

Corporate Plan Performance Indicators

Headline Performance Update
31 December 2012

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Headline Performance Update at 31 December 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. The Indicators are also covered in our more recent [Corporate Plan 2012-13](#).

Our [Indicators Report 2012](#) provides the first annual monitoring report on all the Indicators which we defined and developed through 2011-12 and this was published in May 2012.

This document provides the **third** quarterly update on the six headline performance indicators for the 2012-13 financial year. It reflects our key priorities of protection, improvement and expansion of England's woodlands, as set out on the recent [Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy Statement](#) – January 2013.

Some of the indicators are seasonal so, for previous and future reports, please visit our website at www.forestry.gov.uk > [England](#) > [About us](#) > [Indicators](#).

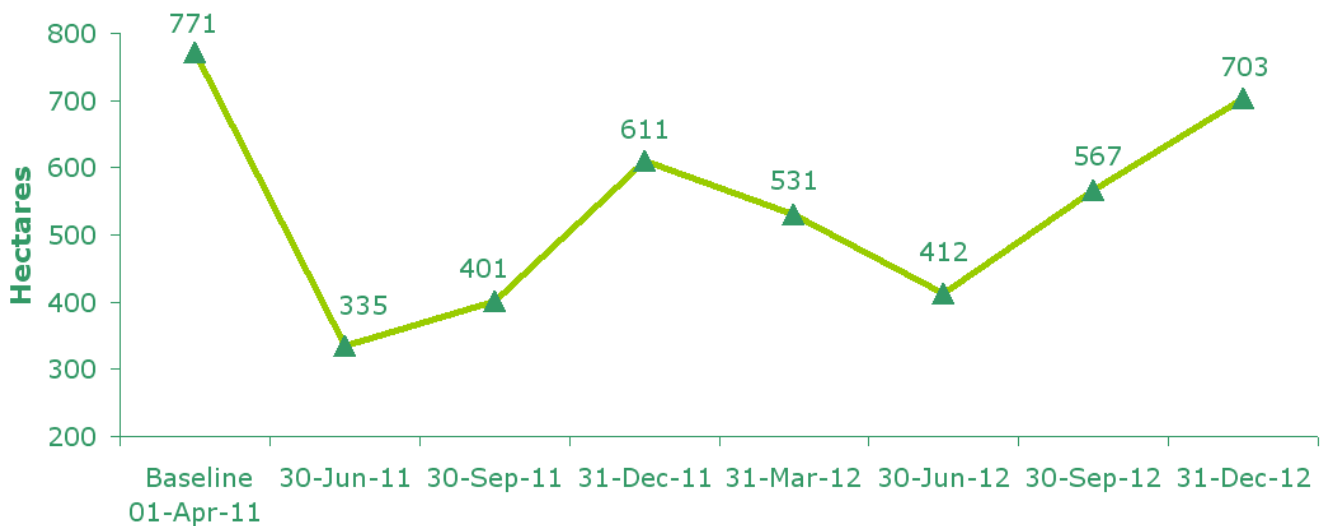
E-mail: enquiries@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

www.forestry.gov.uk/england

Issue 1.0 – SD

1. Protection

Impact Indicator: Hectares of woodland covered by plant-health notices (includes notices issued on the Public Forest Estate)

