

Sustainability Report

Overview

Forest Research continues its support of ISO 14001 and successfully received its renewed certification in June 2013. This renewal was overseen by independent assessors and is valid, subject to ongoing compliance and assessment, for the next three years.

Over the past year, we have continued our efforts to reduce our environmental impact. We have installed new, energy-efficient boilers at our offices at the Northern Research Station (near Edinburgh) and Alice Holt (Surrey), and fitted over 100 double glazed windows at Alice Holt. We fully expect that these measures will help reduce our future energy demands and make the buildings easier to heat, warmer and more pleasant places to work. On a day-to-day basis, Forest Research continues to reduce its environmental impact wherever possible. This includes reducing business travel and using alternative mechanisms such as Skype, video conferencing and teleconferencing. Business sustainability remains a standing agenda item at the regular meetings of the Site Management Committees, at which all teams are represented.

The Reporting Requirements table gives information on travel, energy, waste and water. Reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, energy use and waste reflect the combination of past and present investment in new facilities (such as the installation of more-efficient gas boilers) and the ongoing efforts of staff to consider how they carry out their day-to-day business activities. Waste figures are much reduced; the high levels in the previous year were a result of the demolition of buildings and construction of new offices at Alice Holt. Water usage has increased as a result of the nature of the research that we are undertaking, with increasing use of irrigation systems in nurseries and greenhouses, and humidifying systems in new growth rooms.

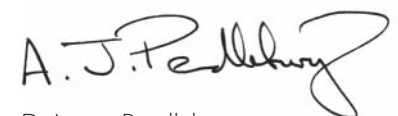
Financial and non-financial information

We present the following information in a format consistent with HM Treasury's Sustainable Reporting guidance.

Reporting requirements

Performance measurement		2013-14 Performance		2012-13 Performance	
Area		Actual (Qty/Cost)	Target	Actual (Qty/Cost)	Target
Travel (including national and international air/rail travel)	Amount (tonnes CO ₂ e)	339	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% reduction on baseline (actual: 6% decrease) 	361	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% reduction on baseline (actual: 6% increase)
	Expenditure	£451,644		£402,992	
Electricity, gas and other heating fuels (Estate)	Consumption (kWh)	2,659,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12% reduction on baseline (actual: 5% decrease) 	2,798,171	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12% reduction on baseline (actual 8% increase)
	Expenditure	£188,830		£155,191	
Total energy ¹	Expenditure	£640,474		£558,183	
Estate and office waste ²	Amount (tonnes)	204	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 20% landfill (actual: 9%) • ≥ 80% recycling (actual: 94%) • Nil incinerated • 10% overall reduction in weight (actual: 67% decrease) 	626	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 20% landfill (actual: 9%) • ≥ 80% recycling (actual: 90%) • 1% incinerated • 10% overall reduction in weight (actual 44% increase)
	Expenditure	£15,646		£110,612	
Estate and office water	Quantity used (m ³)	9,681	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8% reduction on baseline (actual: 15% increase) 	8,414	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8% reduction on baseline (actual 20% increase)
	Expenditure	£11,475		£8,682	

¹ Total energy is the fossil fuel consumption of the built estate (heating and lighting, etc.) and the CO₂ from travel.
² Waste includes sewage and WEEE.



Dr James Pendlebury
 Chief Executive
 27 May 2014