



Corporate Plan
Performance Indicators
and Woodland Indicators
2012

Corporate Plan Performance Indicators and Woodland Indicators Report 2012


Impact and Input Indicators at 31 March 2012 (First Release)



Forestry Commission England's [Corporate Plan](#) 2011-15 set out our key Impact and Input Indicators to show our contribution towards the wider State of England's Woodlands. This is the first of our annual monitoring reports on the Indicators which we have defined and developed through 2011-12. As we await the report of the Independent Panel on Forestry, the report provides strategic evidence of our delivery of our key aims of enabling the Protection, Improvement and Expansion of English woodland.



Unless otherwise stated the Indicators are based on Forestry Commission administrative data sources. The outturns against these Indicators have been verified by Internal Audit at the Forestry Commission. Over time we plan to publish fact sheets about the Indicators and graphs enabling analysis of historic trends over longer periods of time. Please visit our website at www.forestry.gov.uk > [England](#) > [About us](#) > [Indicators](#).


	Contents	Page
1	Headline Performance Impact and Input Indicators (also reported quarterly)	3
2	Performance Impact Indicators	7
3	Performance Input Indicators	14
4	State of England's Woodlands Indicators of the wider forestry sector in England	16

Part 1. Headline Performance Impact and Input Indicators

Headline Performance Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
	Impact Indicators	
<p>Hectares of woodland covered by plant-health notices (includes notices issued on the Public Forest Estate)</p>	<p>Baseline at 1 April 2011: 771 hectares of land requiring treatment. Position at 30 June 2011: 335 hectares. Position at 30 September 2011: 401 hectares. Position at 31 December 2011: 611 hectares.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: 531 hectares of land requiring treatment.</p> <p>There has been the expected decrease in area requiring treatment since the end of December as winter felling has proceeded. A total area of 47 hectares of new infections has been added since December including 3 hectares of <i>Phytophthora lateralis</i> and 3 hectares of Chestnut Blight (a first outbreak for the UK).</p>	

Headline Performance Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Percentage of woodland in active management (including the Public Forest Estate)</p>	<p>Baseline: 52% of woodland is in active management at 1 April 2011. Position at 30 June 2011: 52%. Position at 30 September 2011: 52%. Position at 31 December 2011: 52%.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: 53%. The percentage of woodland in active management continues to gradually and steadily increase. This indicator of woodland in management encompasses woodlands where there has been FC England grant or felling licence activity typically in the previous 5 to 10 years – it is recognised that other woodlands might be considered as managed as well.</p>	
<p>Hectares of woodland created (gross)</p>	<p>Baseline: 1,775 hectares of woodland were created with grant aid in the 2010/11 financial year. April to June 2011: 765 hectares of woodland have been created with support from Woodland Creation Grant. July to September 2011: 101 hectares created. October to December 2011: 172 hectares created.</p> <p>January to March 2012: 904 hectares created. A total of 1,942 hectares was created in the 2011/12 financial year. There has been a 9.4% increase in the rate of woodland creation in 2011/12 compared to the baseline level in 2010/11 – as measured by claims for payment of Woodland Creation Grant.</p>	

Headline Performance Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Number of private sector businesses operating on the Public Forest Estate	<p>Baseline at 31 July 2011: 634 private businesses and individuals. Update at 24 October 2011: 638 private businesses and individuals. Position at 5 January 2012: 658 private businesses and individuals.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: 613 private businesses and individuals. The trend in recent months has been down in particular due to reduced lettings of commercial buildings; sometimes former offices in remote locations. Demand has weakened in the current economic climate. There is a high turnover in a lot of these lettings especially around the financial year end and this may drive some volatile fluctuations, in this one simple numerical indication of activity. Future returns may be able to identify trends more clearly.</p>	
	Input Indicators	
Cash spent on partnerships and engagement by Forest Services	<p>Baseline: £12.0m (spend) in 2010/11. Position at 31 July 2011: £806 thousand of funding provided since the start of 2011/12. Position at 30 September 2011: On budget for this time of year with £1.2m. Position at 31 December 2011: On budget for this time of year with £1.8m spent.</p> <p>Annual spend in the 2011/12 financial year: £5.3m applied across the full range of national priorities as well as local area partnership activities encompassing all the new Forest Services Areas. Larger investment items included contributions to protecting trees from <i>Phytophthora ramorum</i> tree disease (nearly £1m), , expansion schemes at Newlands in the new North West and West Midlands Area (604k), and £231k for the Mayor of London's street trees, as well as woodland improvements via the Big Tree Plant (£695k), Woodfuel East (£389k) and the Deer Initiative (£278k). Other investments included contributions towards The Woodland Trust's visitwoods.org.uk, short rotation forestry, red squirrel conservation and forestry apprenticeships.</p>	

