Forestry Commission Scotland
Coimisean na Coilltearachd Alba

Annual Sustainability Report

Financial Year 2018/19

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Introduction

It has been an important and momentous year for Forestry Commission Scotland and Forest Enterprise Scotland during a historic time for forestry in Scotland.

2019 marks 100 years since the landmark 1919 Forestry Act was passed. The Act began one of the most significant periods of change in British forestry and land use, establishing the Forestry Commission, and initiating the huge undertaking to restore Britain's forest and timber resources. Over the years, the Act and the agencies and organisations it brought into being shaped the way forestry in Scotland has managed and grown.

On 1st April 2019 the Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018 came into force, replacing the 1967 revision of the Forestry Act. With this, full responsibility for forestry matters in Scotland was devolved to Scottish Ministers and the Scottish Parliament took legislative control and oversight of critical, sustainable and valuable land use.

At the same time, two new Scottish Government (SG) agencies, Forestry and Land Scotland and Scottish Forestry, will be established to carry out Scottish Ministers' functions under the new Act. These are formed, respectively, from Forest Enterprise Scotland and Forestry Commission Scotland.

As such this Sustainability Report is the last to be published for Forest Enterprise Scotland and Forestry Commission Scotland.

Overview

Year 2018/2019 has seen further improvement in Forestry Commission Scotland's[1] (FCS)Environmental Management System (EMS) and drive to minimise the impact of our activities. In line with FCS's Public Bodies Duties, annual targets will 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.

The purpose of this report is to summarise FCS's environmental performance during 2018/19 in line with Scottish Government guidance[2].

Our Environmental Management System (EMS) & Governance

Building on from our Business Sustainability work in 2018/19, there has been a noticeable development in staff awareness over the past year.

Support for staff

The FC Scotland Business Sustainability intranet site is maintained by a designated member of staff ensuring recent developments are published in a timely manner and easily accessible to all staff. The website provides up-to-date, relevant information for staff across Scotland. Business Sustainability support roles are well defined and staff know who to contact in relation to a specific enquiry.

A Business Sustainability Yammer group was set up in October 2017 as a useful discussion tool for those who input data at Forest Districts and Conservancies.

The Business Sustainability Enquiries Outlook mailbox is not as busy as previously, due to the improved capabilities of staff in inputting to the Business Sustainability database. Local Business Sustainability teams ask for advice from the Business Sustainability Co-ordinator, increasing their knowledge across the organization and implementing improvements and innovations across the organisation.

The Business Sustainability Co-ordinator will carry out site visits and training as necessary, on request. This ensures data is being input correctly to the database and recycling is being done as efficiently as possible.

Environmental Performance Monitoring & Reporting

Forestry Commission Scotland has improved the accuracy of recording vital environmental data; monthly reports are issued to Forest Districts and Conservancies for monitoring by experienced staff, ensuring any discrepancies are actioned. These reports give a detailed breakdown of the data input to the Business Sustainability database by staff at a range of locations across the National Forest Estate. Discrepancies are highlighted and designated staff, in Forestry Commission Scotland National Office and Forest Enterprise Scotland Head Office ensures any discrepancies are followed up and appropriately actioned. Staff input quarterly, in line with the financial year, which ensures the reports generated are more accurate.

Our approach to business sustainability ensures that impacts of energy use, travel, waste and procurement are effectively managed and that we comply with relevant environmental legislation.

Further details of our performance is shown in Table 1 & Appendix 1.

Table 1: Summary of Our Performance

Area	Performance in 2018/19	Status
Energy	Emissions from energy use have been reduced by an average of 8% compared with 2017/18	🟢
Waste	Waste tonnage has been significantly reduced due to low numbers of construction projects and increased efforts at decreasing waste production.	🟢
Transport & Travel	Emissions from travel have been reduced by 7% compared with 2018/19	🟢
Water	There has been a marked increase in our efforts at reducing consumption, against forecast, and interrogating sites relating to the installation of water meters.	🟢

🟢 Target met

🔴 Target not met

Actions Taken During 2018-2019 to Improve Sustainability

Energy Efficiency and carbon reduction

- **Workshops in Ae, Creebridge, Cairnbaan and Aberfoyle** have been fitted with LED lighting reducing significantly electricity usage

- **Glenbranter Outstation** had LED Floodlights replaced with LED units to decrease the electricity usage

- **Glentress Peel** has installed 'Dark Skies' compliant external lighting that contributed to reduce the light pollution in the area

- **Straiton Office** has improved insulation to the loft and windows ensuring more efficient energy usage

- **The Lodge Visitor Centre** has begun process of replacing lights with eco LED units

Measuring, Monitoring and Management Information

Forestry Commission Scotland has continued to make improvements in the accuracy and availability of key environmental management data to cost centres.

Alongside monitoring travel emissions and energy use, new reporting and metering systems for waste and water management are enabling more reliable information to be reported on waste generation and water consumption.

