

Corporate Plan Performance Indicators

Headline Performance Update
30 June 2015

Corporate Plan

Key Performance Indicators

Headline Performance Update at 30 June 2015 (First Release)

[Forestry Commission England's Corporate Plan 2011-15](#) set out our key performance indicators to show our contribution towards forestry and woodlands in England. The indicators are also covered in our [Corporate Plan 2014-15](#).

Our [Indicator Reports](#) provide an annual report on all the indicators which we monitor and our [Indicators Report 2015](#), published in May 2015, provides the latest position.

We reviewed our six **headline** key performance indicators in 2014-15 to ensure they are still the best we can offer and properly reflect the Government's priorities in English forestry.

Note: first publication of the indicator '*Percentage of England's woodland threatened by significant pests or diseases already present*' is planned for the next performance update following further development of its methodology.

We aim with the indicators to continue to reflect our priorities of protection, improvement and expansion of England's woodlands, as set out in our [Corporate Plan 2015-16](#).

We also want them to continue to display some of the contributions Forest Enterprise England makes to people, nature and the economy through the Public Forest Estate.

So from this update onwards our six headline performance indicators will be as shown in Table 1 overleaf.

This update provides the **first** quarterly report on these six headline key performance indicators (KPIs) for the **2015-16** financial year.

These Forestry Commission England key performance indicators are based on our administrative data. The systems in place by which these reports have been produced have been verified by Internal Audit at the Forestry Commission (FC).

For previous and future reports, please visit our website at www.forestry.gov.uk > [England](#) > [About us](#) > [Indicators](#).

Table 1: Forestry Commission England Headline Performance Indicators

Forest Services	
Protection	Percentage of England's woodland threatened by significant pests or diseases already present – this indicator's first publication is planned for the next performance update following further development of its methodology
Protection	Percentage of known tree felling that is carried out with Forestry Commission approval (i.e. the % of felling that is licensable by the Forestry Commission that is not illegal felling. This excludes felling with development approval)
Improvement	Percentage of woodland in active management (including the Public Forest Estate)
Expansion	Area of woodland
Forest Enterprise England	
Restructuring Our Business	Cost of managing the Public Forest Estate (per hectare)
Customer Service	Number of private sector businesses operating on the Public Forest Estate

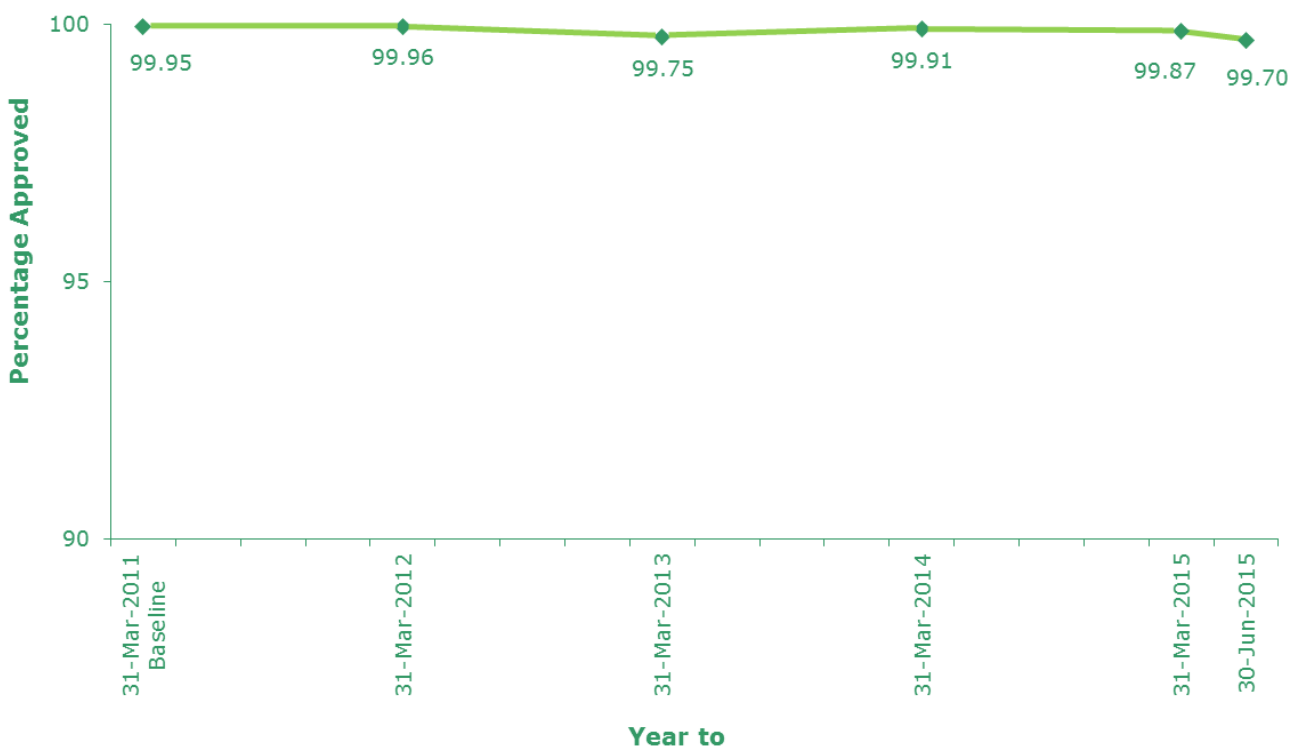
Contact: david.f.cross@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
 Evidence and Analysis
 Strategic Development
 Forest Services
 20th August 2015