Headline Performance Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Cost of managing the Public Forest Estate (per hectare)	<p>Baseline: £72.42 per hectare for 2010-11 that was comfortably below the target for that financial year of £88.65 per hectare. The indicative figure being aimed at for 2011-12 is £84.63 per hectare. Restated performance for 10/11 is £75.83 per hectare.</p> <p>This indicator is reported bi-annually. Forecast at the mid-year point, 30 September 2011: £83.40 per hectare.</p> <p>Out-turn for 2011-12 financial year: £76.62 per hectare, which is below the indicative figure aimed for of £84.63 per hectare. Improved performance against the mid year forecast is due to final quarter timber income being higher as a result of increased sales demand. The net cost for 2011/12 includes a one off £0.9m net cost for organisational change. Without this item the underlying net cost figure would be £73.07 per Ha. Long term trend analysis should be used for this indicator.</p>	

Trend compared to current provisional level of ambition:



= improving



= little or no progress



= deteriorating








= insufficient or no comparable data




Part 2. Performance Impact Indicators

Performance Impact Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Percentage of known tree felling that is carried out with Forestry Commission approval (i.e. the % of felling that is licensable by the Forestry Commission that is not illegal felling. This excludes felling with development approval)</p>	<p>Baseline for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011: 99.95%.</p> <p>Performance for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: 99.96%.</p>	
<p>Maintain UKWAS certification on the Public Forest Estate</p>	<p>Baseline at 1 April 2011: UKWAS certification held.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: UKWAS certification held.</p> <p>Source: UK Woodland Assurance Standard.</p>	


Performance Impact Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Hectares of restoration of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) and open habitat</p>	<p>This indicator is still in development. This year we report an interim indicator based upon in-year activity:</p> <p>Baseline for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011:</p> <p>a) PAWs restored:</p> <p>i) On the Public Forest Estate – not available as the measurement methodology is new for the 2011 calendar year.</p> <p>ii) On other woodland – 361 hectares restored.</p> <p>b) Open Habitats restored or created:</p> <p>i) On the Public Forest Estate - a gross increase of 280 hectares of Priority Open Habitat taking the total to 17,329 hectares at 31 March 2011.</p> <p>ii) On other woodland - 948 hectares approved for open habitat restoration, equating to 613 hectares allowing for tree cover at one large open habitat restoration scheme.</p> <p><i>Report continues on next page:</i></p>	<p><i>see next page</i></p>

Performance Impact Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Hectares of restoration of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) and open habitat</p> <p><i>Continued:</i></p>	<p>Performance for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 (except where shown):</p> <p>a) PAWs restored:</p> <p>i) On the Public Forest Estate – 2,488 hectares worked (between 1 April 2011 and 31 December 2011).</p> <p>ii) On other woodland – 405 hectares restored.</p> <p>b) Open Habitats restored or created:</p> <p>i) On the public forest estate – 93 hectares increase in Priority Open Habitats.</p> <p>ii) On other woodland – 642 hectares approved for open habitat creation.</p>	<p>PAWs Trend:</p>  <p>Open Habitats Trend:</p> 

Performance Impact Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Projected carbon capture in 2050 on Woodland Carbon Code woodland creation projects	<p>Baseline is zero as the Woodland Carbon Code was launched in July 2011.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: One project is fully validated in England which is projected to sequester 243 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent in 2050. A further 14 projects are registered and progressing towards validation.</p>	
Percentage of people in Priority Places close to accessible woodland	<p>Baseline at summer 2011: 66.1%.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: 66.8%.</p> <p>Source: Woods for People (The Woodland Trust) and FC administrative data.</p>	
Customer satisfaction rating for visits to the Public Forest Estate from the interactive "rate my visit" facility	<p>Baseline at 30 March 2011: An average rating of 4.1 out of 5 for all of England, based on 1,390 comments from customers.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: An average rating of 4.1 out of 5 for all of England, based on exactly 1,000 comments from customers.</p>	

