



GROWING OUR FUTURE

DELIVERY PLAN 2010 - 2013
WEST MIDLANDS FORESTRY FRAMEWORK

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TREES, WOODS AND FORESTRY MANIFESTO FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS

SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE TREE AND WOODLAND COVER; SUPPORTING THE GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL TREE PLANTING CAMPAIGN

- Trees are important in the landscape reflecting our history, cultural identity, biodiversity, economic development and shaping the future.
- More are needed to meet our demand for timber, for recreational use, tourism, climate change control, quality of life and place making.

PRODUCE MORE TIMBER AND USE MORE TIMBER - PROVIDE MORE JOBS

- Our track record of sound and sustainable management and the ability to grow quality timber are strengths we can build on.
- By improving supply chain capability and capacity to deliver sustainable wood products and services for local customers and those further afield.

SUPPORT WOOD ENERGY PRODUCTION AND ENCOURAGE WOOD WASTE MINIMISATION

- Wood energy is a vital part of the sustainable and low carbon future of the West Midlands.
- Our trees and woodland must meet the market demand for timber and biomass as a renewable energy resource.

INCREASE WOODLAND RECREATION AND TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES CLOSE TO HOME AND IN THE WIDER COUNTRYSIDE

- By meeting the increasing demand for a rich mix of high quality recreational activities with facilities that are both inspirational and practical.
- Through increasing the range, quality and accessibility of woodland and greenspace.

HELP CREATE HEALTHIER AND HAPPIER COMMUNITIES

- People's health and wellbeing are enhanced and improved by close access to green space with trees and woodland.
- Through improving links and promoting woodland-based opportunities for advancing people's health and wellbeing.

HELP EVERYONE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE AND ENJOY TREES, WOODLAND AND FORESTRY

- By providing valuable outdoor educational and wider learning experiences with continuing personal and professional development.
- Increasing public knowledge and awareness.

INCREASE OUR MANAGEMENT OF TREES AND WOODLAND FOR BIODIVERSITY

- Veteran trees, native and ancient woodland and woodland corridors provide some of the richest terrestrial habitats for wildlife.
- Active and sustainable management of existing and new trees and woodland helps to protect, restore and enhance the biodiversity value.

ENSURE THAT TREES AND WOODLAND PLAY A MAJOR PART IN TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

- Improving resilience to climate change in priority areas by increasing the numbers and area of individual trees and woodlands and increasing their connectivity.
- Minimising the impacts of pests, predators and disease - improving plant health.

CREATE A COOL GREEN IMAGE FOR OUR LIVING SPACE USING TREES AS THE KEY ASSETS

- Trees, woodland and green infrastructure increase property values and transform the image of many of our urban and rural areas.
- Working towards a thriving, multi-functional, well-connected network of green spaces within and between our cities, towns and villages will improve the economy and everyone's quality of life.