

West Midlands Regional Forestry Framework
GROWING OUR FUTURE
2008-2011 UPDATED
DELIVERY PLAN

Welcome to Growing our Future 2008-2011 UPDATED.

This Delivery Plan reflects the monitoring responses and research carried out indicating what lead partners and stakeholders think should be done with regards to Trees, Woods and Forestry benefiting those living in, working in and visiting the West Midlands. This rolling plan refreshes and updates the original 2008-2011 Delivery Plan and is a temporary document for use whilst the Forestry Framework is being refreshed. Once the revised Framework has been agreed then a full three-year rolling plan will again be in place.

Each theme has a number of objectives that the stakeholders will be striving to achieve. Again, each objective has a number of accompanying activities which are set out in the tables. These vary in their complexity; some only require one activity; others require a variety of actions. Your help is now required in assisting with the delivery ensuring that through your activity, expertise and commitment we can achieve the vision for trees, woodland and forestry in the West Midlands.

With each objective and series of activities are the following;

- Pointers as to who will be lead partner(s) and therefore responsible for seeing the work is carried out
- These lead partners and partnership groups are only identified in the first instance but in practice a wide range of stakeholders will be typically involved
- Target and success indicators that will allow effective monitoring to take place; and we intend using a traffic light system [Red, Amber, Green] to monitor ongoing progress/barriers as the implementation continues

We encourage you to play your part and collectively this will continue to make a real difference, helping to ensure that our trees and woodlands enrich our lives whilst securing their long term future.

An electronic version of the Growing our Future Delivery Plan 2008-2011 UPDATED will shortly be available for downloading from our www.growingourfuture.org website where news and information, including the work of the Task Groups, is also stored. Should you wish to discuss the detail more fully then please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Theme 1 Woodland Cover		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To inform and encourage development of woodlands using landscape character assessment tools at landscape and site scales to enhance diversity and distinctiveness To protect, manage and enhance existing trees and woodlands To create new woodlands (urban and rural and develop associated targeting To use trees and woodlands to enhance local distinctiveness and sense of place 							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
WC1	To increase significantly regional woodland cover linked to the Regional Spatial Strategy	1.1	Support new planting through sourcing and distributing woodland creation grants		No. hectares planted over three years	FC, NFC, NE	X	X	X
		1.2	Input to strategies for greenspace and any task groups that will result in increasing the stock and health of rural/urban trees		RSS Review Phase III and GIPs for Growth Points & Ecotowns	GIP, NE, FC NFC	X	X	X
		1.3	Encourage the use of indigenous and local provenance stock		% increase year on year of nursery stock production	FC,NFC, NE	X	X	X
WC2	To collaborate in developing more precise targeting for woodland creation	2.1	Ongoing development of the woodland opportunities map/atlas for the region		Launch of additional versions	WMWFF (WOM)	X	X	X
		2.2	Production of the annual EWGS grants prospectus with West Midlands information as regional version/page		Publication each year	FC	X	X	X
		2.3	Developing more effective targeting for woodland creation utilising the Woodlands Opportunities Map		Targeting improved year on year	FC,RAC	X	X	X
WC3	To develop the landscape characterisation process mapping the character of woodlands	3.1	Complete character assessments for the whole region, with the production of guidelines		Guidelines and Character Area Framework available	NE EH	X		
		3.2	Apply assessment to new woodland and areas of woodland management as part of the wider consideration process		100% applied to all EWGS & ESS applications	FC, NE		X	X
		3.4	Develop succession plans for landscape features such as veteran trees, parkland, wood pasture		% coverage of land holding with plans	WMWFF	X	X	X

WC4	To raise the profile of trees and woodlands in relation to the historic environment	4.1	Increase awareness of the historic environment value through active support by agencies and develop programme of protection and management		West Midlands Historic Environment Strategy developed/implemented	EH	X	X	X
		4.2	Promote and support an improved knowledge base of historic environment assets and develop appropriate training and management skills		Expanded knowledge base and data sets; Training and management standards developed	EH, NE	X	X	X
WC5	To promote actively the contribution that woodland and forestry makes to the culture of those living in the West Midlands	5.1	Contribute to the revision of the Regional Spatial Strategy Culture, Sport & Tourism ensuring that the role of trees, woodland and forestry cultural benefits become embedded		Strengthened role within the Strategy and Action Plan	WMWFF (WOM)	X	X	
		5.2	Highlight opportunities through the first-class exemplars provided by FC Estate and other networks and partner stakeholders		Art Music Dance Sport Recreation	FC, Social Forestry Task Group	X	X	X
WC6	To promote woodland and forestry in support of regeneration and development	6.1	Promote sustainable developments set within well-designed green space influencing Community Strategies, regeneration initiatives, Local Development Plans and associated plans to secure appropriate increase in woodland on brownfield sites and other land		No of contributions to consultations and studies, e.g. RSS Phase Three, City Regions, Sub regional LDF's, LAA's, etc	WMWFF (WOM) NFC Phase Three Working Group	X	X	X
		6.2	Use Landscapes for Living and WOM information to inform plans, strategies and regeneration initiatives		No of assessments and consultation reports annually	FC, NE	X	X	X
		6.3	Ensure continued support and development of initiatives such as the National Forest, Forest of Mercia, and Heartwoods; applying lessons learned to new programmes and projects		Partnership funding identified and leverage calculated, case studies	FC & Funding partners	X	X	X
		6.4	Realise the potential for creating woodlands along transport corridors		Km planted on all Highways Agency routes	WMRA	X	X	X

Theme 2 The Woodland and Forestry Industry		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To encourage the development of a long-term business plan for the woodland and forestry sector 2. To work towards the sector being viable, dynamic and competitive 3. To promote the role of woodland and forestry in the effective delivery of public benefits							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
WFI1	To improve the efficiency and viability of the woodland and forestry sector	1.1	Taking a strategic approach develop a work programme for the expert task group that will raise awareness and develop mechanisms that provide a supportive environment for timber-related businesses; for business support and advice on silviculture, markets, value-added opportunities and grants		Work programme developed Planned activity with partners meeting targets and milestones	WFITG	X		
		1.2	Review the report and recommendations of the EFIP Study – embedding activities into the regional Delivery Plan and task group action plan		Recommendations reviewed & embedded Targets set & met	WFITG	X	X	X
		1.3	Identify existing small and micro-businesses, assess their vulnerability and help them maximise their longer term viability		Annual Business Health Checks: Survival rates of woodland and timber-related SMEs increasing	AWM, FC	X	X	X
WFI2 EB4	To achieve exemplary management of assets through UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)	2.1	Best practice management for woodland and forests on all publicly owned land		FSC monitoring for compliance	FC, NE	X	X	X
		2.2	Active promotion of good practice for: • Silviculture and sustainability • Biodiversity conservation and enhancement • Ancient & Native Woodlands • Environmental and planning benefit		• Targets set & met • A&NW TG targets • GIP TG targets	FC and Task Groups	X	X	X
		2.3	Increased forest and chain of custody certification using UKWAS as central component of forest certification programmes operated in the UK		% increases year on year of woodland, and forestry businesses & organisations gaining certification % increases of area of woodland cover under certification	Woodland owners & businesses Woodland owners	X	X	X

