

**“Right tree, right place- meeting
climate change targets
sustainably”**

John Tucker

Director of Woodland Outreach



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What am I going to talk about?

- Set the scene – the scale of the challenge.
- Objectives. Why trees and woods?
- Planning: assessment, analysis, engagement, design, implementation.
- Management
- Principles apply whether rural or urban, a new wood or an individual tree.



Scale of the challenge

- Climate Change Committee – 30,00ha annually of new woodland up to 2050.
- Increase UK woodland cover from 13% - 19%
- 2019 – 13,400ha created, highest level since 2003.
- We have only created in excess of 30,000ha annually once since 1976.
- The challenge is enormous.





A cautionary tale – we've been here before!

Flow Country, planting driven by tax incentives in the late 1980's.

“There are concerns that planting pledges may be favouring fashion over function”



Why trees and woods? It's vital to be clear on your objectives.



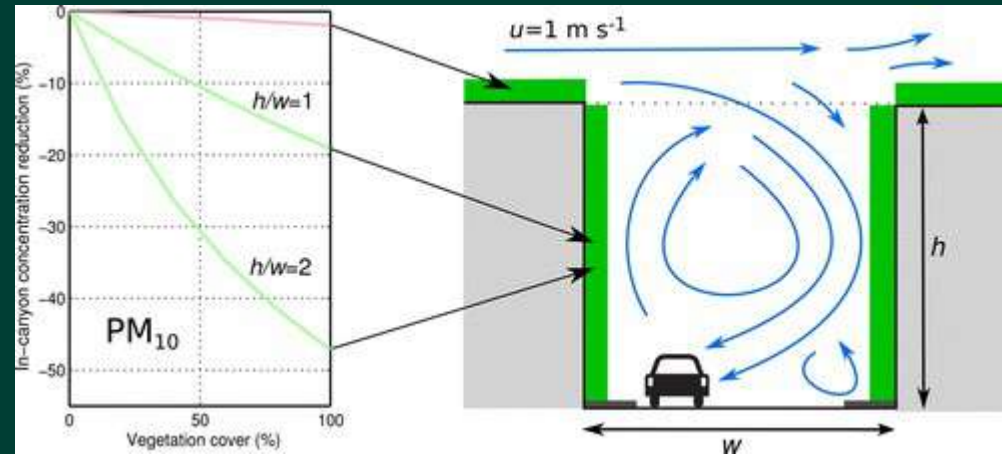
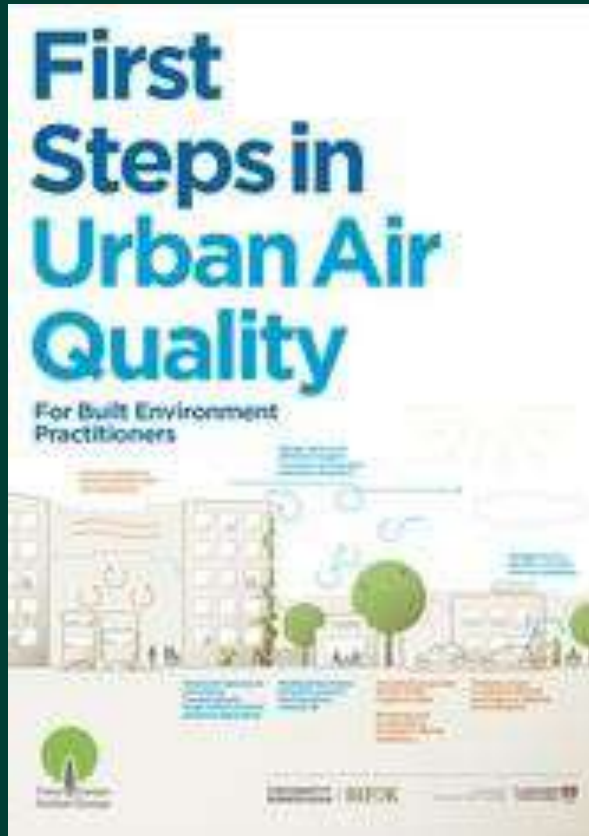
Forestry Commission

Woodland Creation
planting for the future

Creating new woodland: Woodland Carbon Guarantee

Planting new woodland to capture carbon

Impacts on air quality



Pugh et al 2012 showed how “vegetation” could be an efficient remover of both PM and NO₂.