Forest Services

Protection

A. *Percentage of England's woodland threatened by significant pests or diseases already present. The indicator will appear in the next position update of this document for 30 September 2015.*

B. *Percentage of known tree felling that is carried out with Forestry Commission approval (i.e. the % of felling that is licensable by the Forestry Commission that is not illegal felling. This excludes felling with development approval)*

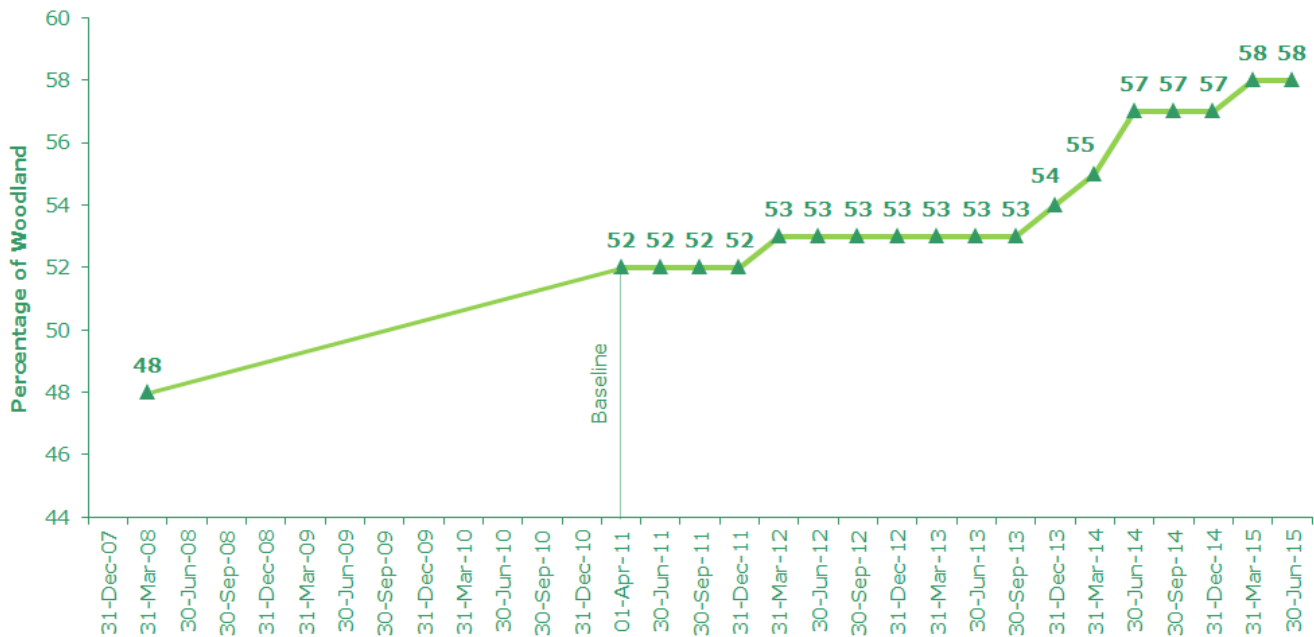


Report for year to 30 June 2015: **99.70% of known tree felling was carried out with Forestry Commission approval.**

Very strong and consistent performance. This high level of compliance with the Forestry Act is an indicator of the public's understanding of the legislation and the quality of advice and guidance given by the Forestry Commission.

