

Terms of Reference

Forestry Plastic Group

January 2020

1. Aims of the Forestry Plastic Group

The aims of the Forestry Plastic Group are to:

- *advocate and facilitate good practice around use of plastic in forestry and waste compliance;*
- *research and share information on plastic packaging and tree tube alternatives to ensure adverse environmental impacts are reduced and balanced sustainable solutions found*
- *promote the environmental benefits that result from forestry and forest management*

2. How will these aims be met?

The Forestry Plastic Group will use a collaborative approach to look at concerns and problems with the use and management of plastic and associated waste and compliance. The Group, and will work with partners to develop responses, solutions and remedial actions, which will be disseminated throughout the forestry sector and to interested stakeholders.

Partners will include relevant Confor Groups (for example the Technical and Compliance Group and Nurseries and Suppliers Group), and Forest Research.

The Group will seek to engage all stakeholders from across the industry, compile and maintain a list of actions, and drive forward work as time and resources allow.

3. Scope of activities

In particular, but not exclusively, the Group will work in the following areas:

- Producing guidance and best practice examples to better inform stakeholders and other interested parties.
- Collaborating on research and innovation.
- Endeavouring to work with regulators, manufacturers and the forestry industry to promote and facilitate improvements in use and management of plastic and associate waste
- Work with stakeholders, including grant giving bodies, to encourage change and reduce the amount of single-use plastic within the industry

4. Operating principles

To deliver actions, the Group will draw upon the experience, skills and time of the membership, and of other organisations, companies and individuals as appropriate for specific tasks. Information, data and experience will be shared among partners.

Funding contributions may be sought from member organisations and other stakeholders to employ contractors to deliver some of the actions.

5. Membership

Membership of the group will not exceed 20 in total, made up of representatives of organisations from across the forestry industry involved in woodland creation and management or regulating these activities.

Other organisations, companies and individuals will be invited to participate in specific tasks as appropriate.

6. Chair

The Group will be chaired on a rotational basis.

7. Meetings

Meetings will be held as required and at least twice per annum. Interim business will be conducted by meetings of individuals, email and video-conference as necessary.