

Update on the Woodland Policy Enabling Programme

Meeting between FC and FCTU 15th June 2013

This meeting was requested by FCTU as a further part of the ongoing process of establishing meaningful consultation and being engaged in developing the proposed changes that this programme will bring about.

We were assured by the FC that consultation would be carried out, firstly with a six week period starting in early July on all aspects of the programme, followed by further consultation during the delivery phase of the programme.

This satisfies the needs of union members and now gives them the opportunity to make comments, put forward views and take part in the consultation as required under our agreements with the FC.

You will be aware that the consultation on the review of Forestry Functions is currently underway and FCTU have put forward an initial response, which has been answered by the FC. This now leaves us with FCTU England putting in a final response prior to the closure date of 27th June 2013.

The results of this consultation will be used to inform the forthcoming Stakeholder Forum on July 3rd 2013. This forum was set up at the time of the Independent Panel and has been continued by DEFRA and the FC as a means of measuring reaction to policy and proposals.

FCTU will as usual be attending the forum and we will report back on the outcomes and how they may affect union members in the Forestry Commission.

FCTU Secretary
18th June 2013.