Reducing flood risk at home



Welcome to Gorphey Reservoir

Our Natural Flood Management plans for Gorphey Reservoir will help slow the flow of water through the Calder Valley.

We're planting up to 200,000 trees here, restoring 43 hectares of blanket bog and making environmental improvements on the remaining 60 hectares of land around the reservoir.

These initiatives will be introduced to the landscape to help reduce flood risk and enhance the local environment.



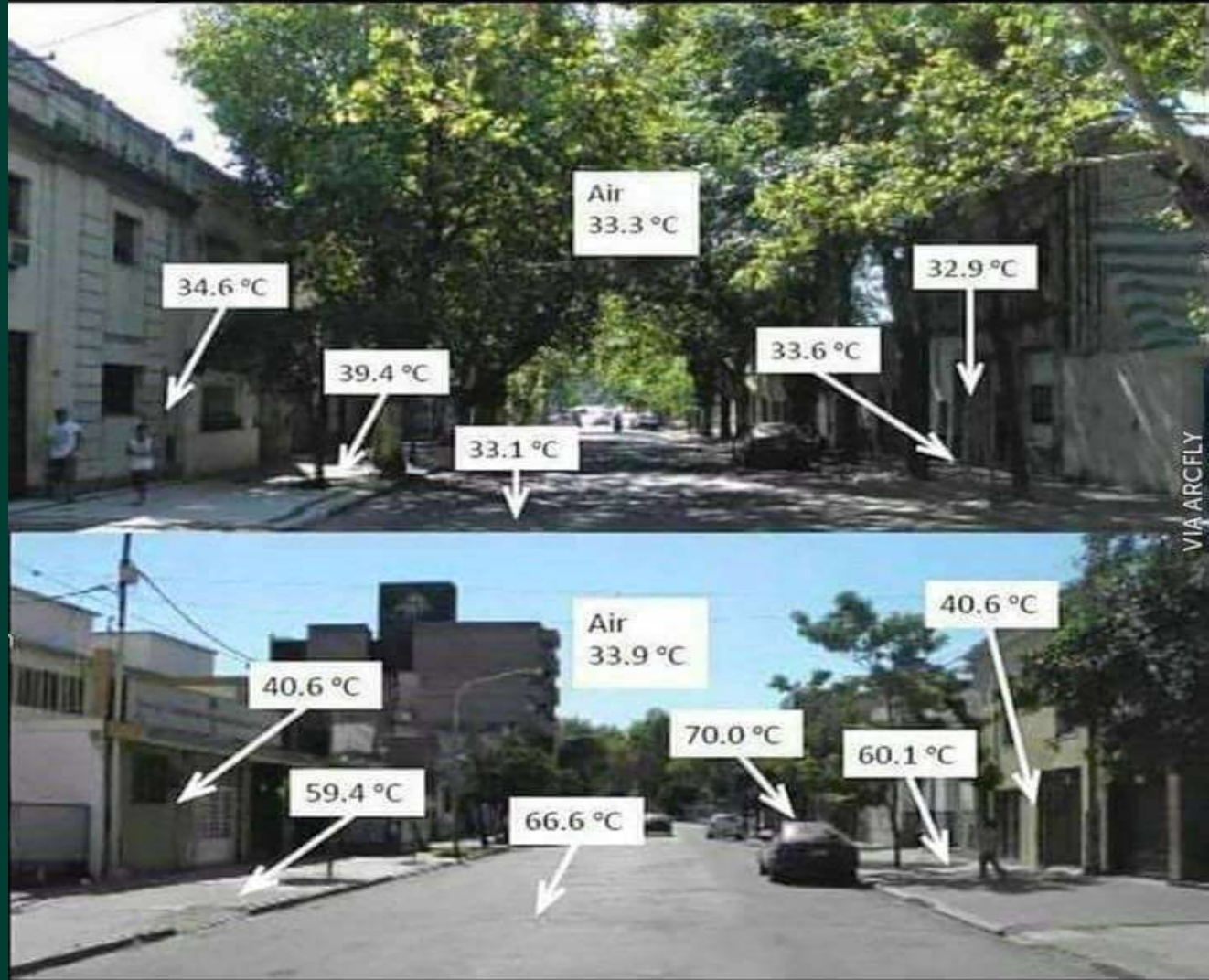
yorkshirewater.com/gorphey
Emergency 0345 1 24 24 24



Small scale riparian planting to protect and shade water courses and improve water quality.