Improvement

Percentage of woodland in active management (including the Public Forest Estate)



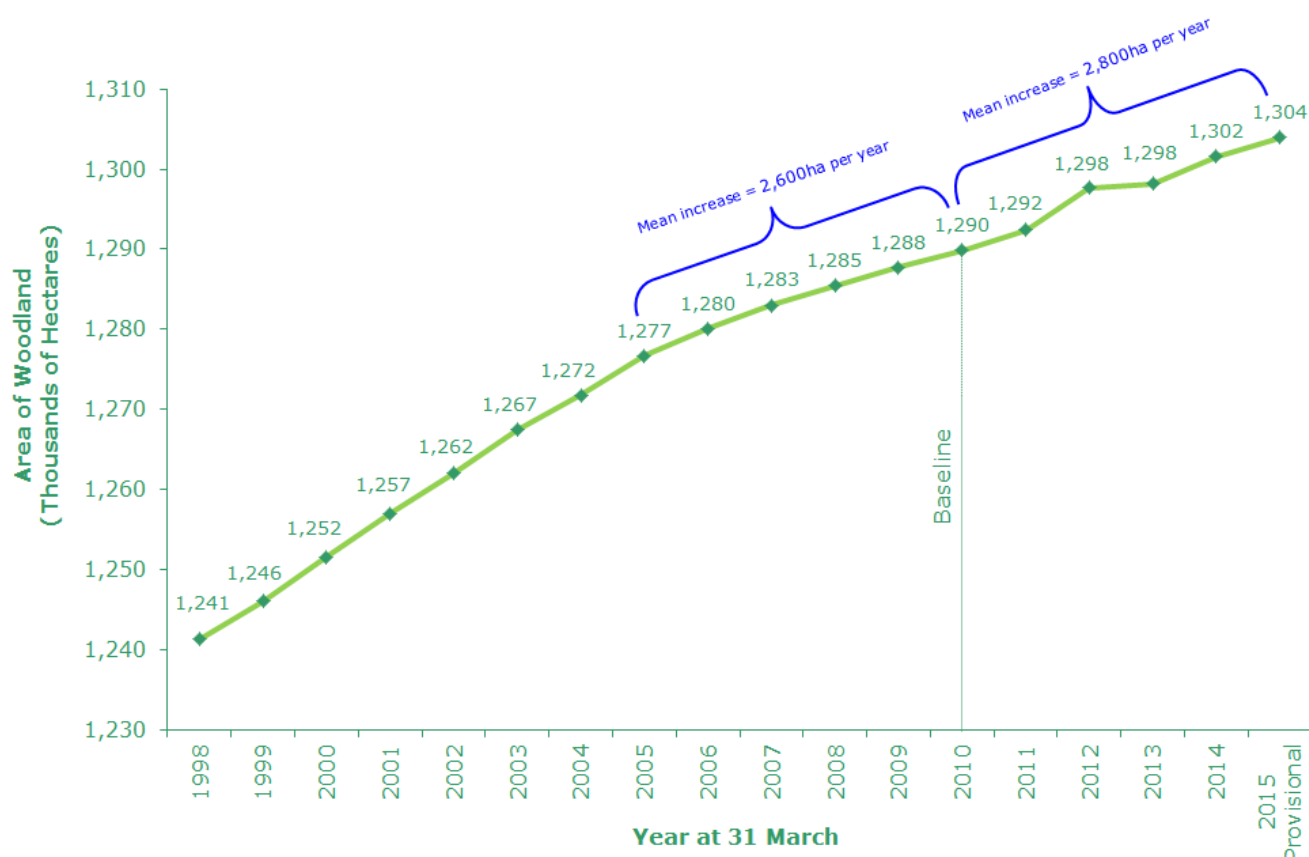
Position at 30 June 2015: **58% of English woodland is actively managed.**

The percentage of woodland in active management has gradually increased since the April 2011 baseline (52%). This indicator of woodland in management includes woodlands where there has been Forestry Commission England grant or felling licence activity typically in the previous 15 years – it is recognised that other woodlands might be considered as managed as well.

Expansion

Area of Woodland

A. Area of Woodland in England: Annual Position



Source: Based on [National Forest Inventory](#) and Forestry Commission administrative data. See [Woodland Area, Planting & Restocking - 2015 edition \(Forestry Commission\)](#)

Position at 31 March 2015: **1,304,000 hectares of woodland in England** (subject to revision).

