# Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

## **Trees and Forestry Stakeholder Forum:**

Readout 12th July 2022 11:30-13:30

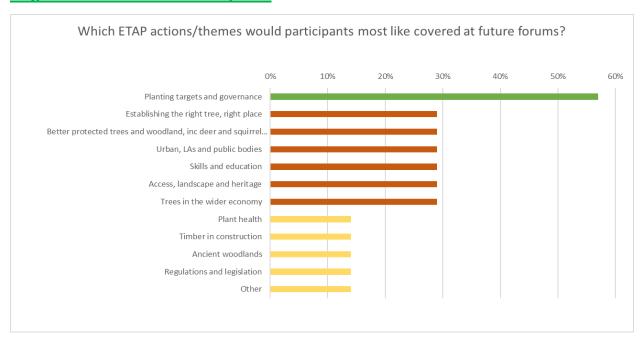
The slides presented during the Forum can be found attached to the email.

#### **Nature Recovery Paper and Targets Update**

- Caroline, Confor- What work is being done to identify the work already happening in private woodlands to balance timber production and nature recovery, one for the R & D project?
- Forest Research undertook an in-depth review of biodiversity in commercial forestry
  which is going through an internal review process with the aim of making it publicly
  available. Following this review, we will identify if there are further evidence gaps
  which can be filled by R&D.
- **Gabriel, Sylva-** I think the continued polarisation of timber production from other ecosystem services is unhelpful. More should be done to bring approaches and strategies together into a coherent whole. The issue of course is that any element may dominate if a holistic perspective is not maintained.
- The 'guide to planting new woodland in England' helps to set out what well designed woodlands should like and how to balance/support both timber production and nature recovery:
   https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attach ment\_data/file/1033301/A\_Guide\_to\_Planning\_New\_Woodland\_in\_England\_V1.0\_Nov2021.pdf
- Caroline Ayre, Confor- Would the carbon accounting calculations for impermanent forestry look at wood products too, i.e. into construction for substitution, etc?
- Forest Research have recently published a report on quantifying the forestry carbon life cycle that will look at timber in wood products as well as carbon in the trees. The report was published on 27th July and is available at: <a href="https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/publications/quantifying-the-sustainable-forestry-carbon-cycle-report-download-page/">https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/publications/quantifying-the-sustainable-forestry-carbon-cycle-report-download-page/</a>
- Sarah Bryan, National Parks- A few years ago Natural England looked at opportunities in each Landscape Character Area including opportunities for woodland creation. Will this be part of the evidence for large scale mapping of Green Light areas?
- The ~2013 Woodland Potential Calculator did include 'statements of Environmental Opportunity relevant to woodland, copied from Natural England's National Character Area profiles. All of which are available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles. Although the detail of 'greenlighting' cannot be confirmed at this stage, landscape character will be an important consideration.

#### **England Trees Action Plan Update**



### **Research and Development**

- Consensus among the group of the welcoming of extra investment in evidence and research after too many lean years.
- The research questions identified in each breakout room have been collated into a summary of evidence needs document and shared with the evidence team. Your thoughts have been invaluable in assessing and prioritising the research proposals we have received in response to our Research Strategy. Any questions which have not been covered by these proposals will be discussed with the relevant policy leads and academics and will be pushed out to the research community if we have research funds available after the first round of proposals. Once our research portfolio is confirmed we will update this group on what we have funded and what the projects aim to deliver.

#### **Future Meetings**

Nathan, Defra – An ask for feedback for the next session. Would you all like to meet
in person, attend a workshop, etc? Please seen any further feedback to
<a href="mailto:ncf.treeprogramme@defra.gov.uk">ncf.treeprogramme@defra.gov.uk</a> if you have any comments on this.