The shade value of trees will be important as the climate warms. This is an example from Nigeria.



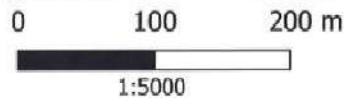
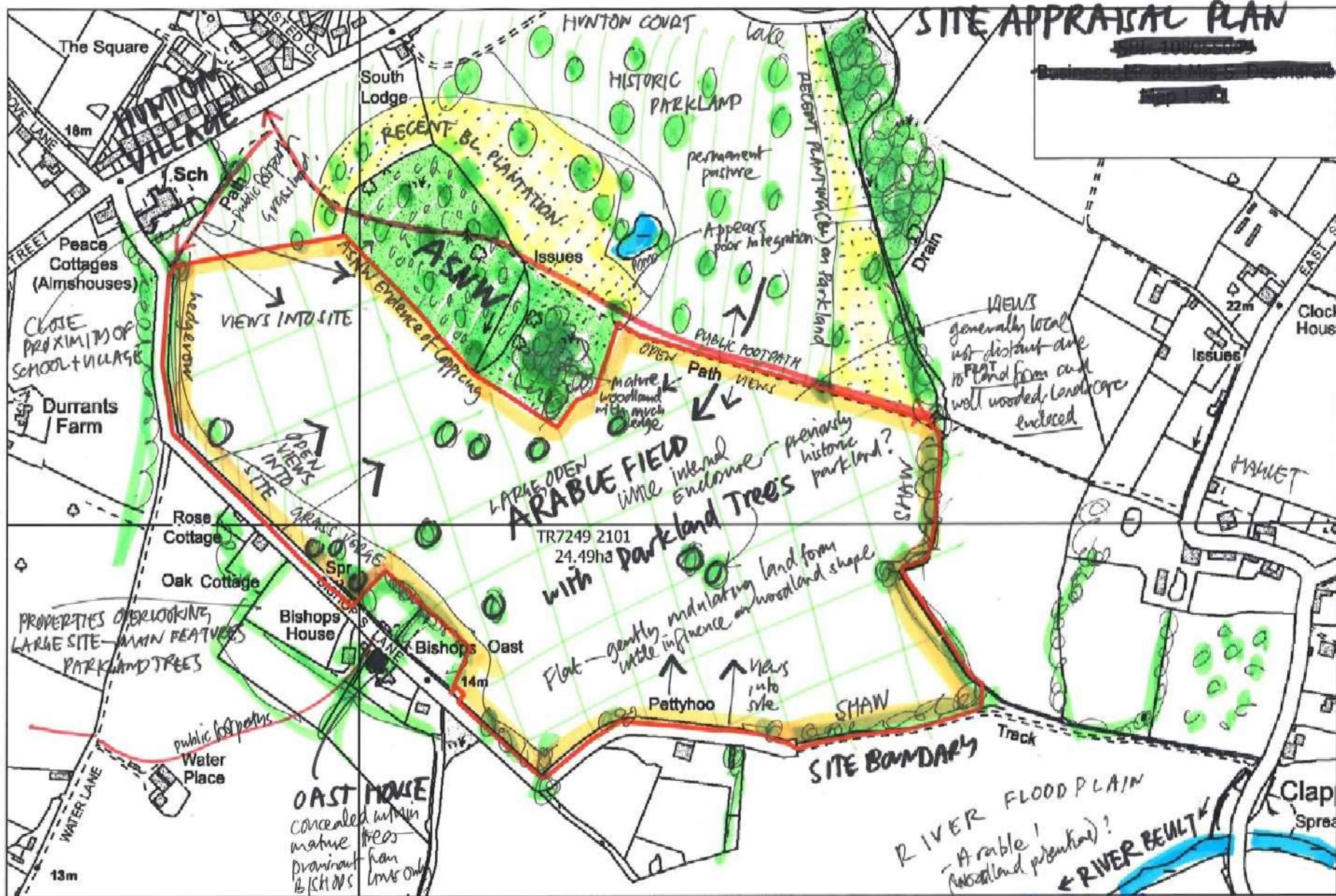
Site assessment- woodland