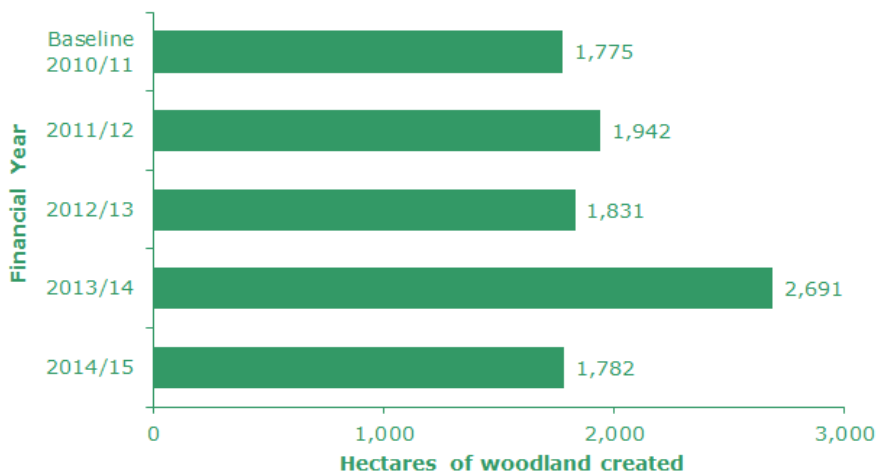
As at 31 March 2015, the area of woodland in England is 1,304,000 hectares (ha), an increase of 2,000ha on the previous year. Since the 2010 baseline, the area of woodland has increased at a mean rate of 2,800ha per year. This compares to a mean rate in the 5 years prior to that of 2,600ha per year. To increase woodland cover in England from 10% to 12% by 2060, an area of 1,563,000ha, a rate of woodland creation of at least 5,000ha per year would be required.

Increase in this Area of Woodland Indicator includes woodland created from all measured sources and is reported on an annual basis. Below we also provide quarterly figures on the contribution of England Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS) incentives in supporting the forestry sector to increase in the area of woodland. EWGS is a part of the Rural Development Programme for England and is delivered by Forest Services.

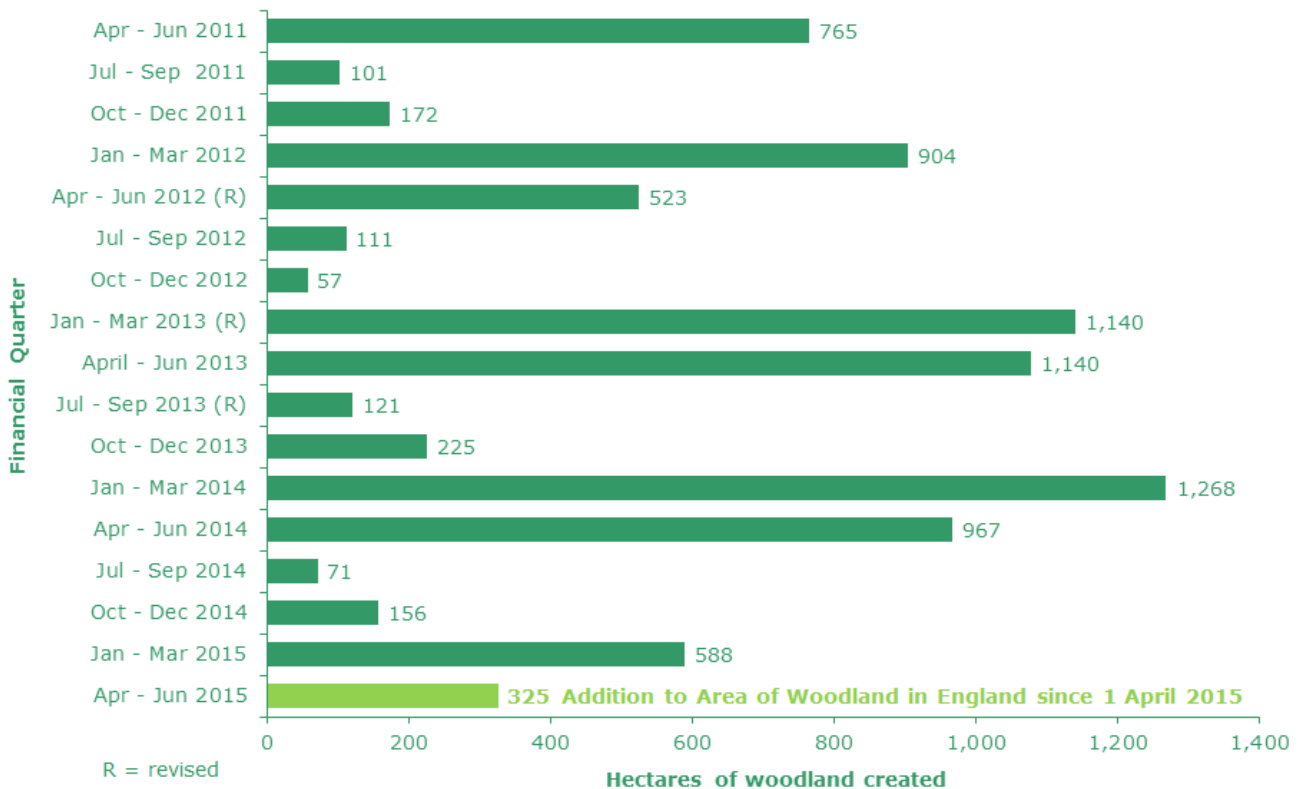
B. Hectares of Woodland Created (Gross) –Quarterly Updated

