

ACTION POINTS FROM CUSTOMER REPRESENTATIVES GROUP MEETING

**Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh, EH11 3XD
Conference Room Z1/10**

Tuesday 10th September 2024, 1-4pm

Members: Andrew Vaughan ICF, Andrew Weatherall Scottish Environment LINK, April Armstrong Confor, Brendan Callaghan SF (Chair), Eddie Addis Confor, Gwen Wilkie Forestry & Land Scotland, Ian Cowe SF (Secretary), Jim Colchester Confor, John Gorman SEPA, Morag Paterson Forest Policy Group, Nathan Bryceland Scottish Land and Estates.

Apologies:

Andy Leitch Confor (Alt), Andy Tharme SOSE, Ben Law SRUC, Craig Turner Confor Nursery Group, Duncan Stone NatureScot, Debbie Green NatureScot (Alt), Fiona Holmes CNPA, Gordon Gray Stephens Community Woodland Association, Harry Wilson RSFS, Jonnie Hall NFUS, Keith Wishart SF, Lindsay Bisset SF, Mark Hamilton Social Forestry, Simon Richie Scottish Environment Link (Alt), Tom Turnbull Association of Deer Management Groups, Tim Hall Scottish Environment Link, Willie McGhee Community Woodland Association.

1. Future Meeting Schedule

Dates for future meetings were agreed as:-

23rd Jan 2025
20th May 2025
16th Sept 2025

2. Meeting Notes & Action Points

Action Points Carried Forward

- i) **Scotland's Rainforest:** Standing Item - Progress to be reported to the CRG (**WM**)
- ii) **Sub-group Meeting Notes:** Standing Item – To be shared at each meeting (**IC**)
- iii) **Woodland Creation Process:** CRG Recommendation - SF to give thought to publishing an agreed approach for Stakeholder consultation, to set expectation and to streamline the process (**SF**)
- iv) **Woodland Creation Process:** CRG Recommendation - Additional guidance from the sector required for communities to simplify and aid their understanding of the consultation process, this to be designed so that landowners/agents may offer it to consultees during project engagement/consultation (**SF**)

Welcome, Introductions & Agenda

- Note of May 2024 meeting was agreed.

New Actions

FGS Budget Management

- SF to consider summarising why FGS applications are rejected when issuing FGS Summary Statistics (**IC**)

UK Forestry Standard Practice Guide: Creating & Managing Riparian Woodland

- The CRG reviewed the UK Forestry Standard Practice Guide: Creating & Managing Riparian Woodland and were broadly supportive of the guidance.
- The CRG Technical Sub-group were asked to further consider the appropriateness of recommendations in Box 2 on page 14 and Box 6 on page 36, in particular if the guidance in Box 2 is clear enough, or needs further national guidance, and the appropriateness of removing machines from site for wash down. **(Tech Sub-group)**
- ICF are offering UKFS e-learning here: [UKFS e-learning | Silvestor](#)

A.O.B

Forest Plan & Woodland Creation Guidance

- Members suggested it might be helpful to provide training for Community Groups, Councils and Local Residents on forestry Engagement & Consultation processes. Members asked the group Secretary to write to SF colleagues in the Communities and WC teams to explore what options exist to meet this need. **(IC)**
- SF to circulate draft of new WC guidance with comments to be returned to IC. **(BC)**
- Members were supportive of the outlined proposals to move to an on-line LTFP application process, and await more detail on the subject.
- Members are asked to nominate Test Volunteers (nominations to IC) for the development of the LTFP on-line application system. **(All)**
- JC offered to assist as a Test Volunteer.

Meeting Close

Additional Information Post Meeting

Members are asked to note the work of the Forest Plastics Working Group:
[Plot That Plastic — Forest Plastics Working Group](#)