WFI3	To develop new opportunities	3.1	Contribute to the RDP(E) RIP development and delivery		Funding secured for forestry projects 2008-2013	WMWFF, NE, FC, AWM	X	X	X
		3.2	Contribute to the action planning of the revised Strategy for England's Trees Woods and Forests to ensure that the woodland & forestry industries are supported in terms of the economic, environmental and social benefits supplied		ETWF Launch 2007	FC, NE WMWFF	X		
					Delivery Plan implemented	WFI Task Group	X	X	X
		3.3	Contribute to the development and reviews of high level regional strategies and policies to ensure that using more wood, especially local wood and availability of supplies becomes a high priority		RSS III; WMES Delivery; % increase in procurement policies specifying locally sourced wood and wood products	FC, NE WMWFF	X X X	X X X	X
WFI4 EB7	To develop sustainable woodland and forestry markets, products and enterprises	4.1	Continue to develop an active market for both traditional and innovative forest products in order to contribute fully to the economic prosperity of the region		% increase sawmilling and processing capacity	AWM, WFI Task Group FC	X	X	X
					% increase demand for regionally produced wood products	X	X	X	
					% increase by woodland & forestry sector to changes in regional economy	X	X	X	
					% increase in non-forest products	X	X	X	
		4.2	Encourage co-operation between growers to develop long term supply contracts to provide continuity and stability in timber markets		Action plans/project proposals developed, resourced and implemented	X	X	X	
		4.3	Encourage the development of supply chain clusters to ensure availability and quality of supply		Action plans/project proposals developed, resourced and implemented	X	X	X	

WF15	To encourage effective use of and interaction with advice and incentive mechanisms, and adaptation to working within a changing policy, regulation and incentive framework	5.1	To establish a comprehensive business development advisory service available for the sector across the whole of the region	Service established and attracting buy-in from the sector	AWM	X	X	X
		5.2	Establish fast-tracking processes and quick information highways to reduce bureaucratic burden	Customer satisfaction surveys	FC, NE, Woodland Initiatives	X	X	X
		5.3	Raise awareness of opportunities and incentives through various national, regional and local funding: like RDP(E) Axis 1-4, EWGS, ESS, Natural Assets , SITA, Sub Regional – SD AONB, BIG, HLF and others	Actual uptake of available funds secured	FC, WMWFF NE	X	X	X
WF16 EB6	To secure the integration of agri-environment, woodland and forestry and rural delivery mechanisms	6.1	Improve understanding of the effects of CAP reform on land management across the region to enable informed decisions to be made on targeting of support	Effective support available for the management of land in ways which minimise adverse impacts on the environment	EA, NE, FC, EH	X	X	X
		6.2	Engage with Rural Delivery Framework and its successor to ensure the delivery of rural services are as smart, as fair and as streamlined as possible	Monitoring & Evaluation	AWM, WMRAF	X	X	X
		6.3	Partners to align corporate and business plans to ensure integration and landscape scale interaction	Level of integration through woodland, environmental stewardship and other grant schemes	FC, NE	X	X	X
WF17 EB11	To raise the levels of skills and knowledge to enable exemplary woodland management	7.1	Ensure that support mechanisms are in place in order to maintain a resilient and innovative forest industry sector	Uptake of business and learning support services	AWM, RSLG	X	X	X
		7.2	Provide accessible training and continued professional development, upskilling of the existing workforce to meet the created demand	Enrolment figures; VTS, LSC and other funding secured	Lantra, Training Providers	X	X	X
		7.3	Assist employers in sourcing fit for purpose qualifications and appropriately skilled labour	No. of Apprenticeships Recruitment & retention figures; new training courses run	SSCs, AWM LSC	X	X	X

Theme 3 Wood Energy		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To move wood energy from a minor activity to a recognised niche market 2. To make a significant contribution to West Midlands energy supply for business, public sector and domestic markets							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
WE1	To improve awareness, understanding and support for wood energy	1.1	Development of the Implementation Plan for England Woodfuel Strategy and any regional iteration		Delivery Plan	NE, FC	X	X	
		1.2	Continue to support the thriving Wood Energy Task Group and their work programme		Thriving network continuing 2006-9	WETG, NE, BioEnergyWM	X	X	X
		1.3	Expansion of the demonstration and study tour programme focusing on new groups of potential adopters covering practical aspects of installing and running and on the benefits to the environment	Two high quality demonstrations per year; one study tour	BioenergyWM FC WETG	X	X	X	
				Marketing strategy adopted	BioenergyWM	X	X	X	
		1.4	Improve engagement with key sectoral stakeholders; planners, consultants, architects, specifiers and building managers	At least one targeted event per year	BioenergyWM	X	X	X	
				Key facts and figures publication	BioenergyWM WETG, FC	X	X	X	
		1.5	Monitor training needs across supply chain including installation; developing bespoke training packages as required	Training Needs Analysis	WETG		X	X	
No. of specialist course(s) developed	LSC, Lantra Heartwoods, BioenergyWM			X	X	X			
1.6	Influence LAs/county councils and planning departments, persuading them to consider wood fuel and combined heat and power plants – especially in rural settings	Three focused promotions per year linked to target groups	BioenergyWM FC, WETG	X	X	X			
WE2	To develop an integrated wood supply for the wood energy industry	2.1	Update the data on wood supply sources in the region including sources of wood residues and sawdust from manufacturing		Production of Supplier's list with annual updates	FC, WETG, MWFL	X	X	X

		2.2	Promote quality assurance for wood chip and pellet grading thus enabling wood to go to the most appropriate supply stream		Paper published and results disseminated	FC (BEC)	X	X	X
		2.3	Promote options for establishing a pelletisation plant in the region		Findings published	AWM	X	X	
		2.4	Continue to promote the establishment of local depots so that wood residues and products can be graded and supplied to appropriate customers		Increase in the no. of depots in WM	Delivery Agents	X	X	X
		2.5	Review composition of the WETG to ensure full representation across the supply chain – ensuring linkages with Recycling Task Group when re-convened		Alignment and co-ordination of activity with Bio-EnergyWM and Recycling Task Group	FC, BioenergyWM	X	X	X
WE3	To help new initiatives and share knowledge for creating a market	3.1	Establish targets for public sector installations including schools, swimming pools, hospitals, sports centres and other large public buildings		10% renewables in new developments adopted as regional target; 25% LGAs with biomass installations by 2009	Local Authorities, WMRA/LGA, WETG	X	X	X
		3.2	Identify and target suitable new builds, existing buildings and light industrial units in the private sector		25% WM LGA areas with biomass installations by 2009	Local Authorities, WMLGA	X	X	X
		3.3	Continue to develop local infrastructure by encouraging local wood fuel supply/user clusters		Establishment of three rural and one urban cluster by 2009	WETG	X	X	X
		3.4	Promote funding available, identify funding gaps and opportunities for regional incentive schemes including those that may arise from the Bio-Fuels Task Force recommendations		Assessment of inward investment levels, partnership funding and potential leverage e.g. BIG Lottery Renewable Energy Programme	BioenergyWM WETG & Delivery Agents Regional Energy Office (from 2009)	X	X	X

