

# PROJECT WOODLAND WG4

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UPDATE

# WORK STREAMS

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- Business Process/Systems Analyses
- Regulatory Review
- Pre-Application Discussions
- Environment Report/Grant

# BUSINESS PROCESS/SYSTEMS ANALYSES

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- Group being kept updated on implementation measures
- Agile implementation group now in place within DAFM
- An overview table of progress on individual recommendations will allow the Group to continue to monitor progress

# REGULATORY REVIEW

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- Group made a submission to the PB in response to the report from Philip Lee and, together with WGI, engaged with the Board
- Group has considered the resulting recommendations issued by the PB
- It was noted that the PB acknowledges the inputs from WGs I&4 but that some issues raised were not specifically addressed e.g. in regard to international comparisons and other MS approaches to achieving compliance with EU law
- The Group welcomes many aspects of the recommendations including the development of a plan led approach
- The Group hopes to input to the action plan now being prepared by DAFM

# PRE-APPLICATION DISCUSSIONS

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- Pilot phase concluded
- Indications positive, though based on a small sample
- Facility now being extended nationally but in the context of the new Forestry Programme and the DAFM organisational review
- Group will continue to monitor progress



# ENVIRONMENT REPORT/GRANT

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- Proposal brought to PB
- Resulting DAFM/PB approach of continuing concern to the Group
- Current position is that a version of the scheme is being applied by DAFM at Form 2 stage
- Group maintains its position, especially in regard to timing of grant payments

# LONGER TERM

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- Group concerned at the pace of progress
- A desire to see a clear pathway for the future of Project Woodland
- In particular, clarity around the actions that will now be taken and the timeline for them