- Objectives – are they locationally dependent?
- Soils
- Topography
- Exposure
- Peat
- Other habitats
- Birds
- Archaeology
- Overhead and underground services
- Access (current and future)
- Scale and sense of place, landscape character

www.magic.gov.uk

*Forestry Commission Land Information
Search*

<https://www.thelandapp.com>

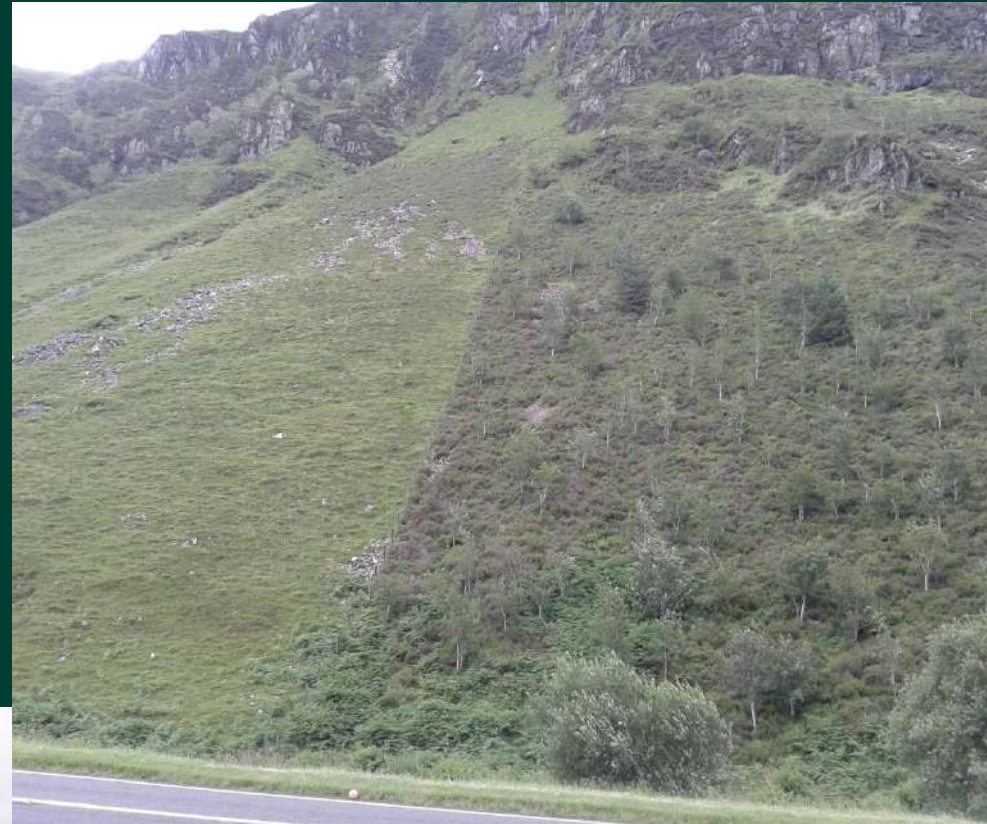


INDICATIVE SITE APPRAISAL PLAN prepared from
FOR DISCUSSION ONLY AERIAL PHOTO ONLY
 Richard Mellier 14.11.18 WCPG Application - Map 1 of 1
 Central Grid Ref: TQ723489

Revision 1

 Parcel to be included in WCPG application

Consider alternatives – natural regeneration



Direct seeding – 4 years old

Site assessment - urban

- Function – what are your objectives?
- Character/history of the area
- Diversity of tree species
- Soils, overhead and underground services
- Available space. Buildings, highways, pavements.
- Design – scale, balance , texture, colour
- Site constraints e.g. amount of sun
- Pollen

Concepts to final plan

- Community engagement and involvement is vital.
- Statutory authorities may need to be involved e.g. highways in urban areas or FC for woodland creation.
- EIA regulations revised in 2017 – vary between countries.
- Grant aid may be available to help with both planning and delivery costs.