Theme 4 Recycling		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To see all stakeholders in the woodland and forestry sector minimise waste and re-cycle as a matter of course 2. To develop closer working between energy and re-cycling 3. To set goals and advance wood-recycling action							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
ReC1	To gather and share information	1.1	Seek to re-launch the Recycling Task Group through scoping and developing the network and appropriate work programme, linking to the wood energy programme		Task Group re-developed	WMWFF Task Group, WRAP	X	X	X
ReC2	To develop opportunities to promote waste minimisation and re-cycling	2.1	Gathering information, facilitating activity and signposting for stakeholders		Improved customer focus for businesses and stakeholders	WMWFF Task Group	X	X	X
		2.2	Update the data on recycled wood supply sources in the region		Production of Suppliers' list with annual updates	WMWFF Task Group	X	X	X
		2.3	Develop the recycling advocacy role of Woodland & Forestry Forum stakeholders and their networks		No. of awareness raising events held; No. of briefings	WMWFF Task Group	X	X	X
		2.4	Continue to expand the work with children and young people as part of the FEI and Forest Schools initiatives to include recycling in their work programmes		% increase in no. of schoolchildren on WM public estate woodlands for educational purposes	FC	X	X	X
		2.5	Link with the construction sector to re-use local timber, especially in building restoration programmes		% increase in recycled timber	FC, RegenWM WRAP	X	X	X
		2.6	Encourage businesses to link into the Waste Resources Action Programme and other regional initiatives		Reduction in number of environmental risk incidents	WMWFF Task Group	X	X	X

		2.7	Embed timber-related issues into the Regional Waste Strategy		Regional Waste Strategy	FC	X		
		2.8	Encourage public bodies to be specific about timber-related issues in their recycled targets		No. of published/refreshed policies	WMWFF Task Group	X	X	X
ReC3	To develop recycling activity	3.1	Encourage development and awareness of new waste recycling technologies and initiatives		Dissemination programme	WMWFF Task Group	X	X	X
		3.2	Devise an action plan for timber recycling connected with new and current markets		Action Plan implemented		X	X	X
		3.3	Provision of skills, training and business support for work force development		No. of relevant training courses; training packages developed		X	X	X
		3.4	Build business engagement in identifying and sourcing waste and recycled products for the region's emerging industrial symbiosis businesses		% decrease in landfill		X	X	X
		3.5	Identify and promote best practice exemplars suitable for replication throughout the region		At least three per year		X	X	X
		3.6	Co-ordination of best practice and demonstration events		At least three per year		X	X	X
		3.7	Identify and seek funding to support suitable environmental technology research – materials, production and processing, packaging and distribution driven		Investment quantified		X	X	X

Theme 5 Recreation and Tourism		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To work for the woodland and forestry sector to become recognised as a significant contributor to the region's recreation and leisure opportunities To encourage a greater support to the economy through development of woodland and forestry tourism in the region To increase opportunities for all West Midlands' residents to enjoy the woodlands and forests To reduce pressure and protect environmental assets in some places by developing opportunities in others 							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
RT1	To agree and secure commitment to work towards a standard and priorities for local community access	1.1	Progress the work on Woods for People and other sources to define a vision and priorities for accessible woodland in the region, and contribute to further work on the woodland opportunities maps		Version II and III iterations of the Opportunities Map	WT, NE	X	X	X
		1.2	Address community access priorities through the development of Rights of Way Improvement Plans		Consultation responses through community involvement in ROWIPs	Local Authorities, AONBs, LAFs, NE	X	X	X
RT2	To embed the Framework in regional cultural and tourism strategies	2.1	Develop the relationship between the woodland and forestry sector and those responsible for tourism and cultural strategies using WFF partners as advocates		Presentation to Tourism West Midlands;	FC, TWM WMWFF FC, TWM WMWFF	X	X	
		2.2	Develop a handbook for woodlands and tourism providing ideas and examples of how to work together to attract more visitors and more spend in the region		Handbook published and distributed	FC, TWM		X	
		2.3	Develop a handbook for woodlands and culture providing ideas and examples of how to work together to attract better engagement with communities and visitors improving their quality of life.		Handbook published and distributed	FC,			X
RT3	To develop tourism opportunities	3.1	Link woodland management, wood products and services to regional and sub-regional brands, including certification to add value		Compilation of a directory of products and services	WMWFF, Woodland Initiatives		X	

RT3	To develop tourism opportunities <i>(continued)</i>	3.2	Improve and develop the facilities and infrastructure of targeted woodlands as key visitor attractions and education facilities for the region, and get these recognised as such by West Midlands Life and Visit Heart of England	EWGS uptake; FC investment and franchise agreements; Number of Educational and Event days held; Best Practice examples published (3/year)	FC, WT, Woodland Initiatives	X X X X	X X X X	X X X X
		3.3	Improve the image of the region and support tourism by encouraging the greening of transport corridors, including waterways	Continued support for the Green Infrastructure Planning Task Group Action Plan; Contribution to RSS Phase II and III Reviews	WMWFF GIP	X X	X X	X X
		3.4	Encourage short break visits to woodlands and woodland-based activities by collaboration with other providers and by targeting promotional activity at key markets	Representation and influence on evolving Destination Management Partnerships; No. of visits; take-up of woodland activities and training courses	FC, TWM	X	X	X
		3.5	Expand the opportunities of woodland (field) sporting potential and encourage investment	RDP(E) Axis I funding; Visitor spend; % increase in franchise agreements	FC	X	X	X
		RT4	To take up opportunities for long-term public access	4.1	Identify areas for inclusion within the woodland opportunities map, where there are opportunities for increased access and interpretation and the potential to generate income through woodland access, linking woodlands with other public access land and encouraging owners to make Section 16 dedications	EWGS uptake; Further iterations of Woodland Opportunities Map; Medium to longer distance or circular footpaths identified in the ROWIPs throughout the region	FC, NE WMWFF WOM Local Authorities	X X