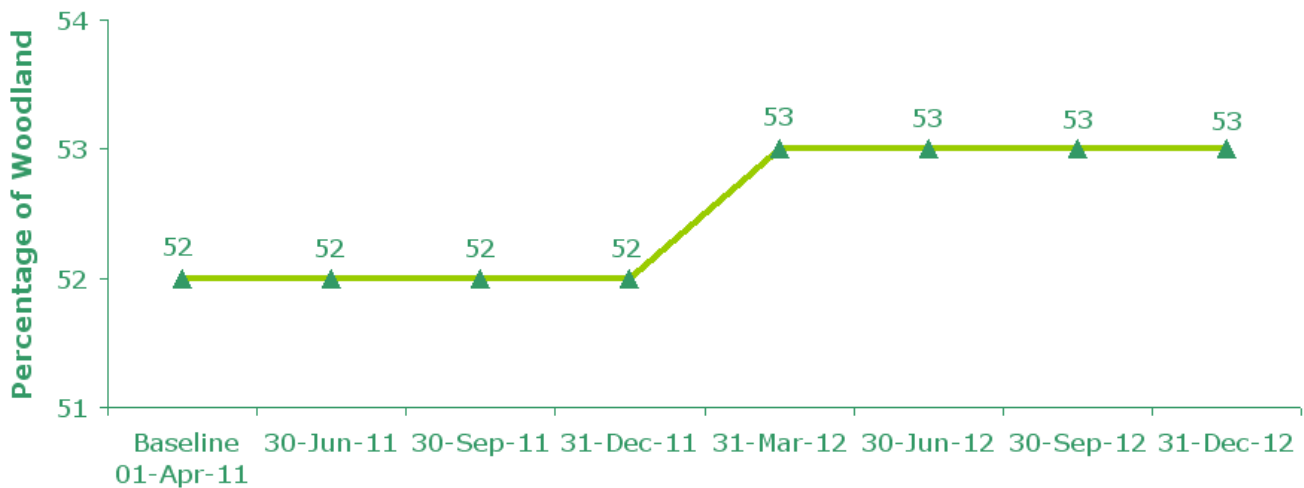


Position at 31 December 2012: 703 hectares of land requiring treatment.

The rise of area under Notice this quarter is not unexpected as further site investigations of suspect sites during the late summer and autumn have now concluded for the season. We would expect this area to decline over the winter period as action is implemented. Although a few statutory notices were issued for sites infected with *Chalara fraxinea* during this period, the action required was also completed. No further Notices are being issued for *Chalara* dieback of ash until discussions on the detailed control plan have been concluded at the end of March 2013.

2. Improvement

Impact Indicator: Percentage of woodland in active management (including the Public Forest Estate)



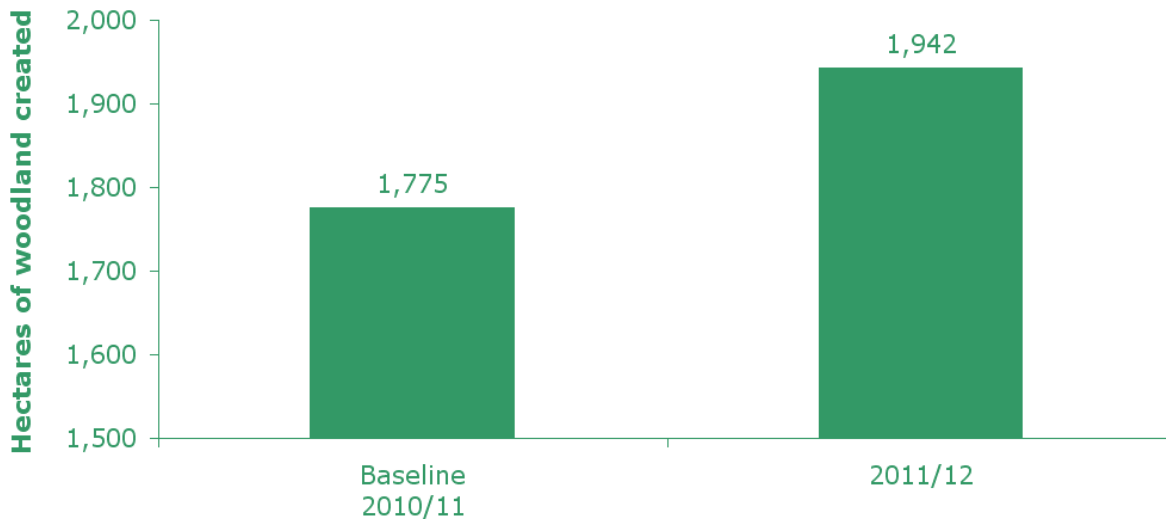
Position at 31 December 2012: 53%.