Forestry Commission England EIA Screening guidance

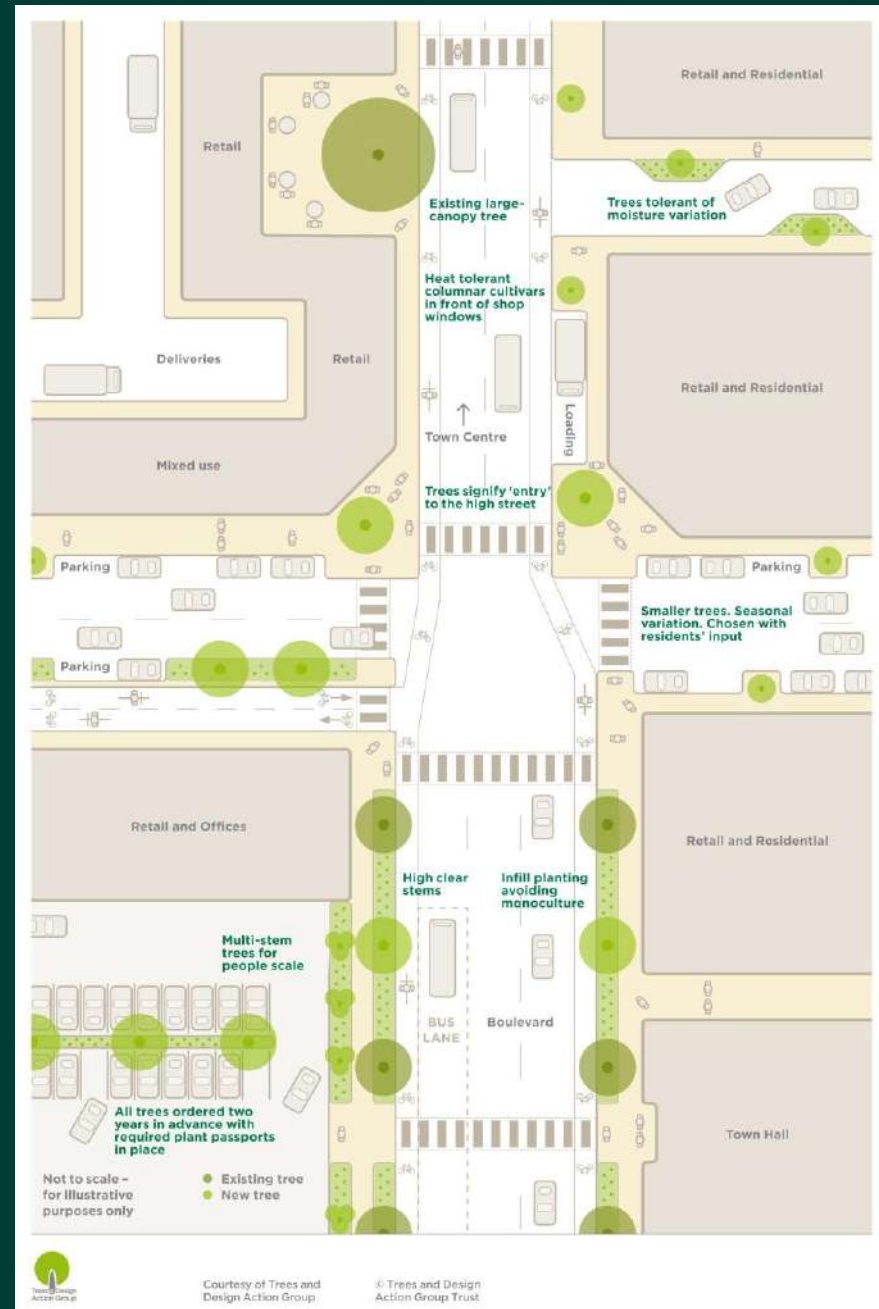
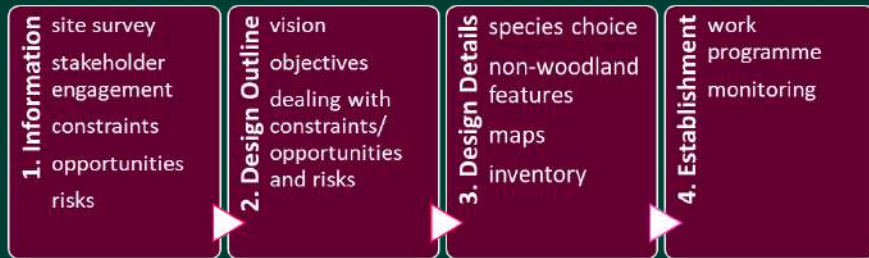
Thresholds

