

# FC London work plan for 2015-2016

## 1 Purpose

This plan provides an overview of Forestry Commission activity in London in 2015-2016, how it meets government objectives and how it is achieved.

## 2 Vision

To support the protection, improvement and expansion of London's urban forest, so it delivers multiple benefits and is valued by everyone.

## 3 Policy & Drivers

The [Government Policy Statement on Forestry](#) (Jan 2013) set out the following priorities:

- Protect - including building resilience in the resource and the sector
- Improve - in the quantity and quality of tree and woodland management
- Expand - woodland and tree canopy cover increase

Urban forests provide particularly high public benefits – more than 80% of the UK population live in cities. The FC will also deliver, with partners, the aims of the [London Trees and Woodland Framework](#) - which has synergies with the [FC corporate plan](#) – and is referenced in the [London Plan](#) and supporting documents.

## 4 London context

Some aspects of the Forestry Commission's work in London differ from its core organisational activity but London activity has an impact and influence across other populated areas in the SE and beyond.

## 5 What we will do

### Protection

#### *WP1 - Tree Health*

- Controlling Oak Processionary Moth:
- Support others in tackling other tree health issues
- Promote biosecurity measures to decrease the tree health risk

#### *WP2 – Regulation*

Implementing Forestry Commission regulations (Forestry Act, Environmental Impact, Plant Health, Forest Reproductive Materials and CRoW legislation) to prevent / deal with activities that risk the loss of woodlands or the benefits that they provide.

### *WP3 - Resilience*

I-Tree London project, working with partners to:

- Produce a summary report on the key findings of the 2014 survey
- Ensure the findings are disseminated to target audiences both within and outside the tree sector

## Improve

### *WP4 – Woodlands into Management*

Increasing the area of woodland in management by:

- Producing a report on the ownership and management of London's woodlands
- Promoting the benefits of sustainable woodland management, why tree cutting is good and why management plans are the foundation of sustainability
- Promoting the new Countryside Stewardship scheme and how it can help with management of London's woodlands

## Expand

### *WP5 – Woodland expansion*

- Promote and support delivery of financial incentives such as Countryside Stewardship and alternative funding sources such as the woodland carbon code
- Deliver a woodland creation seminar with partners

## Business Management & Development

Supporting cross sector working through partnerships:

- Support London Tree Week and delivery of London Tree & Woodland Awards
- Aligning priorities and actions with pan London strategies

Where capacity permits, we will also be involved in other activities such as:

- Policy and planning – influencing policy and plan development to ensure the urban forest is appropriately recognised and protected/improved/expanded
- Work standards – influence the development and implementation of good practice
- Data, evidence and advocacy work – produce, share and disseminate information that advocates the benefits of the urban forest, threats to it and action required

## 6 Monitoring and reporting of progress against this plan

We will report on progress to the London Forestry & Woodland Advisory Committee and produce a brief report at the end of the year

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