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.

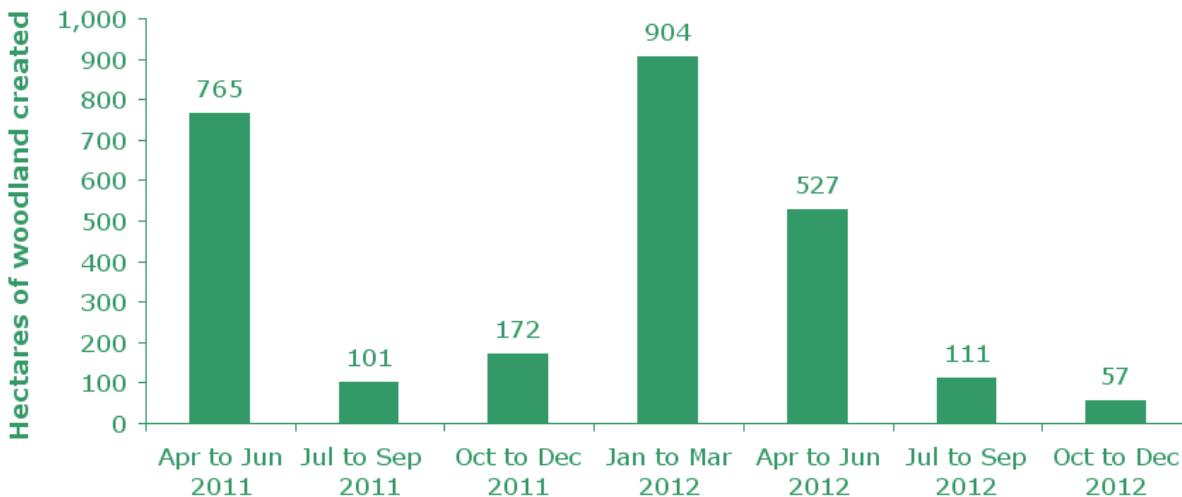
3. Expansion

Impact Indicator: Hectares of woodland created (gross)

Annual achievement



Quarterly achievement

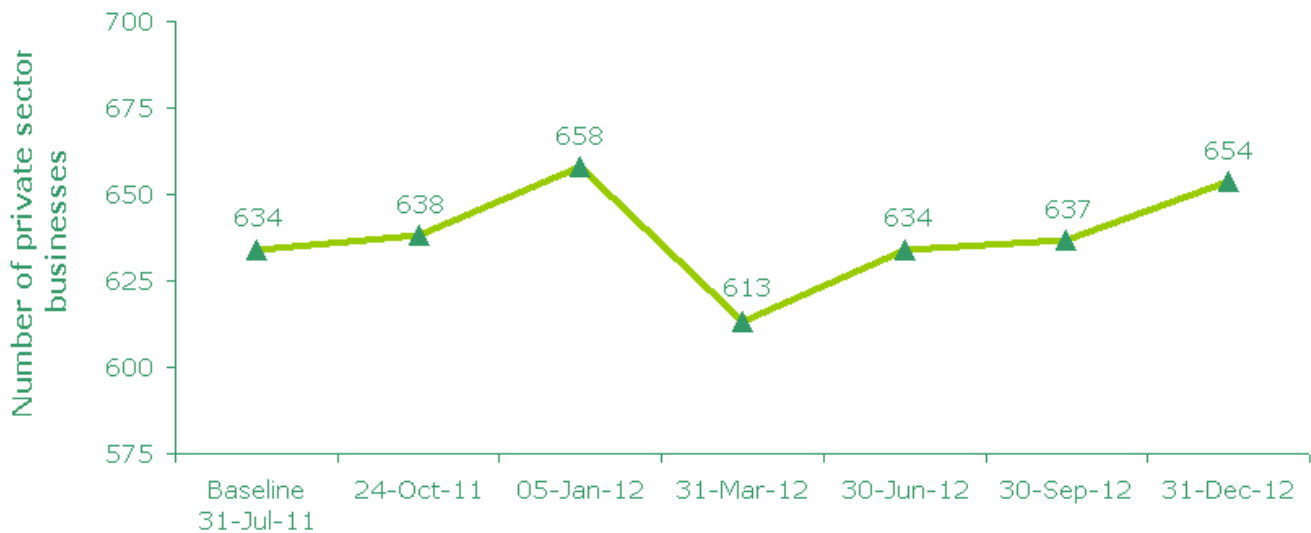


Report for October to December 2012: 57 hectares created.