Theme 6 Health & Wellbeing		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To secure recognition, understanding and commitment at a strategic level for the contribution of woodland and forestry to the health and wellbeing of the West Midlands' residents 2. To develop woodland-based health opportunities for people living in, working in and visiting the region							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
HW1	To maximise the use of woodland and forestry to deliver a healthier region (both physically, mentally and spiritually)	1.1	Identify and develop a system, for example through the Regional Observatory, to update routinely data and understanding on health and woodland and forestry, including assessing benefits from GP recommendations		Funding secured to commission work; Toolkit developed in collaboration with PAN-WM Research Group to monitor and measure physical activity interventions	DoHWM, and PAN-WM, NE	X	X	
		1.2	Encourage development of Regional Health Strategy and action plan that includes woodland and forestry; collating response to Consultation on behalf of WMWFF		Regional Health & Wellbeing Strategy published 2007. Implementation of Action Plan; Monitoring indicators developed	WMWFF, FC, NE	X	X	
		1.3	Advise community plans to include care of existing trees, increasing numbers of trees and optimising locations in streets and open spaces to maximise health and well being. Ensure CRN Report 'A Countryside for Health & Well-Being' is used in forthcoming health related events as appropriate		WMWFF has fed into Regional Health Strategy consultation and Woodland & Forestry consideration is included in the strategy delivery plan	WMWFF NE	X	X	X
		1.4	Continue to use flagship initiatives: 'Route to Health' and 'Active Woods' campaigns as exemplar projects.		Number of Case Studies published per year	FC, WMWFF	X	X	X
		1.5	Engage Local Strategic Partnerships on tree and woodland coverage		LAs include indicators on tree coverage	WMWFF NE	X	X	X
		1.6	Support EWGS Health WIG grants and contribute to judging /evaluation		EWGS take-up	FC	Done	X	

HW1	To maximise the use of woodland and forestry to deliver a healthier region (both physically, mentally and spiritually) <i>(continued)</i>	1.7	Contribute to the region's targets for increased levels of physical activity through providing increased opportunities for woodland sporting and recreational access; Agree to adopt 1% increase target on increasing physical activity with baseline activity targets identified for West Midlands		WMPHO mapping tool on food and physical activity web pages to identify woodland contribution and case studies to physical activity and healthy eating in the region.	WMPHG, FC, WMWFF Sport England, NE	X	X	X 1% target achieved
HW2	To develop further links between wooded green space and health	2.1	Building on the "Woodlands and Health" pilots and "Walking for Health" initiatives introduce up to three additional projects per year;		EWGS and Partnership funding uptake	FC NE	X	X	X
		2.2	Contributing to the Government target of getting 70% of people physically active, raise the profile of green woodland activity and encourage the involvement of sector in PAN-WM (Physical Activity Network for the West Midlands)		At least one joint initiative identified per year	PAN-WM NE	X	X	X
		2.3	Investigate with the Tourist Board the potential for woodland-based health holidays		At least one Destination Partnership per year providing opportunity	FC, TWM	X	X	X
		2.4	Build the evidence base to influence and set targets with health managers to maintain and increase trees and woods on land managed by or for hospitals or public health		Target and indicator embedded within Regional Health Strategy	FC, LAs, NE	X	X	X
		2.5	Engage Regional Corporate Citizen Network on the benefits of woodland and biodiversity on NHS estates		Advocacy Programme	WMWFF, WMPHG NE	X	X	X
		2.6	Devise a long-term strategy for promoting the value of trees and timber products and the historic and biodiversity components of woodlands to the health and wellbeing: individuals /community		Funding secured to commission work; Long-term strategy and action plan developed and implemented	FC, NE, WMWFF, WMBP	X	X	X

Theme 7 Education, Learning and Skills		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. The woodland and forestry sector to develop its own identity, complementing other land-based industries 2. To improve public access to information about woodland and forestry 3. To provide all the region's schools with access to woodland and forestry - education on site or in the forest 4. To upskill the woodland and forestry sector workforce, based on the benchmarking study to meet current and future needs							
Ref	Objective	Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable			
					(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11	
ELS1	To increase public knowledge of woodland and forestry by education and raising awareness	1.1	Embedding life-long learning opportunities within woodland initiatives and Community Forest Plans, raising qualification levels and engaging with wider groups		Business Plans and Customer surveys Case Studies	FC, SFTG Woodland Initiatives, FOM, NFC	X	X	X
		1.2	Embedding woodland and forestry in school and young people's activities; demonstrate the value of Forest Schools; Promote and administer Forest Schools WIGs across the Region		Establishing of targeted primary schools linked with local forest school sites; Forest Schools WIGs Delivery of key stages 1&2 and user group activities; Profile raised and transferred to other locations within WM and outside	AONB, FC, FEI, NE, Community Links	X	X	X
							X	X	X
		1.3	Support the development of new curriculum, such as the 14-19 Land-based Diploma; thus ensuring woodland, trees and forestry opportunities are recognised by young people.		New curriculum developed, and piloted Prospectus published & Piloted in West Midlands	Lantra, Regional Skills Partnership	X	X	X
1.4	Identify and promote the contribution of trees woodland and forests for formal and informal education in urban and rural settings; through events programmes and case studies and through the development of effective workbased, or work related, learning opportunities.		Arts, crafts, leisure & recreation, health, educational and vocational opportunities highlighted	FC, GWC, WT, Lantra, NT, FOM, NFC, AONBs, EH SWA, FTA, Woodland Owners, WMBP, NE, Further & HE colleges	X	X	X		

ELS2	To maintain the woodland and forestry workforce and encourage new entrants	2.1	Develop a regional training action delivery plan that includes actions for helping the sector gain new skills, such as in information communications technology (ICT) or landscape characterisation, and encourages employers, skills providers and funders to update routinely skill-needs analysis, share good practice and modify provision	Regional iteration of the Trees and Timber Industry Action Plan in place; Sector Skills Agreement and annual review/update	Lantra, WFITG	X	X	
		2.2	Identify interest in and provide (with other land-based sectors) for new entrants, including through a Modern Apprenticeships & Advanced Modern Apprenticeships Schemes and better work placements, flexible modes of delivery.	Agreed Schemes in place and piloted within the WM region	Lantra	X	X	X
		2.3	Identify and meet the new opportunities for traditional skills arising in the growing craft and construction sectors.	"Understanding Wye" Project and training courses; Bespoke training from other Providers	WFITG, Lantra, GWC,	X	X	X
		2.4	Support work on Qualifications & Credit Framework and new apprenticeship proposals	QCF developed and new Apprenticeships introduced	AONB, FC, Leader+	X	X	X
		2.5	Assess and meet the needs of the woodland and forestry sector for core skills in business management, numeracy, literacy, technical skills, health and safety, certification and continuing professional development; recognising the importance of non-accredited learning within the sector.	Woodworks II rolled out across the Region. Affordable, accessible and appropriate training provided	WFITG, Lantra, Industry	X	X	X
		2.6	Recognise skills needs of migrant workers; including transferability of qualifications and support for employees/employers for Health & Safety	Findings of skills passport pilot study reviewed and Business Competency framework introduced.	FOM, CLA, Heartwoods, Colleges WFITG, Lantra, Training providers, Regional Skills Partnership	X	X	X

