

Chart shows the woodland structure broken down into the individual tree species. Only species which make up more than 1% of the total area are represented.

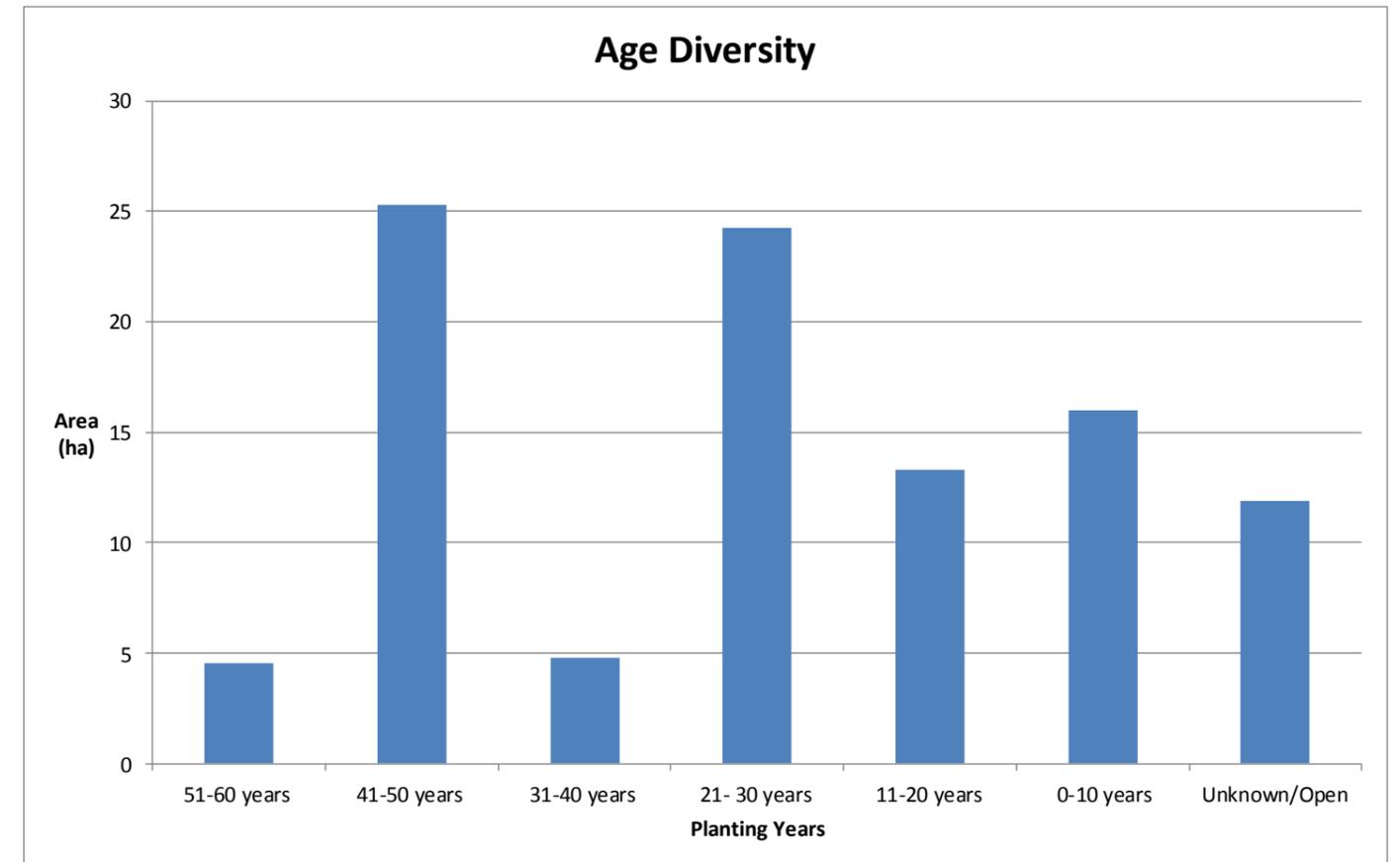


Chart shows the age structure of the woodland broken down into planting years.

