jim Paice MP, announced his intention to set up a Forestry Regulation Task Force. The membership and [Terms of Reference](#) (further details can be found at: www.forestry.gov.uk/regulationtaskforce) of the Task Force were formally announced on the 18th and the first meeting was held on the 27th January 2011.

The Task Force, with an England focus, has a broad remit which includes taking a close look at how the administration of grants could be simplified. The Task Force is resolved to canvas opinion from as wide a cross-section of the sector as possible and we plan to engage more fully with the sector by holding some informal meetings across the country over the coming months. We have been asked to submit our recommendations to the Minister later this year.

We would particularly appreciate understanding your views and experiences of the regulation of, and support for, the forestry and woodland sector and look forward to seeing your responses in writing to the [consultation questions](#).

The formal deadline for responses is noon on Friday 29th April 2011.

I understand that there are many other calls on your time and resources. However I hope you will feel able to respond and I look forward to hearing your views, comments and ideas for better and more effective regulation. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Starr', with a horizontal line underneath.

Chris Starr
Chair, Forestry Regulation Task Force