Theme 8 Fostering Social Inclusion		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To provide greater opportunity for West Midlands' residents to appreciate and have access to trees, woodlands and forests close to where they live 2. To remove the barriers to access so that no groups in the population felt disenfranchised 3. To enable people to connect to the historic environment and natural world through experience of trees and woodlands and their wildlife							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
FSI1	To set a regional target for percentage of tree/woodland cover as a quality of life indicator	1.1	Review the Quality of Environment and other monitoring indicators as part of the Phase III Revisions of the Regional Spatial Strategy		New and refreshed targets and indicators in place	WMRA REG, WMWFF, FC, NE	X	X	
		1.2	Introduce new and refreshed monitoring indicators as part of the Regional Economic Strategy		New and refreshed targets and indicators in place	AWM, WMWFF, FC, NE	X	X	
		1.3	Ensure that the benefits of tree, woodland and forests are understood and embedded into all relevant regional and local strategies and policies		Appropriate monitoring indicators in place for: e.g. Regional Spatial Strategy Phase III revisions, Regional Economic Strategy, Regional Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Trees for Birmingham, LBAPs, AONB Management Plans.	WMWFF, FC, NE	X	X	X
FSI2	To promote examples and inspire people about the benefits of trees and woodlands and to secure community involvement in establishing trees for local communities	2.1	Support and develop the newly formed Social Forestry Task Group		Thriving Network and work programme	SFTG, FC, AONB WMWFF, WT, NT, LAs, NE, WMRA, NFC, Woodland Initiatives, Parish Plans, LSPs, WMBP SFTG	X	X	X
		2.2	Raise awareness and encourage engagement of communities with local trees and woods, and secure community involvement in decision-making about planning, planting, managing and using trees for leisure, ensuring engagement with hard to reach groups		Woodland Initiative activity recording; Annual reports from regional and sub-regional partners; LAA and Parish plan development		X	X	X

		2.2	Identify and promote examples and case studies that best illustrate community engagement		Increased and inclusive community engagement in understanding care and management of their local trees and woodlands; Customer surveys		X	X	X
FSI3	To identify and/or provide some funding incentives	3.1	Identify and implement demonstration pilot projects that have attracted partnership funding/external funding e.g. Country Parks for All, GWC, Wye the Wider Wood.		Big Lottery Funding, RDP(E), SITA and other funding secured and exemplar projects underway	FC, NE, WMWFF Partners including Local Authorities	X	X	X
FSI4	To develop a programme of specific initiatives for hard to reach groups	4.1	Encourage the development of a series of action programmes to overcome the barriers for groups that feel socially excluded from using trees woodland and forests e.g. girls 9-14; black and minority ethnic groups		Series of urban and rural examples identified; customer satisfaction surveys	SFTG, FC, NT, WT, EH, NE, Woodland Initiatives, Forest Schools, NFC, Forest of Mercia, Lantra, Woodland owners	X	X	X
		4.2	Identify and actively promote woodland and forests to hard-to reach-groups, using existing specialist community services		Series of urban and rural examples identified; customer satisfaction surveys Database of activity growing		X	X	X
FSI5	Link private and other woodland owners to develop access initiatives for excluded groups	5.1	Identify and promote model initiatives to woodland owners and land managers		Initiatives and Case Studies publicised	SFTG, FC, NFC, WT, Forest of Mercia, NT, NE, Local Authorities. AONBs, Woodland owners	X	X	X
		5.2	Stimulate activity through spatial and thematic targeting of EWGS, e.g. regional scoring/targeting		Uptake of EWGS Good practice Guide Published EWGS Social Forestry WIG Uptake		X	X	X

Theme 9 Enhancing Biodiversity		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To deliver relevant nature conservation objectives set out in legislation, international commitments, national and regional policies 2. To achieve targets in policies and strategies, with particular regard to Biodiversity Action Plans							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
EB1	To meet the national targets for Sites of Special Scientific Interest and the priority habitats and species of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan	1.1	Delivery on remedies identified for SSSIs that have woodland features in an unfavourable condition and not meeting the PSA target		Planned activity with partners reinforced with formal shared agreement: 95% by area meeting condition by 2010	NE,	X	X	X
		1.2	Revisit the regional woodland priority habitats in the context of the 2006 UK BAP targets review and WMBP regional/local targets integration work. Construct a delivery framework for woodland & forestry habitats and related BAP species.		Agreed set of regional indicators	NE, FC, TWFBTG	X	X	
		1.3	Using the outputs from 1.2, set up a task & finish group including regional Record Centres, to formulate an action plan and advise on implementation		Action Plan in place	NE TWFBTG		X	
		1.4	Implementation of the Action Plan		Annual Action Plan targets set and met	NE, TWFBTG		X	X
EB2	To protect and enhance ancient or semi-natural woodland, including through creation of new native woodland in targeted locations which will create habitat networks and increase semi-natural woodland cover	2.1	Aligning with the Regional Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan & Landscapes for Living, further develop the Woodland Opportunities Map to help prioritise woodland creation for biodiversity benefits		Phase II and Phase III iterations prepared	FC, NE, WMBP	X	X	
					RSS Phase III revision Consultation	Sub Group	X	X	
		2.2	Continue to support Trees, Woods & Forests Biodiversity Task Group formulating regional policy/action plan		Action Plan implementation	FC. NE	X	X	X

EB2	To protect and enhance ancient or semi-natural woodland, including through creation of new native woodland in targeted locations which will create habitat networks and increase semi-natural woodland cover (continued)	2.3	Establish exemplar woodland sites on public, voluntary or community owned and private sector land		3 new sites, one from each sector, identified and promoted annually	FC, Task Group	X	X	X
		2.4	Develop a regional rationale for veteran tree survey and analysis; data storage facilities, resourcing and action planning for veteran tree resource of woodland, wood pasture, parkland, orchards and hedgerows		Regional action plan developed and ready for implementation	FC, WT, Record Centres NE TWFBTG	X	X	X
		2.5	Utilising best practice developed from the MWI/Heartwoods Projects, promote ongoing vigilance, protection and sensitive management of AW, SNW and Veteran Trees, via events, management scheme audits, Dissemination of current guidance materials etc		At least one awareness raising event per year combined with field visits	FC, Task Group	X	X	X
		2.6	Establishment of deer management groups and plans profiling ASNW pressure points		Review and recommendations Yr 1; Resourcing formula Yr 2 and action planning; Implementation Yr 3	FC, NE, DI	X		X
EB3	To develop a programme for the improvement and restoration of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS)	3.1	Full delivery of Ancient & Native Woods (Keepers of Time) Action Plan		Guidelines produced and targets set	FC	X		
		3.2	Following national guidelines, implementation of policy on restoration of open habitats after scoping regional priorities for restoration of open ground habitats from woodland with the development of a restoration strategy for the public forest estate		Outcomes from Open Habitats Policy Development Consultation	FC, NE	X		X
		3.3	Intelligence gathering to investigate demand on EWGS to facilitate private sector to improve and restore PAWS		Analysis of PAWS schemes; Priority woodland habitats identified; Mechanism in place for addressing	FC	X	X	X