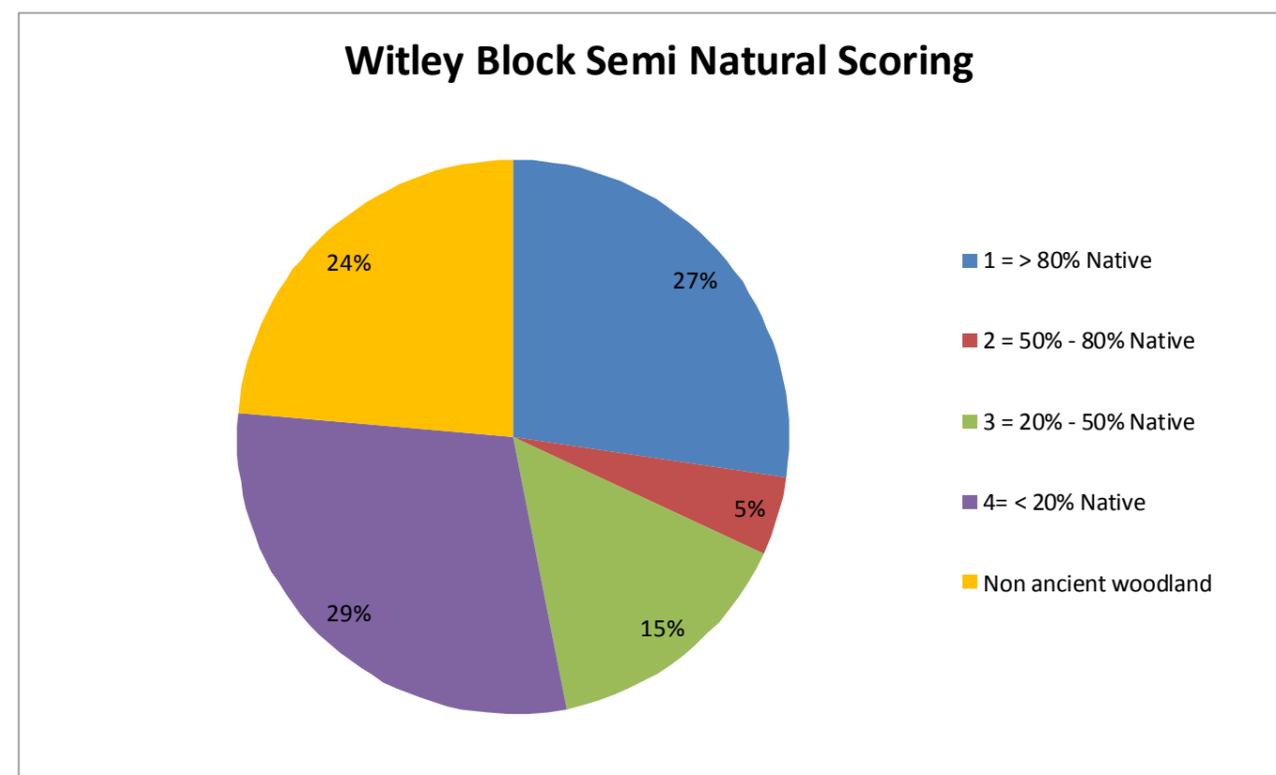


Chart shows a break down of the ancient woodland areas in the wood and the % of native species present.

Current Structure

■ Broadleaf ■ Conifer ■ Mixed ■ Open Space

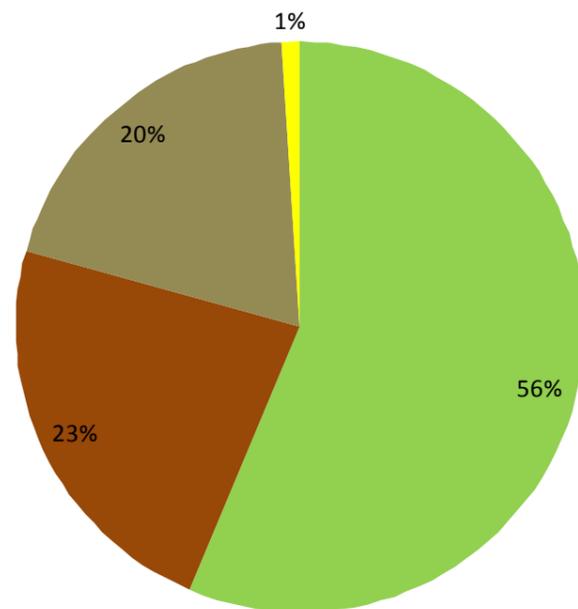


Chart shows the current indicative structure of the wood in broad habitat types.

