



Photos (LEFT TO RIGHT): HMP Dartmoor forest management work (FC/Angel Tomney); HMP Winchester scheme: work along the M3 corridor (taken by B. Phelan, FC); Woburn House; HMP Winchester scheme: some clearance to encourage ground vegetation (taken by B. Phelan, FC)

## Offenders and Nature (O&N) Dialogue Day

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2007  
Woburn House, London

This one-day meeting is designed to share knowledge on policy and practice for initiatives across the UK where offenders participate in work placements with nature conservation and forestry public agencies or NGOs (the 'host'). Such Offenders & Nature (O&N) schemes require concerted effort by the host agencies, the Prison and Probation Services and the voluntary sector to make arrangements that help offenders gain confidence outside the prison environment and develop their emotional, mental and physical skills to contribute positively to societal life. By offenders we mean those serving a custodial or non-custodial sentence or placed in a young offenders institute. The event will bring together those already involved in facilitating and running O&N schemes; past participants of such schemes; those interested in developing and promoting such schemes; and those able to provide training programmes and qualifications to offenders interested in land management.

Closer to the event we will circulate a summary document that explains key concepts, the policy context, and introduces some of the already existing O&N schemes. Key speakers will present current thinking and case studies, focusing on the different perspectives and aspects that such work entails. The presentations are kept relatively short to allow plenty of time for discussion and group work. We aim to get a fuller picture of the obstacles encountered in setting up O&N schemes with a view to reducing the lead-in time and supporting the different stages in such projects bearing in mind potential problems and dangers. We also want to get a richer picture of all the positive impacts of O&N initiatives.

The event is organised by the Social and Economic Research Group of Forest Research (SERG, FR) in liaison with the Forestry Commission (FC), Natural England (NE) and the National Offenders Management Service (NOMS), with logistical support provided by Centrevents.

**NOMS** National Offender  
Management Service  
Working together to reduce re-offending



**Home Office**  
Custodial Property



## DRAFT AGENDA

Meeting Room: Main Hall (ground floor)

Chair: Erwin James (Journalist)

09:30 – 10:00 REGISTRATION, TEA & COFFEE

**10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and Overview**

**10:15 – 10:30 Introductions**

**10:30 – 11:15 Plenary 1: How do O&N schemes fit into the wider context of rehabilitation?**

*Speaker 1: Clare Pope, NOMS*

*Speaker 2: Judith Hanna, Natural England*

*Two perspectives – one from an Offender Management official and the other from a Nature Provider – are offered on the role of nature conservation and forest management placements as part of offender rehabilitation. This session focuses on policy-oriented and more conceptual issues and why they are relevant in practice.*

11:15 – 11:40 TEA & COFFEE

**11:40 – 12:25 Plenary 2: What works and which problems have arisen?**

*Speaker 3: Nick Hazlitt, FC England*

*Speaker 4: Eric Allison, Journalist (Guardian Prison Correspondent)*

*This session looks at key aspects to consider when setting up and successfully running O&N schemes. We will hear two frank accounts: one from the perspective of a scheme provider and the other from ex-offenders. Thus, practical aspects form the main focus of this plenary session.*

12:25 – 12:30 Introduction to Morning Workshops

**12:30 – 13:15 Work Session 1: Identifying barriers**

*This group session uses the 'H-Form' or 'Rugby-Post' method to help us evaluate O&N schemes and work through policy and practical issues, especially those that we perceive as barriers. More details on the three themes can be found on the registration form. Please mark your preference for the theme you would like to contribute to.*

Theme 1: Collaboration between agencies

Theme 2: Finding employment

Theme 3: Rehabilitation

13:15 – 14:00 BUFFET LUNCH

**14:00 – 14:45 Plenary 3: 'Eco-Therapy'**

*Speaker 5: Zoe Dingam and Chris Riach, Phoenix Futures*

*Speaker 6: Steven Ellis, Eco-Therapy programme participant*

*The final plenary considers the therapeutic effects of participating in conservation programmes in wildlife rich environments to help substance misusers rehabilitate. The experience and longer-term effects of 'eco-therapy' are given from the perspective of a leading UK drugs charity and a programme participant.*

14:45 – 14:50 Introduction to Afternoon Workshops

**14:50 – 15:45 Work Session 2: Addressing/removing barriers**

*This round will build on the outcomes from the morning work session, taking proposals for change forward into action planning and research proposals. Again we will use a structured way to develop this part. More details on the three themes can be found on the registration form. Please mark your preference for the theme you would like to contribute to.*

Theme 1: Collaboration between agencies

Theme 2: Finding employment

Theme 3: Rehabilitation

15:45 – 16:15 TEA AND COFFEE – Looking at outcomes from work sessions

**16:15 – 16:30 Wrap-up by Chair**

# How to reach Woburn House



- ⊖ Underground station
- Ⓟ Metered parking
- ≡ Train station

Woburn House  
20 Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9HQ  
Tel 020 7419 4111  
Fax 020 7419 5511

## By Underground

**Russell Square** served by Piccadilly line

**Kings Cross/St Pancras** served by Victoria line, Northern line (City branch), Piccadilly line, Hammersmith and City line, Circle line, Metropolitan line

**Euston** served by Victoria line, Northern line (both branches)

**Euston Square** served by Hammersmith and City line, Circle line, Metropolitan line

## By foot from London train terminus

Walking distance from Kings Cross/St Pancras, Euston

By bus from London train terminus

Bus stops for all main line stations are located in Tavistock Square or Euston Station Square forecourt

## By car

There is no car parking at Woburn House. The nearest parking is on metered parking in Tavistock Square. There are also parking meters in neighbouring streets. The nearest long-stay car park is NCP Russell Court on the corner of Woburn Place and Coram Street WC1.

## Entrance to Woburn House

The main entrance to Woburn House is opposite the gardens at the north end of Tavistock Square (also suitable for wheelchair users).

**Registration Form**

Title: .....

Surname: .....

First Name: .....

Position: .....

Department/Section: .....

Employer: .....

Postal Address (work): .....

.....

Postcode: .....

E-mail: .....

Telephone: .....

Mobile: .....

Please indicate which working session theme(s) you are interested in (1 = first choice; 2 = second choice).

Choice:	Session:	
	<b>Collaboration between agencies</b>	<i>Partnership working often makes sense in theory but can be difficult to efficiently and effectively put into practice. We want to critically reflect on past experience and how to facilitate successful collaboration.</i>
	<b>Finding employment</b>	<i>Obtaining skills and qualifications are key to securing meaningful and enjoyable employment. We want to scope different ways and options to help offenders survive in the job market and reduce the chance of reoffending.</i>
	<b>Rehabilitation</b>	<i>The process of rehabilitation includes cognitive, mental and physical aspects, ideally involving protected/specialist as well as community-situated programmes. We want to explore the rich facets that restoring justice entails for offenders and victims and establish criteria to measure and evaluate 'success'.</i>

Please state if you have any special dietary requirements and/or allergies: .....

An induction loop (T system) is available for delegates with hearing difficulties. If you have specific access or auditorium requirements, and would like assistance, please specify here:

Workshop fee (includes lunch and refreshments): **£35**

Please tick your preferred payment option

- Payment by cheque** *Please enclose cheque made payable to 'Centrevent'*
- Payment by invoice** *Please state the name and contact address here if other than above:*

Your order number:

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Please return this registration form by post, fax or e-mail before Tuesday 30th January 2007 to:

**Centrevent, PO Box 2100, Shoreham by Sea BN43 5UG**  
**Fax. 01273 441676**  
**E-mail: geoff@centrevents.co.uk**