EB4	To target action through landscape-scale improvements	4.1	Continuation of the two BEA Pilots: Cannock Chase to Sutton Park & Woolhope Dome		Project targets and outputs for woodland habitats, species and supportive socio-economic activity. Profiles and boundaries redrafted	NE	X	X	
		4.2	Revise draft BEA profiles and boundaries following 05/06 consultations identifying the relative input to each BEA for forestry			TWFBTG	X		
		4.3	Identify best practice and lessons learned from the two pilots and from AONB and other area-based woodland initiatives to set woodland and forestry objectives for future BEAs and landscape scale activities		Evaluation reports for 2 BEAs and other regional/ local initiatives	NE, FC, TWFBTG AONBs	X	X	
EB5	To increase contributions and commitment to wildlife gain	5.1	Assist delivery of England woodland bird corporate targets, EWGS incentives , disseminating guidance and promoting best practice		EWGS Bird WIG Uptake	FC, NE	X	X	X
		5.2	Use available data to develop Woodland Bird GIS layer for Woodland Opportunities Map (WOM)		WOM Version 3	FC	X	X	
		5.3	Monitor biodiversity components of forestry and woodland activity, identifying vulnerable species and developing action plans and project proposals		Action Plans/project proposals developed, resourced and implemented	NE, FC, TWFBTG	X	X	X
					No of Local Authorities signing up to Biodiversity Pledge		X		
EB6	To increase public awareness and participation	6.1	Grow with Wyre – Landscape partnership scheme: projects to raise awareness, deliver education, and encourage local participation		Project outputs 2008 onwards	WMBP, WMWFF NE	X	X	X
		6.2	Support the development of the Regional Biodiversity Strategy's Revision encouraging coherent themes and actions to which Forestry Framework stakeholders can readily relate		RBS Review	WMWFF NE TWFBTG	X	X	X
		6.3	Identify coherent themes and best practice exemplars that can be publicised and promoted		Schedule of press releases and case studies prepared	TWFBTG	X	X	X

EB7	To raise the levels of skills and knowledge to enable exemplary biodiversity management	7.1	Investigate and promote a formal mechanism for using management outcome audits as a contribution towards achieving exemplary biodiversity management	Mechanism identified	WMBP, TWFBTG FC	X	X	
		7.2	Identify and promote practical and pragmatic examples from public, private and voluntary & community sectors	At least 3 per year	TWFBTG NE	X	X	X
		7.3	Develop a prospectus detailing what skills and knowledge is required and for what purpose	Prospectus developed Landskills uptake	TWFBTG FC, NE, Lantra	X X	X	X
EB8	To improve information to support ecological sustainability and biodiversity enhancement	8.1	Review the availability of technical information that can inform the regional biodiversity priorities and identify the most efficient way of utilising it	Review completed by Mar 07	TWFBTG NE	X		
		8.2	Develop baseline GIS habitat layer for the region as part of the WMBP led Landscapes for Living Project	Datasets identified GIS layer developed	WMBP	X X	X	
		8.3	Establish/improve the process and procedure for trapping relevant information from woodland schemes and its application through Record Centres and the BARS	Collation of details from WGS/WIG/EWGS/ ESS and Forest Design Plans	FC, NE TWFBTG	X	X	X
		8.4	Commission Record Centre managers to do analysis of information held by them and jointly devise action plan to improve data gathering/deployment.	WAPIS Research outcomes	NE, FC TWFBTG	X		

Theme 10 Natural and Cultural Environmental Benefits		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To gain a better understanding of the significance of woodland and forestry in the region's ability at regional and sub-regional level 2. To set out the role and contribution of the West Midlands in solving woodland and forestry-related global and national environmental issues, including climate change 3. To encourage regional policy and practice to support global and national policy, while prioritising the enhancement of the West Midlands region's environment and culture							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
NCEB1	To include woodland and forestry issues in the revision of RSS Phase Three Culture, Sport & Tourism Topic	1.1	Engage in the review process for the RSS revision of the and raise awareness of the benefits of trees, woodlands and forests of the WM		Environments being made more attractive through woodland/tree planting/management	FC, WMWFF	X	X	X
		1.2	Increased promotion, management and sustainable use of the region's woodlands for leisure, recreation, tourism and cultural pursuits		Capital and revenue investment into the provision of new and upgraded facilities	FC, AWM	X	X	X
NCEB2	To develop the role and effectiveness of trees in reducing flood risk and flood management	2.1	Development of strategic regional plan summarising river basin characteristics, pressures, impacts, significant issues and programme of measures: Catchment Flood Management Plans		Programme for each river basin [Severn & Humber] completed with reference to role of trees & woodlands	EA	X	X	X
NCEB3	To actively promote the significance of woodland and forestry to landscape, historic, biodiversity and other environmental designations; to research the contribution of the WM to global and national environmental targets; and develop the woodland and forestry sector's environmental targets for wood and paper sourcing, transport, waste and access	3.1	Continue to support the work of Sustainability West Midlands contributing to the Phase II implementation of the RSDF + RSS Phase 3 Revision		Phase II Monitoring and evaluation	FC, NE	X	X	X
		3.2	Secure and support active management required to maintain and enhance environmental assets and integrate sustainable land management principles into farm, forestry and other land managing businesses and organisations		Alignment of partner corporate/business plans to ensure streamlined, value for money delivery	FC, NE, EA, EH, AWM, WMRA, WT	X	X	X
		3.3	Targeted research and survey work to inform global and national environmental targets		Programme of condition assessment and restoration underway	FC, NE, EA, EH	X	X	X
		3.4	Encourage the continued development of an active market for traditional and innovative wood products, local procurement and waste management solutions		Regional targets to be developed following completion of Forest Industries Mapping Study	FC, WMRA, NE, ALL	X	X	X

