

Document Name	Project Initiation Document
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Project	Woodland Carbon Task Force Project 3: Policy that supports woodland creation.
Master file	<<file:/// T:\Policy and Programmes Group\9 Climate Change\Woodland Carbon Taskforce\WCTF Governance\WCTF Constructing the Programme\Project 3 Policy

Distribution	Dominic Driver	Programme Senior Responsible Officer
	Mark Broadmeadow	Project Manager
	Nigel Hobday	Project Support

Change History

Version	Date	Nature of revision	Author(s)
1	05/05/10	First Outline	DD
1.1	07/05/10	Deliverables, critical success factors and headline budget estimates provided	MB
1.2	26/05/10	Edited by NH	NH
2	01/06/10	Edited by DD	DD
3	20/08/10	Updated by MB to provide timelines and link actions and budget to outcomes	MB
3.1	27/08/10	Further detail added	MB
4	27/09/10	Alignment with budget spreadsheet and incorporation of NEW pilot project, transferred from project 5	MB
5a	17/05/11	FY11-12 update for external release	MB

Project Start Date 12 May 2010

Project Completion Date 31 March 2012

1 Project Purpose:

To develop and communicate a refreshed policy statement on woodland expansion and a spatial framework showing where woodland creation would best deliver carbon and other co-benefits; embed the principles of woodland creation and management to meet climate change (and other) objectives within wider local, sub-national and national Government.

2. Background:

This is one of six projects within a programme being run by the Woodland Carbon Task Force.

The WCTF is a multi-disciplinary team to establish the conditions for significant private sector investment in woodland creation alongside increased supply and demand of woodfuel and greater uptake of sustainable forest management practice.

3. Project mandate:

The project has been agreed by the Programme Senior Responsible Officer with delegated authority from the Programme Sponsor.

4. Project Outcomes:

The outcomes of the project are:

- the strong, in principle, support for more tree planting is translated into strong practical support for more woodland creation;
- the role that new and existing woods and forests have in climate change mitigation is recognised as real and significant by key audiences; and
- woodland creation is embedded in the wider integrated land use debate in England and being reflected in an enhanced tree planting programme.

5. Critical success factors

If the Programme is to be deemed a success it must have achieved the outcomes set out above and also have established:

Broad stakeholder agreement as to where to plant appropriate woodland types for the right reason in the right place;

Acceptance that the location of new woodland should be based on opportunities for delivering co-benefits rather than constraints on planting; support in place to support targeting for delivery of co-benefits;

Articulation and broad acceptance of any disparities between FC, NE and EA positions on woodland creation;

Woodland creation and management embedded in local, sub-national and national Government approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

6. Project Scope

The project should establish broad, high level, principles that articulate where it is appropriate to plant individual woodland types to meet specific objectives. These principles should feed into national and regional prioritisation of the use of available public funding for woodland creation. Urban and peri-urban woodland is within scope, but street trees are out of scope, apart from their contribution to the communication of the wider benefits of tree planting to society.

7. Project Deliverables

Broad stakeholder agreement on woodland creation

A) Policy position statement on woodland creation in England. *Outcome: Broad agreement, at national scale, of the benefits of woodland creation and its embedding within the wider land use debate.*

B) High level spatial framework to guide the delivery of an enhanced woodland creation programme and inform forestry regulatory processes. *Outcome: Acceptance by Government, civil society and landowners that England's landscape has the capacity to absorb a significant level of woodland creation.*

Approach to targeting based on opportunities and co-benefits defined

C) Over-arching GIS resource to support decision-making at local, sub-national and national levels. *Outcome: Agreement at local and sub-national level on the extent, nature, location and purpose of new woodland followed by increased tree-planting activity.*

D) An improved targeting approach for woodland creation to deliver public benefit. *Outcome: Strong support for woodland creation, including in current and future Rural Development Programmes.*

Woodland creation and management embedded in local and sub-national approaches to mitigation and adaptation

E) Published case study of Local authority led woodland creation initiative. *Outcome: Establishment of other Local Authority-led woodland creation initiatives, in part, financed through planning and development funding.*

F) Published case study of successful sub-national woodland creation initiative. *Outcome: Translation of broad consensus on woodland creation into practical action.*

8. Assumptions / Constraints

8.1 Financial - indicative

2010/11: £23k

2011/12: £63k

2012/13: tbc (within overall WCTF budget of £180k)

2013/14: tbc (within overall WCTF budget of £120k)

8.2 **Time** – start date 1st September 2010, end date 31 March 2014

8.2 Staff Resource

Mark Broadmeadow (20%); David Cross (10%); regional staff (tbc); Programme Office support.

9. Interfaces

As for Programme Initiation Document. In addition, the following interfaces are relevant:

- Natural Environment White Paper;
- CLG's Allowable Solutions for 'Zero Carbon Homes' and 'Zero Carbon Developments';
- WCTF Projects 1, 2 & 5;
- Defra's CAP reform/RDPE post-2013 process;
- Water Framework Directive second planning cycle.

10. Outline Business Case: why this project is needed?

The scale of woodland creation aspired to could result in conflict or perceived conflict with other land-uses. We need a high quality policy statement and spatial framework developed through stakeholder engagement to ensure that this conflict is minimised. The spatial framework will serve two functions: (1) provide a strategic demonstration of the capacity of England's landscape to absorb a significant level of woodland creation providing a broad range of co-benefits; (2) at sub-national and local level, provide a framework for discussions of the extent, nature, location and purpose of new woodlands.

11. Sub-projects

2011/12

Sub-project	Budget	Type	Product/date
Northwest manifesto pilot project	27	Salary	Report 31/03/12
Northwest manifesto pilot project	6	Cash	
NNCSF pilot project	10	Cash	Report 31/03/12
Spatial targeting support	20	Cash	GIS tool, 31/03/12

2012/13 onwards – projects for mainstreaming that arise from 11/12 work.

12. Project governance:

Programme Senior Responsible Officer – Dominic Driver

Project Manager – Mark Broadmeadow

13. **Risks**

A summary of risks are detailed in the Programme Risk Register.

14. **Communications.**

Communications activity is summarised in the communications strategy.