

14<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Dear Consultee

**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 of the Task Force were formally announced on the 18<sup>th</sup> January (further details will be found at: [www.forestry.gov.uk/regulationtaskforce](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/regulationtaskforce) ) and the first meeting was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

The Task Force, with an England focus, has a broad remit and is resolved to canvas opinion from as wide a cross-section of the sector as possible. We have been asked to submit our recommendations to the Minister later this year.

Because time is short we would like to receive some early responses to the [consultation questions](#) to help guide the Task Force's direction and priorities. If you are able to make an initial response by 5.00pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2011 that would be much appreciated.

**The formal deadline for responses is noon on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2011.**

We plan to engage more fully with the sector by holding some informal meetings across the country over the coming months.

I understand that forestry in England is high on the political agenda at the moment and 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 long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris Starr  
Chair, Forestry Regulation Task Force