Table 1: Thresholds for all forestry projects

Operation	Thresholds for afforestation depending on sensitivity	EIA process
Afforestation	More than 2 hectares, and where the land, or part of the land, is within a National Park or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.	EIA Enquiry form and Full Screening
	All afforestation, where the land, or part of the land, is within a Sensitive Area (as per list of designations) and which is not a National Park or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is assessed.	EIA Enquiry form and Full Screening
	More than 2 hectares, but no more than 5 hectares, and where no part of the land is within a Sensitive Area.	EIA Enquiry form for Prior Basic Notification, unless requirement is removed by application for FC grant for woodland creation
	More than 5 hectares, where no part of the land is within a Sensitive Area, and the land is outside the Low Risk Area	EIA Enquiry form and Full Screening
	Low Risk Area (as mapped): More than 5 hectares, but no more than 50 hectares, where no part of the land is within a Sensitive Area, and the land is all within a Low Risk Area	EIA Enquiry form for Prior Full Notification (including IAPF equivalent Woodland Creation Design Plan). Includes 28-day period on Public Register
	Low Risk Area (as mapped): More than 50 hectares, where no part of the land is within a Sensitive Area and the area is a Low Risk Area	EIA Enquiry form and Full Screening
Operation	Threshold where any part of the land is in a sensitive area	Threshold where no part of the land is in a sensitive area
Deforestation	0.5 hectare, where the land, or part of the land, is within a National Park or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. All projects, where the land, or part of the land, is within a Sensitive Area (as per list of designations) and which is not a National Park or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, are assessed.	1 hectare
Forest Roads	All projects	1 hectare
Forest Quizzes	All projects	1 hectare

The table above and Appendix 1 show the area thresholds (in hectares) for each category of forestry project.
Amendments made by the 2017 Regulations disaggregated the categories of forestry projects for which a specific threshold may be set. This has allowed several thresholds to be set for each category of forestry project.

Summary of the process



Courtesy of Trees and Design Action Group

© Trees and Design Action Group Trust

Species choice

- You will be guided by your objectives and the site characteristics.
- There is a wealth of information out there to guide your selection.
- In terms of resilience one of the keys is diversity- don't focus on just one or two species.
- There is currently a lively debate on “assisted migration”



Whatever species you plant, seek quality stock,
preferably UK sourced and grown



Quality of planting



Ranton estate, Midlands

Bridgend, courtesy of
GreenBlue Urban Ltd.



Good maintenance and long term management are essential if you want to achieve your objectives



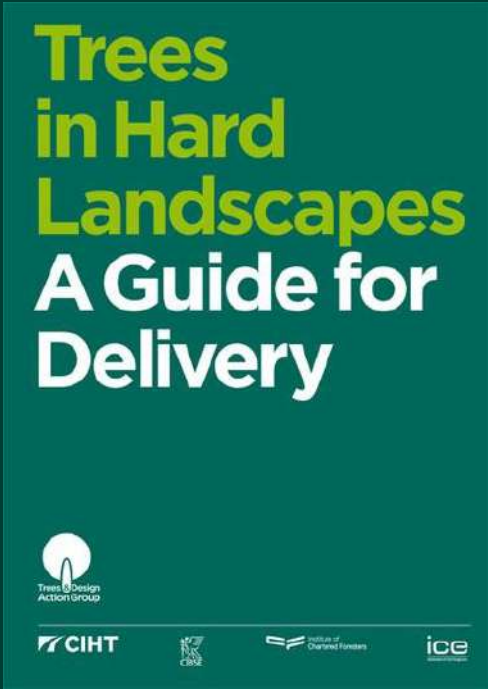


Maintenance and on-going management is essential if you are to achieve your objectives.



Key messages

- Understand your objectives. Are they part of a bigger plan?
- Analyse and assess the site, involve communities and stakeholders
- Use sources of guidance and advice
- Seek professional advice
- Give yourself plenty of time.
- Invest in on going management.





Thanks for listening

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