NCEB4	To gain a clearer understanding of the impacts of climate change in relation to trees and woodlands	4.1	Formulate appropriate responses and actions, including ways in which woodlands and forestry can ameliorate the effects of climate change, e.g. GIP networks for adaptation	All policies and programmes include both mitigation and adaptation measures	FC, NE, WT, AWM, WMRA	X	X	X
		4.2	Help reduce risks posed by climate change by taking action to reduce emissions	% increase in bio-fuels in all forest operations; increased market share for businesses using sustainable technology	FC, NE Tree & Woodland Businesses	X	X	X
		4.3	Plan adaptation strategy to ensure that wooded landscapes retain their quality, character and value as climate changes	Sector plans developing over time	FC, Land Managers, LSP	X	X	X
NCEB5	To clarify the contribution of the woodland and forestry sector to air quality both nationally and locally	5.1	Reduce noise and atmospheric pollution along transport corridors through increased tree and woodland cover	Health statistics; No of trees/Ha planted	WMRA, FC, WMPHG,	X	X	X
		5.2	Increase shade and better regulation of humidity levels in urban areas through increased woodland and tree cover	Health statistics; No of trees/Ha planted	WMRA, FC, WMPHG,	X	X	X
		5.3	Reduce atmospheric pollution through increased tree and woodland cover, emphasising the priorities of Air Quality Management Areas	Health statistics; No of trees/Ha planted	WMLGA, LAs WMPHG	X	X	X
NCEB6	To maintain soil quality and prevent soil erosion, reduce flood risk, protect water quality and conserve water resources through appropriate woodland creation and management	6.1	Promote and target woodland planting and management on appropriate agricultural land and in urban situations to help regeneration	Specified ELS and HLS Agreements; No of brownfield/mineral sites reclaimed	NE, FC, WMRA	X	X	X
		6.2	Using Woodland Opportunities Mapping and the Strategic River Corridors policy development to target opportunities for wet woodland planting, woodland creation on floodplains and protection of water supplies	Specified ELS and HLS Agreements; EWGS uptake; No of trees/Ha planted; SRC policy iteration	EA, NE, FC	X	X	X
		6.3	Promotion of good land management practice through seminars and awareness raising opportunities to inform and update land managers and advisers	No of training days, seminars and workshops held	NE, FC, EA	X	X	X

Theme 11 Supporting the regeneration of the West Midlands		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: 1. To ensure that forestry becomes embedded in regional regeneration and planning policy for the urban and rural environment 2. To use existing and new trees and woodlands as a key greening tool to improve the physical environment of the West Midlands for investing, living and working in 3. To encourage the regeneration of brownfield and reclaimed open land to make full use of woodland whilst retaining intrinsic value, reflecting local character, ensuring local ownership and sustainable communities 4. To share the experience gained around the region							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
SR1	To develop a regional green space strategy (urban and rural) with a strategic approach to forestry for regeneration integrated with the woodland opportunities map	1.1	Green Infrastructure Planning to be supported through partnership working led by NE and FC and utilising task and finish groups as appropriate		Number of Plans for range of settlements in the Region	NE, FC	X	X	X
		1.2	Commissioning and steering a study to produce a GI 'prospectus' which will outline the vision and potential, highlight best practice, map current work including that carried out in the East Midlands, and set out a working methodology for developing a spatial context for woodland and greenspace in the region		Prospectus published Summer 2006 Working methodology produced and piloted	NE RSS Task Group	X	X	X
		1.3	Review recommendations and develop Action Plan, securing appropriate resources to accelerate and enlarge the scale and speed of development of regional and cross-border initiatives, e.g. Growth Points		Action Plan implemented 06-07	NE	X		
		1.4	Action Plan Delivery making active links locally and regionally with adjacent regions and local communities		The delivery of public benefit through increased investment in trees and woodlands	NE		X	X
SR2	To encourage woodland as an after use on mineral and waste management sites	2.1	Utilising the database of brownfield land sites in priority areas, develop a prioritisation mapping tool to aid joined-up thinking and decision making by providing evidence-based prioritisation of sites.		Brownfield to Greenspace Scoping Project Stage III PBRs	WMRO, FC, AWM, EA, Groundwork NE, WMRA	X	X	

	To encourage woodland as an after use on mineral and waste management sites <i>(continued)</i>	2.2	Using this Public Benefit Recording System-based tool to assist with creating high quality green space - drawing in social, environmental and economic data to best target resources and implementation		Phase III implementation Area of greenspace gain	WMRO, Black Country Consortium		X X	X X
SR3	To join up activity, identify and share good practice, identify gaps in knowledge, agree priorities to target public resources	3.1	Build support and understanding of the work through stakeholder workshops with existing providers to identify current initiatives		At least one stakeholder workshop per year	FC/WMRO/NE & Stakeholders	X	X	X
		3.2	Encourage sub-regional and local strategic partnerships to include trees and woodland issues in community strategies		All Community Strategies having references to trees & woodland issues	WMRA, GOWM, FC, NE	X	X	X
		3.3	Actively promote the use of local timber, best practice and regeneration experience using case studies		At least two case studies per year promoted	FC, WMRA	X	X	X
		3.4	Maintain active linkages with building technologies and environmental technologies clusters and with Regeneration Centre of Excellence for the West Midlands		Shared initiatives and outcomes	FC, AWM, WMRA	X	X	X

Theme 12 Delivering the Framework		Aims The WMRFF stakeholders' goal is: To achieve effective and efficient implementation of the aims and objectives of the framework							
Ref	Objective		Activity Planned	Progress	Target/Success Indicators	Delivery Partners	Outline Timetable		
						(Lead in Bold)	08/09	09/10	10/11
DS1	To adopt a broad base partnership approach attracting maximum support from all stakeholders for the Framework	1.1	Continue to support the work of the Woodland & Forestry Forum and its task groups		Thriving and pro-active Woodland & Forestry Forum 2008-2011	DPSG	X	X	X
		1.2	Ensure effective representation of all sectors in policy and decision making at regional and sub-regional level		Representation and Terms of Reference reviewed annually		X	X	X
DS2	To align the Framework and co-ordinate plans that will inform and assist , reinforce and support the Regional Spatial Strategy, Regional Economic Strategy and the RSDF	2.1	Further the work to refine the indicators and targets, ensuring headline indicators are embedded in RSS and RES		High level monitoring indicators in both RES and RSS	DPSG	X		
		2.2	Review of RES Implementation and RSS Revision, the RSDF and other relevant regional policy agendas		Benefits of trees, woodlands and forests embedded		X	X	X
		2.3	Review & refresh WMRFF		WMRFF refreshed		X	X	
DS3	To performance manage the Framework and the Delivery Plans effectively to ensure that regional added value is achieved	3.1	Regular monitoring of the implementation so that effectiveness can be kept under review		The Regional Forestry Framework is successfully delivered	DPSG	X	X	X
		3.2	Publish annual monitoring reports and hold stakeholder consultations to inform Delivery Plans		Annual monitoring reports published		X	X	X
DS4	To ensure that funding streams and incentives are properly co-ordinated and integrated to deliver the agreed regional RFF priorities	4.1	Working with Natural England Partners ensure ESS and EWGS become fully co-ordinated		All regional tree & woodland funding is fully co-ordinated in line with priorities	FC, NE	X	X	X
		4.2	Encourage regional and sub-regional partnerships to pool resources to create greater added value and leverage		Increased % funding and leverage attracted		LSPs and LAAs	X	X
DS5	To ensure that future decision making is informed by best practice from both within and outwith the region	5.1	Gather best practice exemplars and case studies to ensure sound future decision making		At least two from each of the eleven themes	WMWFF	X	X	X
		5.2	Develop liaison and consultation mechanisms through bodies such as FC Regional Teams and RFF co-ordinators		At least one workshop/seminar sharing best practice per year		FC	X	X

