

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

1. The Programme Board has been formed to have an overview of the administration and science of Red Band Needle Blight (RBNB), to underpin decisions made and the policy adopted by government on all aspects of the diseases, in particular:
 - Detection, management and containment
 - Development and implementation of EU and GB legislation
 - Co-ordination and harmonisation of measures taken by the other UK Plant Health administrations and the Forestry Commission
 - Research programmes and associated projects on aspects of the detection identification, biology, management and understanding of the diseases
 - Determination and understanding of the impacts on forest industries

Remit

2. Among its functions will be;
 - discussion of developments
 - reports to Ministers, FC GB Executive Board and Biosecurity Programme Board
 - providing feedback to interested stakeholders
 - commissioning of studies, if necessary
 - determining research priorities and securing resources through the PAG process
 - monitoring progress of research projects
 - oversee the production of a communication strategy
3. The group will meet every six months, before the PAG rounds are held (ie in February and September), or more frequently if events so determine.
4. Members are: Roger Coppock (Chair), Michael Ansell, Anna Brown, Les Bryson, Roddie Burgess, Hugh Clayden, Chris Inglis (ConFor), Brian Mahony, Andrew Smith, Clive Thomas, Debbie Erskine (Secretary)
5. The group may call on experts in particular fields to attend to discuss subjects in their area of competence.