Long Term Vision

■ Broadleaf ■ Mixed ■ Open Space

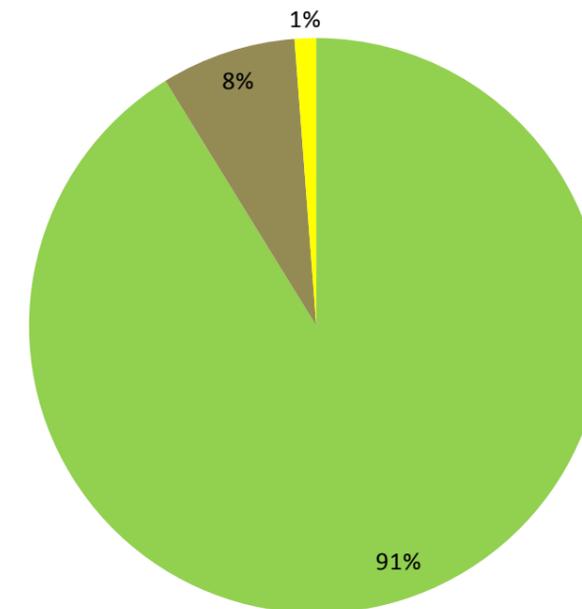


Chart shows the indicative long term vision for the wood in broad habitat types.

Average Production Forecast

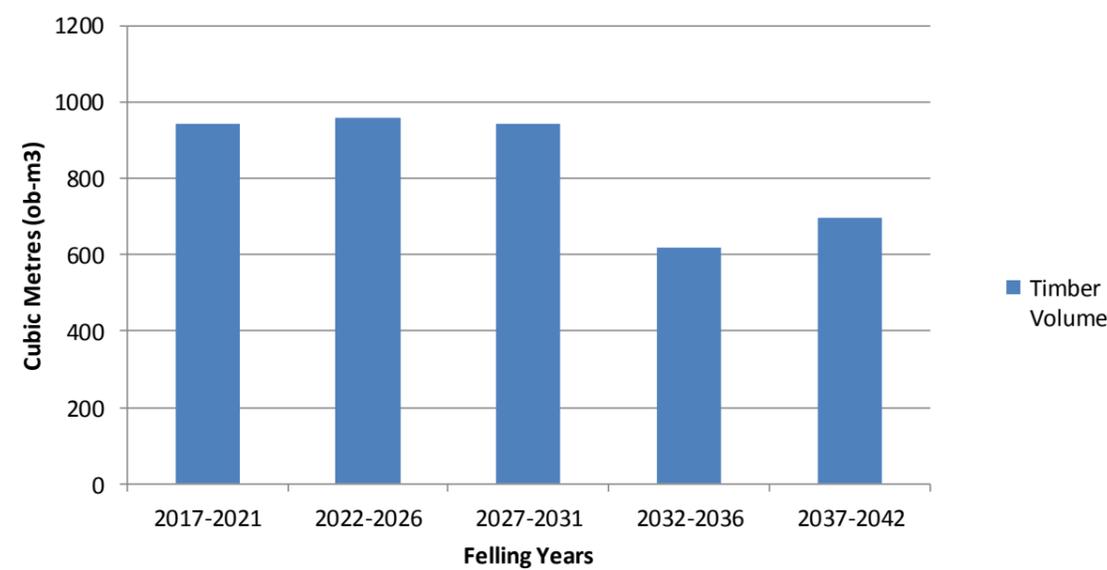


Chart shows the average production forecast for the plan period and beyond. **Ensure correction factor is included**

A wildfire risk assessment is an evaluation of the likelihood of a wildfire occurring and the severity of damage it might cause if it does occur.

Forest/woodland name; The Witley Block					
What are the Fire Hazards?	Who/what might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to manage the risk?	Initial Risk Rating	What else do you need to do?	Revised risk rating assessed at 5 year review.
Large blocks of coniferous woodland.	General Public and emergency services.	Long term plan to diversify the make up of the blocks, creating mixed species woodlands and restoring appropriate areas back to native woodland.	Medium	Evaluate high risk compartments and consider ways of speeding up the change of species makeup. Evaluate fuel loading during regular intervals.	
Fires spreading from the road network adjacent to the blocks.	General Public and emergency services.	The majority of the road network is either bordered by open space or low risk broad-leafed woodland.	low	Increase vegetation management to reduce fire risk. A verge clear of vegetation should be 3.5m either side of access routes.	
Fires spreading from residential properties adjacent to the blocks	General Public and emergency services.	The majority of residential properties are bordered by open space or low risk broad-leafed woodland.	low	Actively engage with owners about the risks of fire to both the PFE and their property to create an awareness of fire safety.	
Fires spreading from powerlines and underground utilities (gas pipes).	General Public and emergency services.	Any powerlines that go through woodland blocks already have a mandatory exclusion zone, free of high risk vegetation.	low	Conduct ad-hock checks on the state of wayleave vegetation, contacting the relevant utility companies when appropriate.	

