



Forestry Commission Scotland
Coimisean na Coilltearachd Alba

Annual Sustainability Report

Financial Year 2012/13

Overview

During 2012-13 Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) has maintained its focus on reducing the environmental impact of its business activities and further improving its Environmental Management System (EMS) and associated reporting systems. In accordance with the organisation's Public Bodies Duties under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, annual targets have been applied in key the areas identified in our Environmental Policy to ensure continued progress towards reducing carbon emissions from travel and energy use; maximising recycling and minimising waste; and reducing water consumption.

Following independent certification of our EMS for the first time in 2011, we have sought to build on this success and ensure that the highest standards of environmental practice are fully embedded in the management of all our business activities.

The purpose of this report is to summarise FCS's environmental performance during 2012/13 in line with Scottish Government guidance¹.

Our Environmental Management System (EMS) & Governance

A programme support visits and audits were again carried out during 2012-13 to help staff identify areas for improvement and ensure that the requirements of our ISO14001 certification continue to be fully met.

This involved visits by our internal audit team to our offices at Glenbranter, Selkirk Dumfries (South Scotland Conservancy), Edinburgh (Head Office), Creebridge (Galloway Forest District (FD)) and Golspie (North Highland FD).

In addition, the following locations were assessed by Lloyds Register Quality Assurance Ltd (LRQA) as part of our independent certification process: Roslin (Northern Research Station); Stirling (Mechanical Engineering Services); Selkirk (South Scotland Conservancy); Edinburgh (Head Office); Huntly (Moray & Aberdeenshire FD); Elgin (Newton Nursery); and Inverness (Inverness Ross & Skye FD)

¹Public Sector Sustainability Reporting – Guidance on the Preparation of Annual Sustainability Reports 2011-12. (Scottish Government, January 2012).

Opportunities for improvement were identified in the following areas, and we will focus effort on these aspects of our business over the coming year:



- Increasing the pool of internal auditor to ensure the team's programme can be adequately resourced.
- Maintaining accurate waste management records.
- Ensuring a consistent approach to the recording of waste & further expanding coverage of water metering.
- Improving our systems for tracking actions taken in response to any ISO14001 non-conformances.

ISO14001 Certification



The independent certification of our EMS under the ISO14001 Standard by Lloyds Register Quality Assurance (LRQA) is a key part of our environmental policy and, alongside the certification of the national forest estate under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme, means FCS is able to demonstrate that all its business operations are run on a sustainable footing.





In their initial assessment one of LRQA's major findings was the need for FCS to obtain discharge consents under Controlled Activity Regulations (CAR) for outflows from a large number of our locations such as deer larders and vehicle wash bays. Work on this has been ongoing through 2012-13 with applications being made to SEPA for consents for more than 120 sites. As a result, CAR Discharge Consents are now in place for all relevant FCS locations.

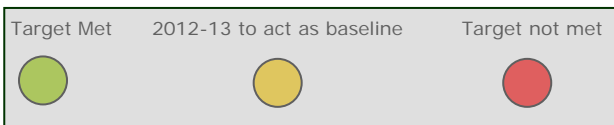
Environmental Performance Monitoring & Reporting

Alongside monitoring travel emissions and energy use, new reporting and metering systems for waste and water management have allowed more accurate baseline information of waste arisings and water consumption to be reported. The focus will now be to further enhance the coverage and consistency of waste and water recording, especially at our more remote sites. We will also seek to install Automatic Meter Readers (AMR's) where possible to help reduce demands on staff time.

Further details of our performance are given in tables 1 & appendix 1.

Table 1: Summary of Our Performance

Area	Performance in 2011/12	Status
Energy	Emissions from energy use have been reduced by an average of 4.2%/yr compared with 2010/11	
Waste	2012-13 will act as the baseline year for future reporting due to new metering & reporting system being introduced during 2011-12.	
Transport & Travel	Co2 emissions from travel have been reduced by an average of 6.5%/yr compared with 2010/11	
Water	2012-13 will act as the baseline year for future reporting due to new metering & reporting system being introduced during 2011-12. .	



Actions Taken During 2012-13 to Improve Sustainability

Video & Telephone Conferencing

The culture change within FCS has continued with most meetings now involving an element of participation by staff via either telephone or video.

Additional video conferencing (VC) facilities have been installed at our Dumfries office as a result of co-location with Scottish Natural Heritage. Forest Enterprise Scotland (FES) has approved plans to install additional VC equipment in both the West Argyll and Scottish Lowlands Forest District offices in summer 2013 following an upgrade to the Wide Area Network in both locations. Arrangements have also been made with SNH to enable staff based in both Tay and Lochaber Forest Districts to use VC at their Battleby and Torlundy offices. As a result all main FES offices will have direct access to VC facilities or within ten miles travel distance of other FES/SNH facilities.

Fleet Management & Introduction of Fuel Efficient Vehicles

FCS aims to source the lowest CO2 emitting vehicles suitable for the work we do and this has resulted in further reductions in our fleet's average CO2 emissions in g/km. Consideration of the most efficient vehicle for the task in hand is a central plank of our business planning process and enables us to introduce lower emission vehicles in a planned and managed way.

Improvements to the fuel efficiency of our fleet, combined with other initiatives to reduce staff travel, have allowed us to reduce the total emissions from our business travel by 160,000 KgCo2e over the last year.

In addition to driving down fuel consumption from our existing fleet, we're also researching and testing alternative low emissions alternatives such as hybrids and electric vehicles. Diesel/electric hybrid and fully electric powered vans are now becoming available and we will be investigating the potential for both these options over the coming year.