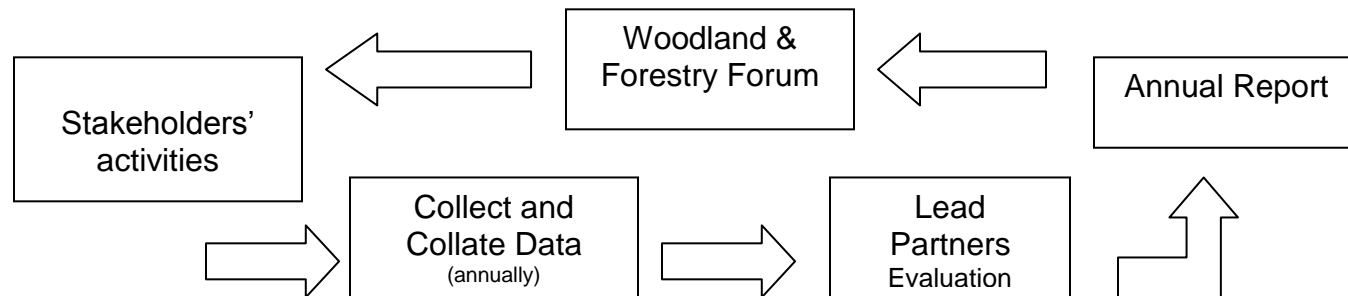
**West Midlands Forestry Framework
Growing our Future: Delivery Plan 2008-2011UPDATED**

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

As previously, every stakeholder and partner organisation is encouraged to sign up to the Delivery Plan and be contributing to one or more activities. For many, these are already embedded in their own organisation’s business plan and work programmes.

The West Midlands Regional Forestry Framework’s Delivery Plan Steering Group is charged with monitoring the progress against the aims and objectives set in the Framework. It is intended that the Group will also note significant developments, taking on board new policies and issues as they arise and update the Delivery Plan on the *Growing Our Future* website accordingly. The Framework will be reviewed every five years whilst a three-year rolling Delivery Plan will be updated every year.

Lead Partners, highlighted in bold in the plan, are organisations that have agreed to co-ordinate specific actions and take the lead to ensure that the activities are successfully delivering the outcomes required in conjunction with their other partners. They have therefore agreed to assist with the monitoring of the Plan and this guidance note is designed to assist in this process.



Periodically too, those responsible for delivery, report on progress to the key stakeholder groups, principally the Regional Rural Affairs Forum, the Regional Environment Partnership and the West Midlands Woodland and Forestry Forum. These reports will then be collated and their implications for the overall framework evaluated.

Individual activities and projects will be subject to the particular monitoring requirements of the funding programmes and partners that they are drawing from. Therefore the process of setting detailed indicators and means of verification will remain with the funding programmes and individual projects.

The delivery plan will contribute directly to the regional strategic outcomes in the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Regional Economic Strategy. It is therefore appropriate that the outcome indicators reflect those set regionally, informing national strategies as appropriate. It is also anticipated that the Delivery Plan will continuously evolve, developing and continuing refinement through the input of the wide range of interested persons and organisations.

A&NW	Ancient & Native Woods	NFC	National Forest Company
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	NT	National Trust
ASNW	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland	PAN-WM	Physical Activity Network for the West Midlands
AWM	Advantage West Midlands	PAWS	Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan	PBRs	Public Benefit Recording System
BARS	Biodiversity Action Reporting System	PSA	Public Service Agreement
BEA	Biodiversity Enhancement Area	RAC	Regional Advisory Committee to the Forestry Commission
BIG	Big Lottery Fund	RBS	Regional Biodiversity Strategy
CLA	Country Land & Business Association	RCF	Regional Cultural Forum
ConFor	Confederation of Forest Industries (UK)	RDF	Rural Delivery Framework
CRoW	Countryside Rights of Way	RDP(E)	EU Regional Rural Development Programme for England
CWM	Culture West Midlands (to March 2009)	RES	Regional Economic Strategy
DI	Deer Initiative	RIP	Regional Implementation Plan for the RDP(E)
DPSG	Delivery Plan Steering Group	ROWIP	Rights of Way Improvement Plan
EA	Environment Agency	RSDF	Regional Sustainable Development Framework
EB	Enhancing Biodiversity	RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
EFIP	England Forest Industries Partnership	SDF	Sustainable Development Fund (AONB)
ELS	Entry Level Scheme for Environmental Stewardship	Section 16	Dedication of land for public access (CRoW Act)
EH	English Heritage	SFTG	Social Forestry Task Group
ETWF	England Strategy for Trees, Woods & Forests	SITA	Funding available from Landfill taxes
EWGS	England Woodland Grant Scheme	SMEs	Small & Medium-sized Enterprises
ESS	Environmental Stewardship Scheme	SSCs	Sector Skills Councils
FC	Forestry Commission	SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
FE	Forest Enterprise	SWA	Small Woods Association
FEI	Forest Education Initiative	UKWAS	UK Woodland Assurance Standard
FOM	Forest of Mercia	WC	Woodland Cover
GAP	Green Arc Partnership	WETG	Wood Energy Task Group
GIP	Green Infrastructure Planning	WFDG	Workforce Development Group
GWC	Green Wood Centre	WFI	Woodland & Forestry Industry
HE	Higher Education	WFITG	Woodland & Forestry Industry Task Group
HET	Heart of England Tourism	WIG	Woodland Improvement Grant
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund	WMBP	West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership
HLS	Higher Level Scheme for Environmental Stewardship	WMLGA	West Midlands Local Government Association
LAs	Local Authorities	WMPHG	West Midlands Public Health Group
LAAs	Local Area Agreements	WMPHO	West Midlands Public Health Observatory
LAF	Local Access Forum	WMRA	West Midlands Regional Assembly
LDFs	Local Development Frameworks	WMRFF	West Midlands Regional Forestry Framework
LSCs	Learning & Skills Councils	WMRO	West Midlands Regional Observatory
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership	WMWFF	West Midlands Woodland & Forestry Forum
MWFL	Midland Wood Fuels Ltd	WOM	Woodland Opportunities Mapping
NE	Natural England	WT	Woodland Trust