A dip in the rate of woodland creation for this period was anticipated. Due to the outbreak of *Chalara* Die Back of Ash, it is likely that customers felt uncertainty about what could be planted and a shortage of other species in stock at nurseries.

4. Customer Service

Impact Indicator: Number of private sector businesses operating on the Public Forest Estate

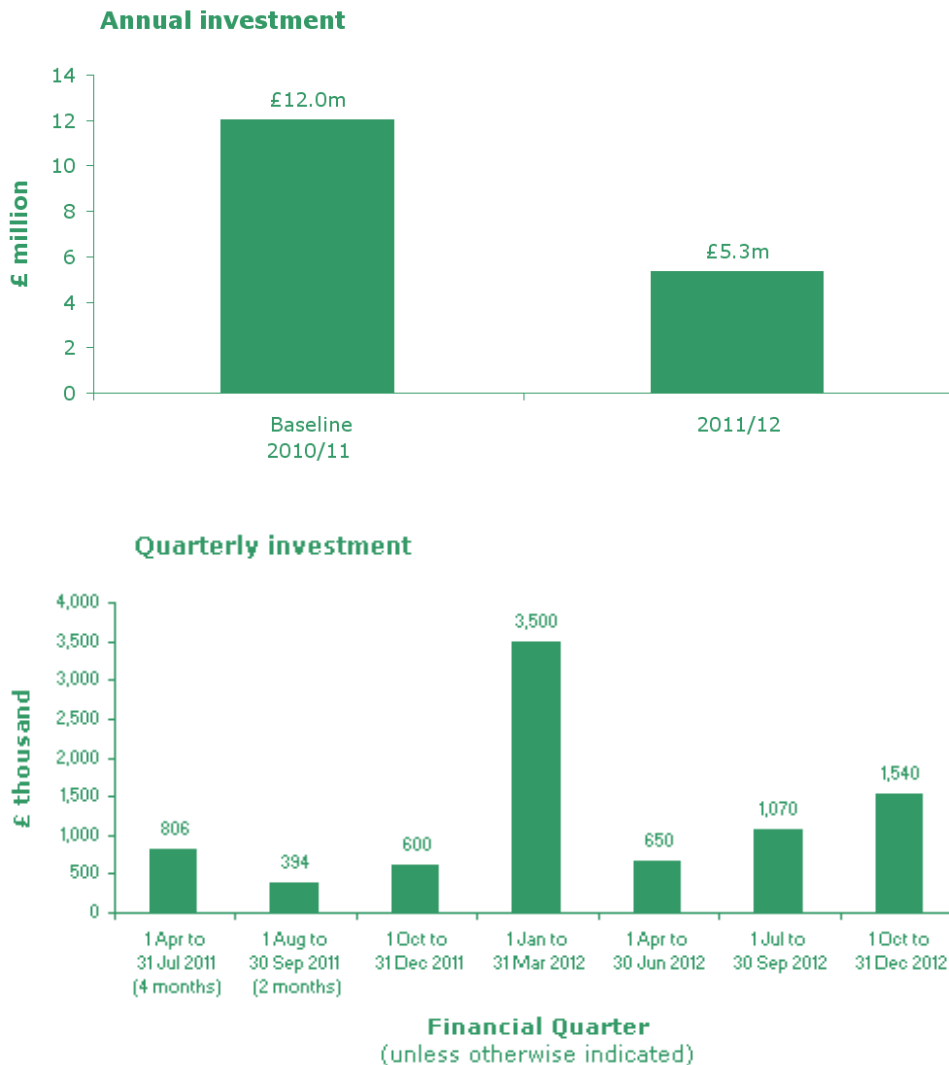


Position at 31 December 2012: 654 private businesses and individuals.

