

Operations Note 028

Date 14th November 2012

Interim Management Planning Guidance

Purpose

This Operations Note sets out the interim arrangements, for the acceptance of Management Plans and use of Woodland Planning Grants (WPG) in support of Woodfuel Woodland Improvement Grants (WWIG). The arrangements are effective immediately and will remain in place until the working group on Management planning has reported.

Summary

Management Plans which cover an ownership within a landscape unit will be deemed as meeting the 'property' requirements as per [Operation Note 3](#). Where a plan is compiled for a single woodland but does not cover all the same ownership within the landscape unit then that Plan will be eligible for WWIG but not eligible for payment under WPG.

Background

Current guidance supports the use of WPG for production of a Management Plan where coverage of the plan takes in the whole 'property' as detailed in [Operations Note 3](#). This guidance has equally informed what we consider as an acceptable plan in terms of the requirements of the Woodfuel WIG. We feel that this is currently acting as a barrier to delivering outcomes of bringing more undermanaged woodlands into management through the provision of access and timber inventories. This Operations Note aims to provide an interim solution to this issue until the Working Group on Management Planning has reported.

Main Points

Until further notice and for the purpose of meeting the conditions of the Woodfuel WIG Forestry Commission will accept and pay for, through WPG, Management Plans which cover woodland(s) within the same ownership and landscape unit.

Local interpretation of Landscape Unit will be necessary and discussions should be had with local teams. Where an ownership is limited to a single woodland block >3ha within a landscape unit then this will be supported. Where an applicant only wants to produce a management plan for the woodland in which the Woodfuel WIG applies, but has other owned woodlands within the same landscape unit, this will be acceptable in terms of the Woodfuel WIG but will not be funded through WPG. In order to meet the timescales in applying for Woodfuel WIG, applicants may wish to complete an interim plan on an individual woodland whilst compiling a plan for their whole ownership. In this situation

WPG will be paid on the overall plan area subject to the plan meeting all other conditions within [EWGS 2](#)

Sources of further advice

The [Grants and Regulations website](#) contains all the information you need to apply for grant support. Alternatively, you can request this information from your local [Forestry Commission office](#).

Versions

Version 1.0 issued 14th November 2012

e.wgs

English Woodland Grant Scheme



The scheme is supported with European Union and Defra funding