Performance Impact Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Number of agreements for locally led events and activities on the Public Forest Estate</p>	<p>Baseline in the 2010 calendar year: 6,640 agreements, with an estimated 254,000 people engaged through these kinds of activities.</p> <p>Position for the 2011 calendar year: 5,195 agreements, with an estimated 255,000 people engaged through these kinds of activities.</p>	
<p>Number of households in the Discovery Pass scheme for the Public Forest Estate</p>	<p>Baseline at 1 April 2011: 14,122 Discovery Passes held by members of the public.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: 17,823 Discovery Passes held by members of the public.</p>	
<p>Hectares of woodland brought into management by woodfuel Woodland Improvement Grant</p>	<p>Baseline: zero as this incentive is new having been launched in October 2011.</p> <p>Performance for the period from launch to 31 March 2012: 396 hectares brought into management by woodfuel Woodland Improvement Grant.</p>	

Performance Impact Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Area of felling licences issued in the period	<p>Baseline for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011: felling licences for an area of 23,968 hectares.</p> <p>Position for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: felling licences for an area of 28,227 hectares.</p>	
Number of employees (FTEs)	<p>Baseline at 1 July 2010: 1,116 full time equivalent staff in post.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2012: 869 full time equivalent staff in post.</p>	
Number of training events provided by the internal Human Resource Learning & Development team taken up by employees	<p>Baseline for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011: 951 training events, exceeding the service level agreement of 928 events by 2.5%.</p> <p>Position for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: 767 training events, 81% of the service level agreement of 947 events for the year.</p>	

Performance Impact Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Number of significant work-related accidents per 100 employees	<p>Baseline for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011: 10 accidents representing a rate of 1.10 accidents per 100 employees.</p> <p>Position for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: 12 accidents representing a rate of 1.27 accidents per 100 employees.</p>	
Percentage of grant and felling licence transactions completed on time or early	<p>Baseline: the nearest equivalent is the outturn performance on the CSR07 performance target for 2008-11 when for England as a whole 75% of transactions were completed on time or early.</p> <p>Performance for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: 83% of transactions completed on time or early.</p>	

Trend compared to current provisional level of ambition:



= improving



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Part 3. Performance Input Indicators

Performance Input Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Cost to Forest Services of providing tree health service including surveys and staff time (rounded to the nearest 1,000)</p>	<p>Baseline: not available as the measurement methodology is new.</p> <p>Position for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: £770,000 (subject to NAO audit).</p>	
<p>Value of Woodland Improvement Grant and Woodland Regeneration Grant</p>	<p>Baseline for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011: £8.8m.</p> <p>Performance for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: £13.7m (subject to NAO audit).</p>	

Performance Input Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Grant paid for woodland creation (total and GBP per hectare)	<p>Baseline for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011: A total grant spend on woodland creation of £16.6m, of which £4.1m represented accrued first payments of Woodland Creation Grant that supported the planting of 1,775 hectares of woodland.</p> <p>Performance for the year 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012: A total grant spend on woodland creation of £15.8m, of which £5.0m represented accrued first payments of Woodland Creation Grant that supported the planting of 1,880 hectares of woodland (subject to NAO audit).</p>	
Amount of grant paid for woodfuel Woodland Improvement Grants	<p>Baseline: zero as this incentive is new having been launched in October 2011.</p> <p>Performance for the period from launch to 31 March 2012: zero paid claims so far (subject to NAO audit).</p>	

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Part 4. State of England's Woodlands Indicators




Woodland Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
An indicator of the scale of threat from tree diseases, under development	This indicator is under development.	
Measure of woodland resilience to climate change based on the size and spatial configuration of woodland patches within the landscape	A refined methodology has been successfully developed. First report expected for 2012-13.	
Annual increment in England's forests	This indicator is under development.	

Woodland Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Measure of the conservation condition of woodlands using information from the National Forest Inventory</p>	<p>This indicator is under development. First report expected for 2012-13.</p> <p>An interim indicator for woodland condition can be reported and this draws on data produced for reporting on the last round of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) delivery, at 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Total area of Habitat Action Plan (HAP) resource maintained: 527,224 hectares. b) Area of ancient native habitat maintained: 207,433 hectares - part of a) above. c) Condition of HAP resource improved on 8,608 hectares, since previous report. d) Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) restored to native woodland: 1,710 hectares, since previous report. e) HAP resource expanded through conversion of non-native woodland plus new native planting: 6,798 hectares, since previous report. 	
<p>Percentage of woodland SSSIs (by land area) in desired condition.</p>	<p>Baseline at April 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) On the Public Forest Estate: 99.6% of SSSIs (by area) were in 'Favourable' or 'Unfavourable Recovering' condition, and 25.6% were in 'Favourable' condition. b) On other land: 79.0% of SSSIs (by area) were in 'Favourable' or 'Unfavourable Recovering' condition, and 8.8% were in 'Favourable' condition. <p>Position at April 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) On the Public Forest Estate: 99.6% of SSSIs (by area) were in 'Favourable' or 'Unfavourable Recovering' condition, and 31.7% were in 'Favourable' condition. b) On other land: 81.9% of SSSIs (by area) were in 'Favourable' or 'Unfavourable Recovering' condition, and 10.3% were in 'Favourable' condition. <p>Source: Natural England data.</p>	

