



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

# BUSINESS IMPACT TARGET: SUMMARY TEMPLATE

Non-qualifying Regulatory Provisions  
(NQRP) summary reporting template



**Regulator:** Forestry Commission

**Business Impact Target Reporting Period Covered:** 9 June 2017 to 20 June 2018

<b>Excluded Category*</b>	<b>Summary of measure(s), including any impact data where available</b>
<p>Measures certified as being below de minimis (measures with an EANDCB below +/- £5 million)</p>	<p><b><u>European Protected Species – Dormice (EU and International)</u></b> There have been no changes to EU legislation affecting the forestry sector during the reporting period. However, <a href="#">best practice guidance</a> in relation to forestry activities that may impact upon the European Protected Species of dormice was revised and published in April 2018. This is not an industry code. It does not prescribe mandatory procedures for businesses. It simply provides advice to the sector on how to minimise their potential impact on dormice and their habitats.</p> <p><b><u>Felling Licence Online – FLO (Economic Regulation)</u></b> It is anticipated that the above online system for applying for a felling licence will have launched before the end of the reporting period. This system will replace the previous paper based system that applicants had to navigate in order to apply for a felling licence. FLO will record applicants’ personal details, as well as those of their woodlands, so that this information will not need to be repeatedly submitted in subsequent applications. The system will of course save applicants postage costs as well. That said, the expected savings to businesses are not expected to exceed the £5 million de minimus threshold for Qualifying Regulatory Provisions. The Commission process c.2,500 licence applications a year. FLO will not save businesses the £2,000+ per licence required to breach the de minimus threshold. It is more likely to save applicants approximately 20 minutes of their time per licence (plus postage), which equates to savings of around £3.25 per licence, using the median wage for forestry workers obtained from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings figures (2016).</p> <p><b><u>Statutory Plant Health Notices (Civil Emergencies)</u></b> SPHNs, requiring the felling of infected trees, are issued by the Forestry Commission to prevent the spread of pests and diseases.</p> <p><b><u>Casework</u></b> The Forestry Commission issued 98 Statutory Plant Health Notices under the Plant Health Act 1967 during this reporting period. Of which, 84 were for Phytophthora ramorum, 14 for Cryphonectria and 0 for Oriental Chestnut Gall Wasp.</p> <p>The Forestry Commission issued 37 Restocking Notices during the period in relation to alleged illegal felling (felling without a licence). 29 Enforcement Notices were issued for non-compliance with previous Restocking Notices. No referrals for prosecution were brought to court during the review period.</p> <p><b><u>Education, Communications and Promotions</u></b></p>

Excluded Category*	Summary of measure(s), including any impact data where available
	<p>The Commission chairs the Applicants Focus Group on a quarterly basis to discuss grant and regulatory changes with members of the sector. However, these meetings typically focus on grant related issues.</p> <p><b><u>Changes to Management of Regulator</u></b>  The Forestry Commission has closed its Santon Downham Administration Hub, which was formerly one of three admin processing hubs available to the Commission. All administrative processing of felling licences, EIA enquiries and relevant grant applications are now handled by the remaining two hubs in Bucks Horn Oak and Bullers Hill.</p>
All other excluded categories	Following consideration of the other exclusion categories there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusions.

\*This column will be updated with the other exemption categories once the Business Impact Target has been announced. Complete the summary box as 'Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.' where this is appropriate.