This figure is 2.7% up on the September return, but over the past twelve month period there has been minimal change – from 658. This reflects a steady level of business activity in a rural economy which is slow. Vacant rural business premises on the estate are slow to let.

5. Customer Service

Input Indicator: Cash spent on partnerships and engagement by Forest Services

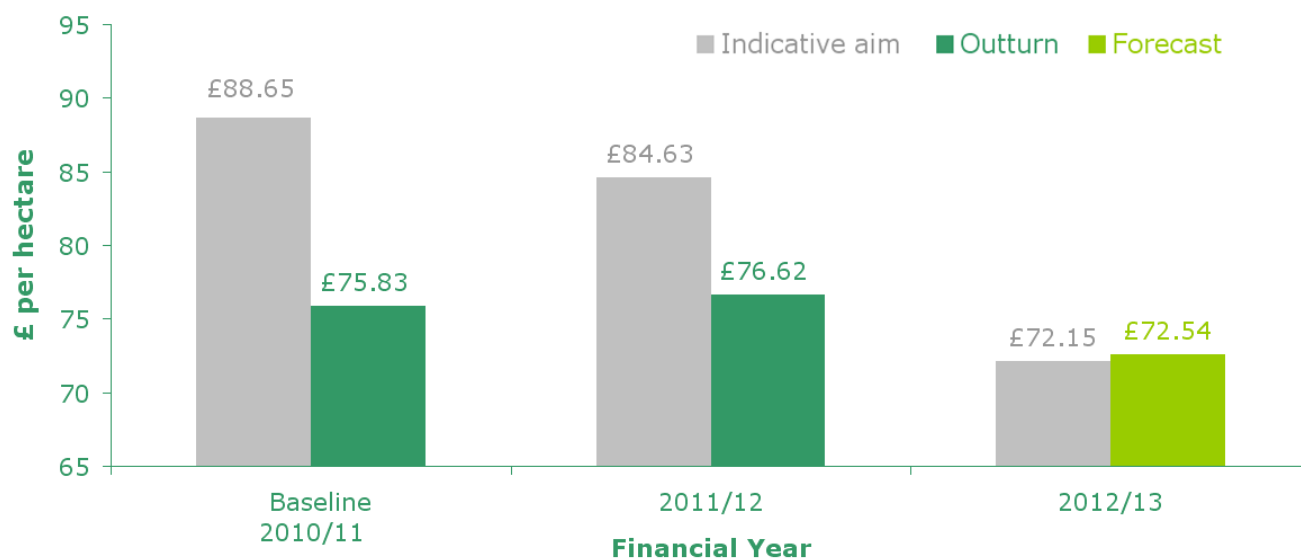


Position at 31 December 2012: £3.26 million of funding provided since the start of 2012/13, out of the current annual forecast of £6.45 million.

The activity levels are again reasonably consistent with previous years at this point in the annual cycle. Investment in the financial year to 31 December 2012 relates to partnership activity funded by the Forestry Commission and other bodies such as the Food and Environment Research Agency. This has included support for plant health (£1.03 million), Woodfuel East (£1.11m), the Deer Initiative (£0.17m), Newlands (£0.48m); and Woodfuel Woodland Improvement Grant (£0.108m). This spend reflects the corporate priorities of protecting, improving and expanding England's woodlands, noting increased focus on tree health and ensuring England has resilient woodlands.

6. Restructuring our Business

Input Indicator: Cost of managing the Public Forest Estate (per hectare)



This indicator is reported biannually. The most recent report was the annual forecast at 30 September 2012.

Forecast for the 2012/13 financial year as at 30 September 2012: £72.54 per hectare against an indicative aim of £72.15 per hectare.

The forecast shows improved position against the 2011/12 outturn.

Published on 5 March 2013