

## **2015/16 Statement on Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy**

2015-16 has seen further improvement in Forestry Commission Scotland's (FCS) Environmental Management System (EMS) and drive to minimise the impact of our activities. In line with FCS's Public Bodies Duties, annual targets continue to be applied in key areas such as reducing emissions resulting from travel and energy use, and minimising the organisations water consumption and waste generation.

Building on from our Business Sustainability work in 2014/15, there has been a noticeable development in staff awareness over the past year. This is due in part to the increase of internal audits and support visits, across the Forest Districts and Conservancies.

An internal audit timetable, with a rolling programme for audits was arranged. Over the last year, 7 internal audits and 2 informal visits were completed, as well as 2 LRQA audits at 10 locations. Our continual improvement continues to maintain travel, energy and waste related minimisation plans.

The FC Scotland Business Sustainability intranet site is maintained by a designated member of staff ensuring recent developments are publicised. Business Sustainability support roles are well defined and staff know who to contact in relation to a specific enquiry. The Business Sustainability Enquiries mailbox is well used by staff. Two Business Sustainability workshops were held in February and there were also meetings with the internal auditors and the systems managers.

In 2015, LRQA assessed Scotland independently for the first time and Scotland retained its ISO 14001 accreditation. The FES and FCS Management Boards have concluded that Scotland wish to withdraw from ISO 14001 certification and will not seek re-approval when current certificate expires in June 2016.

Investigations of our septic tanks at Borgie House and Deer Larder have been carried out to include water sampling. Improvements will be carried out this financial year.

In ensuring better energy efficiency and carbon reduction in Moray and Aberdeenshire we rationalised office units from 5 locations to 3.

We made several improvements in many of our building types to improve energy efficiency and help with carbon reduction. This included making better use of office space enabling the closure of one depot. LED lighting replacing florescent tubes in several offices; improvements with the replacement of old heating systems and the re-plumbing of log boiler systems.

Energy consumption in Highlands and Islands Conservancy has been reduced by 13%. CO2 emissions have also gone down following the purchase of a paper shredder, which has reduced the number of uplifts required for confidential waste.

The standardising of recycling procedures within FCS has made waste and recycling recording more accurate, ensuring that the information collated is now comparable across the organisation.

During 2015/16 a new cycle shed was installed at our Oban office to accommodate an increasing number of staff cycling to work. FCS managers have continued to make the CO2 and other emissions a key part of the decision making process when deciding on replacement vehicles. In addition to this further video conferencing facilities have been installed and are used with increasing frequency.