Objective	Proposed Actions to Meet Objective	Ref	Output year 10	Monitoring	Indicators of Success
<p>Maintain and increase the native composition of ancient semi-natural woodland.</p>	<p>Invasive and non native species will be monitored and managed accordingly to ensure the quality of ASNW is not degraded.</p>	<p>1a 1b</p>	<p>Maintained percentage of native tree species within ancient woodland sites</p> <p>Any invasive or non-native plant species found In ASNW are recorded and managed accordingly with a presumption of eradication.</p>	<p>Semi-Natural scoring via sub compartment database at years 5 and 10</p> <p>Recording during Operational site assessments with appropriate action taken.</p>	<p>Ancient semi-natural woodland areas will show a maintained semi-natural score of '1' at years 5 and 10</p> <p>No recorded invasive or non-native species present within ASNW.</p>
<p>Initiate restoration of planted ancient woodland sites to native and honorary native woodland.</p>	<p>Managing PAWS area under a shelter wood system, favouring the retention of native broadleaves will help to reduce the non native component of these areas.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Increased percentage of native tree species within ancient woodland sites.</p>	<p>Semi natural scoring via sub compartment database at years 5 and 10.</p>	<p>Plantation on ancient woodland areas will show an increasingly native semi natural score at years 5 and 10.</p>
<p>Take opportunities to increase the nature conservation value of existing habitats.</p>	<p>Implementation of the accompanying SSSI plan as agreed with Natural England.</p> <p>During management interventions, opportunities for corridor widening and wider habitat enhancement will be taken in line with the SSSI management plan to increase the structural diversity of woodland edges and provide connecting habitats for key species to disperse.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Opportunities are identified at Operational Site assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this plan.</p> <p>Achieve and maintain favourable condition in all SSSI units.</p>	<p>OSA checks at implementation stage.</p> <p>Natural England rolling condition assessments</p>	<p>A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.</p> <p>Natural England's favourable condition table scoring and comments</p>

Provide, maintain and enhance where possible the recreational experience of the woodland.	Look at increasing the accessibility of footpath and trails in the woodlands with a process of vegetation management around key areas. Safety checks of car parks and trails continued as per OGB 1 and 42.	4	Opportunities are identified at Operational Site assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this plan.	OSA checks at implementation stage. A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.	A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.
Maintain and increase the species and age diversity of the woodland.	Managing non ancient woodland areas as mixed woodland allows the woodland to support a greater species diversity. This will benefit disease and climate resistance as well as adding to the aesthetic variation. The development of natural regeneration at various stages, will break up the currently rigid age structure	5a 5b 5c	Maintained number of tree species. Increased age diversity. Evidence of natural regeneration occurring.	Query sub compartment data base at year 5 and 10. Query sub compartment data base at year 5 and 10. Query sales and recording package at year 5 and year 10.	At least the same number of different tree species present at year 10 Improved age diversity at year 10 Increased successful establishment of natural regeneration.
Control invasive plant species and reduce their impact across the sites.	Conduct regular monitoring of invasive plant species, reacting appropriately when threats are identified.	6	Opportunities are identified at Operational Site assessment (OSA) stage, acted upon and recorded within this plan.	OSA checks at implementation stage.	A record of identification of opportunities, assessment of feasibility and fulfilment if appropriate.
Provide a regular supply of quality timber to support local employment and local timber processing industries.	Regular management will provide a sustainable supply of wood products to the industry.	7	Wood products supplied sustainably to industry in line with the production forecast.	Query sales recording package at year 5 and year 10.	Wood products supplied to the timber industry in line with production forecast whilst fulfilling other objectives.