Following an initial trial of our first fully electric vehicle in the FCS fleet at our Inverness Forest District, we are now installing additional charging points at the Scottish Lowlands Forest District office at West Calder in the central belt. This will enable the vehicle to be operated in a more urban environment where we anticipate it being well suited to the shorter average daily travel distances.

Improvements to the Energy Efficiency of Our Offices & Business Premises

The results of our energy survey programme have guided further work to improve the energy efficiency of our premises, e.g. by increasing insulation levels, updating heating systems and replacing the most inefficient & outdated buildings.

During 2012-13 significant refurbishment work has commenced at the main West Argyll Forest District Office in Lochgilphead. Improvements include the installation of a new wood pellet biomass heating system as well as upgrading insulation levels throughout the building. The completion of similar Biomass installations at our Creebridge and Torlundy Offices has enabled applications to be made under the Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme to help offset energy costs.

Major refurbishment works which will improve insulation levels and install new efficient electrical and mechanical services are also underway at the David Marshall Lodge Visitor Centre near Aberfoyle and will continue through 2013/14.



Environmentally Sustainable Construction

Sustainability has been at the forefront of major new Visitor Centre development at Kirroughtree in Galloway. The new visitor centre has a ground source heat pump and wood stove.

Procurement of Goods & Services

All FCS tender documents now incorporate a clear 'Statement of Requirements' to ensure that contract managers and suppliers consider the sustainability aspects of all goods and services purchased. Guidance notes have been produced outlining the details that may be included within contract specifications to support managers in deciding what sustainability issues are relevant to specific tender requirements.

Use of the new guidance and templates is now well embedded within FCS and our procurement procedures continue to include the application of appropriate Government Buying Standards; building in sustainability requirements to our specifications; and awarding contracts using sustainability as part of the award criteria where pertinent to their delivery.

Further details of our sustainable procurement policy are available at: [Sustainable Procurement Policy](#)



Appendix 1: Summary of Performance

Area	Actual Performance 2012-13	Target
GHG emissions (Scope 1, 2 & 3 Emissions)	4,066 tonnes Co2 [2184 tCo2 from travel + 1882 tCo2 from energy use]	--
CRC related expenditure	£22,250	--
Total travel emissions	2,184 tonnes Co2 [avge 6.5%/yr reduction from 2010/11]	Avg 2% per year reduction from 2010 Target Met ✓
Total travel expenditure	£3,809k	--
Total energy consumption	4.83 M kWh [avge 4.2 %/yr reduction from 2010/11]	Avg 3% per year reduction from 2010 Target Met ✓
Total energy expenditure	£498k	--
Total waste tonnage	Estimated¹ at 1,735 tonnes [2012-13 will act as the baseline year for future reporting]	Avg 2.5% per year reduction
Office waste recycling	79% recycling rate¹	--
Total waste expenditure	Estimated at £172k	--
Water consumption	Total estimated³ at 90k m³ [per person consumption to be reported from 2013-14]	5.5m³ per person per yr in our key office buildings by 2020.
Water expenditure	Estimated¹ at £88k	--

Notes: ¹ 2012-13 will act as the baseline year as a result of the introduction of new metering and reporting systems during 2011-12. ³ Estimated due to continuing meter installation programme



Appendix 2: Core Sustainability Information 2011-12

Greenhouse Gas Emissions & Energy		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Non Financial Indicators (tonnes Co2e)	Total Gross Emissions	4386	4184	4066
	Total Net Emissions	4386	4184	4066
	Gross Emissions Scope 1	2041	1929	1766
	Gross Emissions Scope 2 & 3. (indirect impacts)	1885 +460	1840 +415	1882 +418
Related energy consumption (kWh)	Electricity non-renewable	3,435k	2,948k	2,916k
	Electricity Renewable	382k¹	328k¹	324k¹
	Gas	502k	362k	477k
	LPG	176k	11k	-
	Other (Gas Oil)	1,030k	1,170k	1,118
Financial indicators (£k)	Expenditure on Energy	340	395	498
	CRC license Expenditure	-	-	-
	Expenditure on business travel – official travel & fleet costs	4,081	3,966	3,809

¹based on the average % of renewable electricity supplied



Waste			2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Non Financial Indicators (tonnes)	Total volume of waste (not incl. construction)		-	1298 ¹	1735 ²
	Hazardous /special waste	Total	-	29 ¹	44 ²
		Landfill	-	560 ¹	747 ²
	Non-Hazardous waste	Re-used /Recycled	-	686 ¹	914 ²
Incinerated /energy from waste		-	23 ¹	30 ²	
Financial indicators (£k)	Total waste disposal cost		-	88 ¹	172 ²
	Hazardous/special waste disposal cost		-	*	20 ²
	Non-Hazardous Waste – total disposal cost	Landfill	-	*	92 ²
		Reused /recycled	-	*	52 ²
		Incinerated /energy From waste	-	*	8 ²

¹Estimated in 2011-12 due to the introduction of new metering and reporting systems during the year.

²Estimated due to continuing development of waste monitoring systems.

* absorbed in total waste figure. Disaggregation of costs for individual waste streams to be reported from 2012-13.

Water		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Non Financial Indicators (m ³)	Supplied	-	105,000 ¹	90,000 ³
	Disposed	-	*	*
Financial indicators (£k)	Water supply costs	-	59 ²	88 ²

¹Estimated in 2011-12 due to the introduction of new metering and reporting systems during the year.

²Cost of supplies to key buildings only. ³Estimated due to continuing water meter installation programme.

* unknown.