Water meters were installed at a number of new sites and we have been collating better information on our water usage.

Waste and Recycling

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

North region has successfully increased recycled wastage to 70% and is continuously working with IT colleagues towards recycling more of redundant IT equipment.

Creebridge Workshop has changed the waste collecting company to ensure all plastic waste is recycled. All workshops have stopped using hand cleaners that use microbeads that could cause water pollution and pose environmental hazard.

Reducing travel emissions

During 2018/19 Sustrans had number of Work Place travel pop ups set up in Silvan House in Edinburgh that were aiming to advise of different transport options and promote cycling and walking as greener options to travel to work. They offered wide range of free safety accessories for cyclists and walkers. The Edinburgh City Council ran 'Be Bright Be Seen' roadshow in Edinburgh office to raise awareness of cycling and driving in the darker nights and to encourage cyclist to wear bright clothing and use bike lights. Additionally, the bike doctor sessions were held in Silvan House providing staff with advice and free bike servicing. All staff in Edinburgh office was offered a week of free use of the Go Eat bikes situated on the pavement out with Silvan House. All of the above initiatives resulted in increased number of staff cycling to work.

In 2018/19 Forestry Commission Scotland managers have continued to make the CO_2 and other emissions a key part of the decision making process when deciding on replacement vehicles. We proudly introduced two fully electric vans into the service and hoping to increase that number in the coming year.

Appendix 1: Summary of Performance

Area	Actual Performance 2018-19	Target
Green House Gas emissions (Scope 1 ,2 & 3 Emissions)	**2, 874 tonnes Co2**[1] [1,688 t Co2 travel + 1,186 t Co2 energy use]	--
CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme related expenditure	**Approx. £14,8 k**	--
Total travel emissions	**1,688 tonnes Co2**	7% reduction from 2017/18 Target Met √
Total travel expenditure	**£3,473 k**	--
Total energy consumption	**5,028 kWh**	3,5% reduction from 2017/18 Target Met √
Total energy expenditure	**£557 k**	--
Total waste tonnage	**844,5 tonnes**[2] [excludes construction waste]	21.5% reduction from 2017/18 Target Met √
Office waste recycling	**63% recycling rate**	--
Total waste expenditure	**Estimated at £143 k**	--
Water consumption	**Total estimated at 18, 553 m³**	5.5m³ per person per year in our key office buildings by 2020
Water expenditure	**Estimated at £32k**[3]	--

Appendix 2: Core Sustainability Information 2018-19

Greenhouse Gas Emissions & Energy		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Non Financial Indicators (tonnes Co2)	Total Gross Emissions	3,844	3,318	3,123	2,874
	Total Net Emissions	3,844	3,318	3,123	2,874
	Gross Emissions Scope 1	1,847	1,632	1,559	1,053
	Gross Emissions Scope 2 & 3 (indirect impacts)	1,997	1,686	1,102	1,186
Related energy consumption (kWh)	Electricity non-renewable	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Electricity Renewable	3,027k	2,676k	2,745k	3,085k
	Gas	610k	509k	656k	613k
	LPG	202k	186k	190k	120k
	Other (Gas Oil)	335k	1507k	1617k	1619k
Financial indicators (£k)	Expenditure on Energy	413k	483k	399k	502k
	CRC license Expenditure	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Expenditure on business travel – official travel & fleet costs	3,505	3,208	3,014	3,683

Waste			2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Non Financial Indicators (tonnes)	Total volume of waste		1072	1098	1077	844,5[2]
	Hazardous/ Special waste	Total	58	0.5	137	81.35
	Non-Hazardous waste	Landfill	577	331	391	269
		Re-used /Recycled	379	640	651	529
		Incinerated /energy from waste	116	127	35	41
Financial indicators (£k)	Total waste disposal cost		112	183	140	143
	Hazardous/special waste disposal cost		10	0.06	20	11
	Non- Hazardous Waste – total disposal cost	Landfill	69	52	51	57,8
		Reused /recycled	37	125	76	66,5
		Incinerated /energy from waste	7	5	13	2,5

Water		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Non Financial Indicators (m³)	Supplied	4,384[4]	22,121	20,574	18,553
	Disposed	*	*	*	*
Financial indicators (£k)	Water supply costs	5	26	22[5]	32[3]

Notes:

[1] CO_2 estimates based upon revised energy use KwH/co2 conversion factors published by DEFRA for use from 2013-14

[2] Significant reduction of waste due to low numbers of construction projects and subsequently construction waste and increased efforts at waste reduction across the organisation.

[3] Increase in cost noted due to more accurate reporting enabled by installation of water meter readings on more sites

[4] Based on 100 % Green Energy from EDF Energy supplier under Scottish Government supply

contract.

[5]   *Revised figure for 2017/18 provided due to installation of water meters and central consolidation of water consumption measures on the Scottish Forest Estate*

* *Unknown*