Woodland Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Measure of what is happening to the number and variety of species that live in woodland; using Woodland Birds data</p>	<p>Baseline at 2009, each index separately year 2000=100: All woodland birds: 95.79 Of which woodland 'generalists': 107.05 And woodland 'specialists': 90.38</p> <p>Latest available data: Position at 2010, on the same indices: All woodland birds: 95.43 Of which woodland 'generalists': 108.13 And woodland 'specialists': 89.40</p> <p>In the period from 2000 to 2010 populations of woodland birds -- taken as a whole -- have been stable at a level around 25% below those of the 1970s. In this time period 'woodland generalists' have fared better than 'woodland specialists'.</p> <p>Source: Defra.</p>	
<p>Area of woodland (total and change over time)</p>	<p>Baseline at 31 March 2010: 1,294,000 hectares.</p> <p>Position at 31 March 2011 (latest available data): 1,297,000 hectares.</p> <p>Source: National Forest Inventory and FC administrative data.</p>	

Woodland Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Carbon captured by English woodlands	<p>Baseline at 2009: 2.353 Million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (MtCO₂e).</p> <p>Latest available data: Position at 2010, 2.118 MtCO₂e. The decrease reflects a number of factors including the age structure of England's forests. Woodland expansion enabled through initiatives such as the Woodland Carbon Task Force could help to reverse this trend.</p> <p>Source: Centre for Ecology & Hydrology report for the Department of Energy and Climate Change.</p>	
Percentage of people actively engaged in woodland	<p>The latest available data enables the reporting of the Baseline position in 2011 when 8% of people reported that they had been involved in woodland consultations or any volunteer groups and organised events associated with woodlands in the previous 12 months.</p> <p>Source: Public Opinion of Forestry Survey (Forestry Commission).</p>	<p>Trend in run-up to Baseline</p> 
Number of visits to woodland from Natural England's Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment survey (MENE)	<p>Baseline for the year from March 2010 to February 2011: 325.5 million visits in England.</p> <p>Performance for the year from March 2011 to February 2012: 357.5 million visits in England.</p> <p>Source: Natural England.</p>	

Woodland Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
Number apprentices and university students entering forestry	<p>This indicator is under development. First full report is expected for 2012-13.</p> <p>There is a partial interim indicator on the number of university students entering forestry:</p> <p>Baseline 2009-10 academic year: 95 university leavers.</p> <p>Source: The Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Destinations of Leavers of Higher Education Survey 2009/10.</p>	<p>Trend in run-up to Baseline</p> 
Gross Value Added from domestic forestry	<p>Baseline for 2008: £151 million.</p> <p>Latest available data, for 2009: £185 million.</p> <p>Source: Office for National Statistics.</p>	
Volume of timber brought to market per annum from the Public Forest Estate and other English sources	<p>Baseline for 2010: total softwood and hardwood roundwood removals of 2,281 thousand green tonnes.</p> <p>Position for 2011: total softwood and hardwood roundwood removals of 2,397 thousand green tonnes (provisional figure).</p> <p>Source: FC administrative data and our industry surveys.</p>	

Woodland Indicator	Report at 31 March 2012	Trend
<p>Percentage of the total amount of wood that grows in English woods that is harvested</p>	<p>This indicator is under development.</p> <p>There is a partial interim indicator on the percentage of softwood harvested. Baseline as at 2010: 68.6%.</p> <p>Position for 2011: 72.8% (provisional figure).</p> <p>Source: FC's Softwood Production Forecast and Wood Production and Trade Statistics.</p>	
<p>Installed capacity of medium sized wood fuelled boilers (Mega Watt thermal)</p>	<p>Baseline at 1 April 2011: 460 Megawatt thermal (MWth).</p> <p>Source: Survey for FC England conducted by The Renewable Energy Association Ltd.</p>	<p>Trend in run-up to Baseline</p> 
<p>Area of woodland in England that is certified as sustainably managed</p>	<p>Baseline at 31 March 2011: 335,000 hectares.</p> <p>Source: Forest Stewardship Council and FC GB Statistics Team survey of woodland owners.</p>	<p>Trend in run-up to Baseline</p> 

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