Ref	Comments year 5	Success?	Comments year 10	Success?
1a				
1b				
2				
3				

Ref	Comments year 5	Success?	Comments year 10	Success?
4				
5a				
5b				
5c				

Ref	Comments year 5	Success?	Comments year 10	Success?
6				
7				

	Forest Plan Area	Forest Plan Percentage	Forest District Area	Forest District Percentage of Habitat/management type
Total Area	221.6	0%	46106ha	0.004%
Total Wooded Area	221.2	99%	26076ha	0.008%
Natural Reserves Plantation (1%)	0	0%	285.57ha	0%
Natural Reserves Semi Natural	0	0%	2958.7ha	0%
Long Term Retentions and Low Impact Silvicultural Systems	198.7	89%	21264ha	0.009%
Area of conservation value (>15%) including designations, PAWS,AW, ASNW,NR, LTR and LISS	198.7	89%	26403.5	0.009%

Ancient Woodland

A classification for woodland which has been in continuous existence from before AD 1600 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and from 1750 in Scotland.

Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

The trees and other plant species within an ancient woodland site appear to have arisen naturally rather than having been planted and are predominately (>80%) native to the site and surrounding area.

Biodiversity

Life in all its diversity spanning genetic, species, populations, habitats and ecosystems.

Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA)

Mapped ecological restoration zones which cover large areas enabling a landscape-scale approach to nature conservation. Some ten BOAs have been identified on the Isle of Wight. It is intended that this network will help to expand, buffer and connect key sites for wildlife.

Clear-fell

Cutting down an area of woodland typically greater than 0.25 hectares.

Compartments/Sub Compartments

Sections of woodland used to delineate and plan management.

Local Wildlife Sites or Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SNCIs)

Local Wildlife Sites are non-statutory sites which are valuable for wildlife. They have substantive nature conservation value and their continued presence makes a significant contribution to maintenance of biodiversity. They may also have an important role in contributing to public enjoyment and understanding of nature. DEFRA guidance is that they should encompass all areas of substantive value, including both the most important and the most distinctive species, habitats, geological and geomorphological features within a national, regional and local context.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland consisting of a fairly even mixture of broadleaf and conifer species.

Native (and honorary-native)

The trees making up the woodland are part of England's natural (or naturalised) flora. Determined by whether the trees colonised Britain without the assistance of humans since the last ice age (or in the case of 'honorary' native were brought here by people but have naturalised in historic times) ; and whether they would naturally be found in the part of England.

Native Woodland

Woodland predominately made up of tree species that would naturally be found on that site.

Natural Reserve

A protected area of importance for wildlife, flora, fauna or features of geological or other special interest managed under a system of minimum intervention.

Natural Regeneration

The process of allowing a cleared area of woodland to regenerate naturally by the germination and development of seeds found within the soil on site. These may still require some protection from overbearing plant species and mammal browsing . Some enrichment planting may also be necessary or desirable in areas where natural regeneration is showing limited success or in order to diversify the species range of the woodland.

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Open Habitat

An area of ground that will have tree cover <5% and support a range of site suitable species.

Plantation on an ancient woodland site (PAWS)

The trees within an ancient woodland site appear to have been planted. These species may or may not be native to the site and surrounding area.

Road/ride edge management

A network of internal road and ride margins that will be managed in a sympathetic way to increase the structural diversity of the woodland and provide connecting habitats for wildlife.

Shelter Wood System

Woodland management system whereby the forest canopy is maintained at one or more levels without clear felling, generally being no single interruption of tree cover of more than 0.25 hectares with a maximum of 2 interruptions of this size per hectare.

Selection System

Low impact woodland management whereby tree's are removed individually or in small groups without clearfelling.

Yield Class

The maximum average rate of volume increment which a particular stand can achieve per hectare.

This Forest Plan has been influenced by various key policy statements and guidance documents as listed below.

Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy Statement—January 2013

This document sets the direction of travel for forestry policy within England and is the reference point around which main aims and objectives of forestry and woodland management are designed.

The statement sets out the following key objectives, in priority order:

Protecting the nations trees, woodlands and forests from increasing threats such as pests, diseases and climate change.

Improving their resilience to these threats and their contribution to economic growth, peoples lives and nature.

Expanding them to increase further their economic, social and environmental value.

Strategic plan for the public forest estate in England

This plan sets out the direction and goals for the public forest estate in England and indicates the actions we will be taking to achieve these between now and 2020. Our ambitions are long term and we will use a normal cycle of review over 5 years to embed these in local forest plans and ways of operating.

Our mission for the estate.

To work with others to keep the Pubic Forest Estate as a special place for wildlife, people to enjoy and businesses to thrive—and achieve this by adopting a strategy that integrates all the three drivers of sustainable land management; economy, people and nature.

Our Vision and Overall Goal

“To secure and grow the economic, social and natural capital value of the public forest estate for the people of England”

South District Forest Strategic Plan

The strategic management plan is a Forest Enterprise District Level document that informs local Forestry Commission Staff about the management direction of the Public Forest Estate and the associated policies. The Forest Plans are a key mechanism for delivering policies on the ground.

