

## Statistics Work Plan 2012-13 - Outturn

This note reports on progress in 2012-13, by identifying what was achieved for each item in the work plan published in 2012 and any major additional areas of work.

The work plan for 2012-13 was based on a total expected staff resource of 3.0 full-time equivalents (1 Statistician, 1 Assistant Statistician and 1 Administrative Support); this corresponded with the actual staff resource over the year.

### 1. UK Official Statistics publications

<b>Task</b>	<b>Action in 2012-13</b>
Carry out surveys and data collection to cover UK timber industries (February to April), as agreed with Expert Group on Timber & Trade Statistics.	Administration of 2011 surveys completed in April 2012. Response rates were generally lower than in previous years. 2012 surveys issued in January 2013.
UK Wood Production and Trade (provisional figures) first release (May), as in 2011, based on UK industry statistics and surveys and Overseas Trade Statistics.	Published on due date. Release was restructured to implement requirements from the UK Statistics Authority's assessment of forestry statistics.
Timber Price Indices first release (May and November), as in 2011.	Published on due date. Release was restructured to implement requirements from the UK Statistics Authority's assessment of forestry statistics.
Woodland Area, Planting and Restocking first release (June), as in 2011.	Published on due date. Release was restructured to implement requirements from the UK Statistics Authority's assessment of forestry statistics.
Nursery Survey (September), as in 2011.	Published on due date. Release was restructured for consistency with changes to other statistical releases.
Forestry Facts & Figures (September), as in 2011.	Published on due date. Release was restructured to implement requirements from the UK Statistics Authority's assessment of forestry statistics.
Forestry Statistics (September), as in 2011.	Published on due date. Release was restructured to implement requirements from the UK Statistics Authority's assessment of forestry statistics. This included some changes to statistics covered by the release.

# Statistics Work Plan 2012-13 - Outturn

## 1. UK Official Statistics publications (cont)

Task	Action in 2012-13
Methodology developments, including reviewing data availability.	New formal programme of quality reviews initiated, covering surveys and outputs. 1 <sup>st</sup> quality reviews completed January 2013.  New quarterly releases on Woodland Carbon Code Statistics developed. First release issued January 2013.

## 2. Official Statistics for international organisations

Task	Action in 2012-13
Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (provisional May, final September) for timber production and trade, as in 2011.	Data were submitted to Eurostat on time.
Timber Committee Questionnaire (September) for timber production and trade forecasts, as in 2011.	Data were submitted to UNECE on time.
Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounts for Forestry (July) – annual economic data, as in 2011.	Data were submitted to Eurostat on time.
Joint Wood Energy Enquiry – biennial, as in 2010.	Extension to deadline negotiated with UNECE, to allow time for further work on reconciliation of supply and use estimates. Data were submitted to UNECE within agreed extension period.

## 3. Compliance with standards

Task	Action in 2012-13
Develop and maintain statistics documentation to meet the requirements of UK Statistics Authority and GSS guidance	Additional documentation developed and placed on FC statistics web pages, including woodland area methodology note. Revisions and extensions made to quality reports and to Statements of Administrative Sources.

# Statistics Work Plan 2012-13 - Outturn

## 3. Compliance with standards (cont)

Task	Action in 2012-13
Provide advice to others in FC to assist them to identify and develop other official statistics and to comply with the Code of Practice (includes National Forest Inventory, climate change, FC National Offices, Forest Research).	Advice provided, as required, on Official Statistics and the Code of Practice for National Forest Inventory and for indicators produced by FC National Offices.
Implement requirements from the UK Statistics Authority's assessment of FC National Statistics outputs.	All assessment requirements and suggestions implemented. This has resulted in amendments and restructuring to statistical releases and the FC Statistics web pages.
Assist Inventory, Forecasting and Operational Support to prepare for potential National Statistics approval of the National Forest Inventory.	Assessment of National Forest Inventory to be taken forward at a later date.
For Survey Control, advise all parts of FC on possible surveys, and prepare reports to obtain ministerial approval.	Changes to survey control rules have removed the requirement for ministerial approval.

## 4. Statistical services

Task	Action in 2012-13
Support development and reporting of indicators for country forestry strategies (England, Scotland, Wales).	Support provided to FC National Offices on request, including work to investigate differences in data sources for new planting in England.
Commission a 2013 UK Public Opinion of Forestry survey and support FC National Offices and others on commissioned surveys.	Surveys commissioned in UK/ England, Scotland and Wales, following consultation with FC National Offices.
Participate in collaborative household surveys on recreation in Scotland, England and Wales.	Participated in steering groups for Scottish Recreation Survey, Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (England) and the Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey. Also participated in development of, and contractor selection for, new Scotland's People and Nature Survey (to replace SCRS from 2013).

# Statistics Work Plan 2012-13 - Outturn

## 4. Statistical services (cont)

Task	Action in 2012-13
Support on-site visitor monitoring, including All Forests Survey (Scotland), Quality of Experience and local surveys.	Support provided in development of new All Forests Survey (AFS2) to run in Scotland.  Visitor Survey Summary Report 2011 produced.
Support Human Resources Division on diversity monitoring reporting.	Support provided on development of diversity questions for inclusion in UK/ England Public Opinion of Forestry Survey 2013.
Support other parts of the FC by providing statistical advice and analysis (including Native Woodland Survey of Scotland).	Analysis of local authority level data for reports on Native Woodland Survey of Scotland provided to FC Scotland.  Advice provided to National Offices and other parts of FC on a range of issues, including plant health (ash) and the Employee Assistance Programme.
Advise on environmental monitoring and social and economic research.	Input provided to Defra/ FC England on woodland owners segmentation research.
Identify work required and, if appropriate, commission research to improve statistics on wood energy.	This work has been deferred to 2013-14.
Provide input to review of Countryside Survey 2007.	Participated in Steering Group for review.
Provide statistics for other government publications, PQs, researchers, public enquiries.	All requests completed.

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