

II/2.0 Analysis of Previous Plan

II/2.0.1 Aims of Previous Plan and Objectives

The objectives set out in the previous plan are detailed below.

Objective	Assessment of objective during plan period
Reduce coupe size to increase age and height diversity.	Partial success - Current clearfell coupes range in size up to 27ha, averaging 7.9ha. Some of the proposed coupes would be considered large in the scale of the forest and surrounding landscape.
Convert 'core' of forest blocks to CCF management.	Partial success – Currently 55% of the woodland is managed under CCF prescriptions. Ongoing work is required to continue the transformation process.
Maintain current diverse species mixture.	Success – Species mix is varied, containing large proportions of Scots pine, larch and broadleaves. The acquisition of Balkello will have played a significant part in diversifying the composition.
Protect heritage features.	Unquantifiable – According to FLS and HES databases there are no scheduled or unscheduled monuments within the forest. This may have changed since the last plan was written or the objective may have been a generic goal copied from another plan.
Make improvements to path network in North Ballo if budget allows.	Unsuccessful – No path upgrades have been undertaken since the previous plan was written. It is unlikely that this objective will be carried forward in the new LMP.
Adhere to forestry and water guidance	Success – No water related incidents noted since the previous plan approval.
Maintain safety buffers on powerline wayleaves.	Success -
Thin Oakwood for production of high quality timber.	Partial success -
Thin Little Ballo for future timber quality and open space.	Success -

During the lifespan of the previous plan significant changes have been made to the land holding covered by this LMP; the recently purchased Balkello community woodland was amended into the plan in June 2012, and Dronley wood was successfully transferred into community ownership under a CAT (Community Asset Transfer) scheme in 2019. This means that the ability to quantify the success of some of the objectives has been difficult.

The primary objectives of the previous plan (items 1-3 in the above table) have largely been addressed but require ongoing action for them to be successfully achieved. The objectives of restructuring coupe size and conversion to CCF will be carried forward to the new plan. The aim of maintaining species diversity should be retained as an ongoing concern but does not require to be addressed as a specific objective.

II/2.0.2 How previous plan relates to today's objectives

The majority of objectives laid out in the previous plan still remain relevant. Unsuccessful or partially completed items have been updated and brought forward in the new plan.