Open Habitat Policy, 2010

This is Government policy on how to decide when to convert woodland to open habitat in England.

United Kingdom Forestry Standard

The UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) is the reference standard for sustainable forest management in the UK. The UKFS, supported by its series of guidelines, outlines the context for forestry in the UK, sets out the approach of the UK government to sustainable forest management, defines standards and requirements, and provides a basis for regulation and monitoring.

UK woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)

An independent certification standard for verifying sustainable management in the United Kingdom.

Keepers of Time

This policy statement celebrates the importance of our native and ancient woodland and sets out a basis on which to achieve the following vision.

“Ancient woodlands, veteran trees and other native woodlands are adequately protected, sustainably managed in a wider landscape context, and are providing a wide range of social, environmental and economic benefits”

Managing ancient and native woodland in England: Practice Guide

This practice guide has been produced to help practitioners translate what measures and practical action can be taken to protect and enhance our ancient and native woodlands and guides implementation of the approaches to management and restoration trialled in woods around the country.

Managing deadwood in forests and woodland 2012

A practice guide encouraging owners and managers to develop a strategic approach to deadwood with an emphasis on working with natural processes.

Choosing stand management methods for restoring planted ancient woodland sites, 2013.

A practice guide showing different silvicultural methods for restoring planted ancient woodland sites.



Stage 1

- Internal review of the previous forest plan
- Policy review and broad discussions.

Consultees

Environment Agency | Butterfly Conservation | RSPB | Natural England | Surrey County Council | Waverley District Council | Surrey Hills AONB | Chiddingfold Parish Council | Elstead and Thursley Parish Council | Witley Parish Council | Woodland Trust | Surrey Wildlife Trust | National Trust | Surrey Bat Group | Surrey Bird Group | Ancient Tree Forum | Botanical Society of the British Isles | British Dragonfly Society | British Mycological society | Buglife | Bumblebee Conservation Trust | Freshwater Habitats Trust | Plantlife | The Deer Initiative | BSW Timber Group | Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust | Hampshire Ornithological Society | Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre | Hampshire Gardens Trust | Surrey Botanical Society |

Online Survey Results

Changes following consultation

Stage 2 - 11/12/17 - 22/12/17

- Online survey
- Amendments made following feedback

Stage 3

- Further consultation on the Forest Services Public register of grants and felling applications
- Amendments made and felling approval sought

Forestry Commission (Forest Services and Forest Enterprise) should agree baseline tolerance thresholds for operations in each District beyond which exchange of letter/map or formal amendment is required. Unless otherwise specified or agreed by the Forestry Commission, amendment will be by formal revision of the plan.

	Adjustment to felling coupe boundaries (1)	Timing of Re-stocking	Changes to species	Windthrow clearance (2)	Changes to road lines (3)
FC Approval normally not required	0.5 ha or 5% of coupe - whichever is less	Up to 2 planting seasons after felling	Change within species group e.g. evergreen conifers; broadleaves	Up to 0.5ha	
Approval by exchange of letters and map	0.5ha to 2ha or 10% of coupe - whichever is less			0.5ha to 2ha - if mainly wind-blown trees > 2ha to 5ha in areas of low sensitivity	Additional felling of trees not agreed in plan Departures of >60m in either direction from centre line of road
Approval by formal plan amendment	> 2ha or 10% of coupe	Over 2 planting seasons after felling	Change from specified native species Change between species groups	> 5ha	As above, depending on sensitivity

Notes on Tolerance Table

1. There are circumstances in which changes - of less than 0.5 ha for example - could have a dramatic visual effect. The above model does require a sensible approach to be taken by Forest Enterprise in notifying Forestry Commission when such cases arise. Local staff need to be sensitive to issues which may influence the situation (bearing in mind that small adjustments to felling coupes will not appear on the Public Register).

2. It is important that Forest Enterprise keep the FC informed about windblow clearance, which can be problematic in cases of public complaint, and in FC compliance monitoring. In some cases a modification of the proposals for the remaining area of the Plan may need to be submitted and approved. Clearance of blow should not require approval but will be needed for related standing trees.

3. It is recognised that roading proposals as marked on Road Plans are necessarily somewhat indicative, in that actual roading operations require to take account of features not always apparent at the time of roadline planning. Accordingly some leeway is acceptable to account for this.