Area of Woodland Created with Support from England Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS) Incentives: Part of the Rural Development Programme for England

i) Annual Achievement



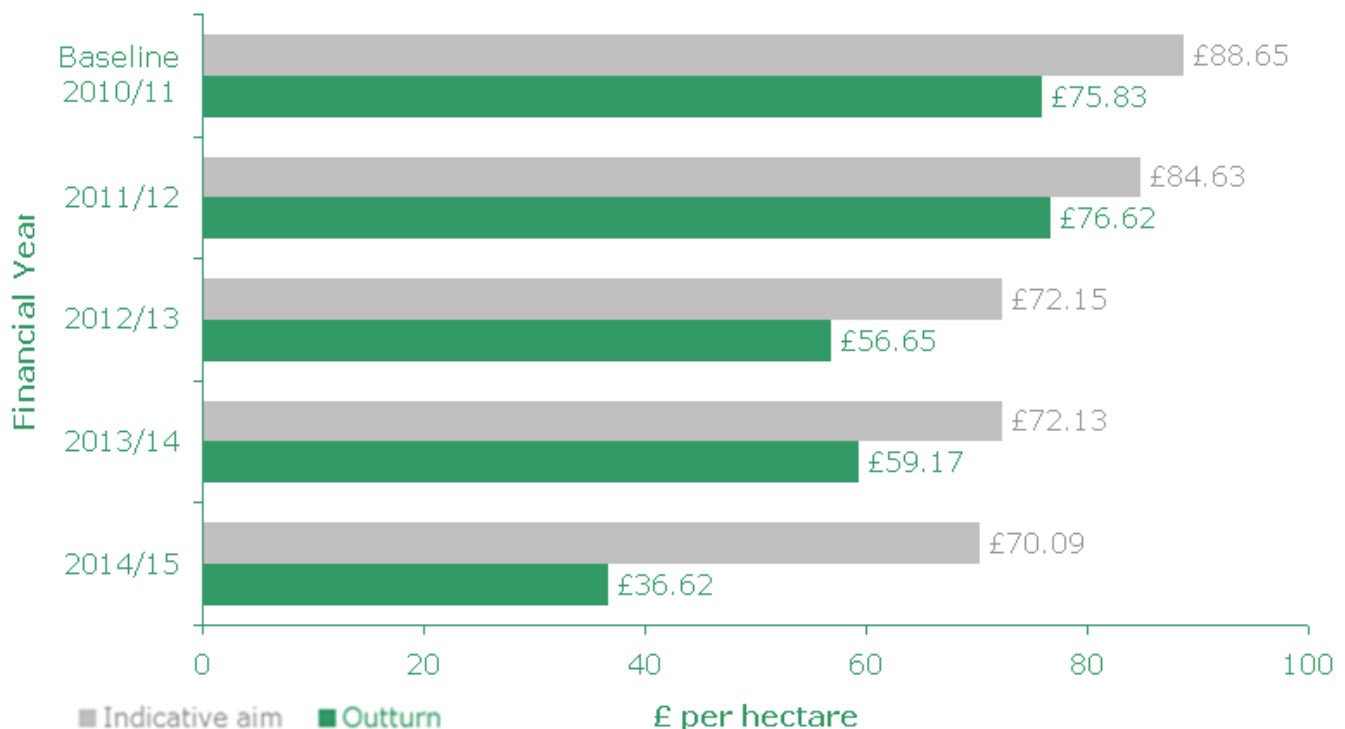
ii) Quarterly Progress



Forest Enterprise England

Restructuring our Business

Cost of managing the Public Forest Estate (per hectare)



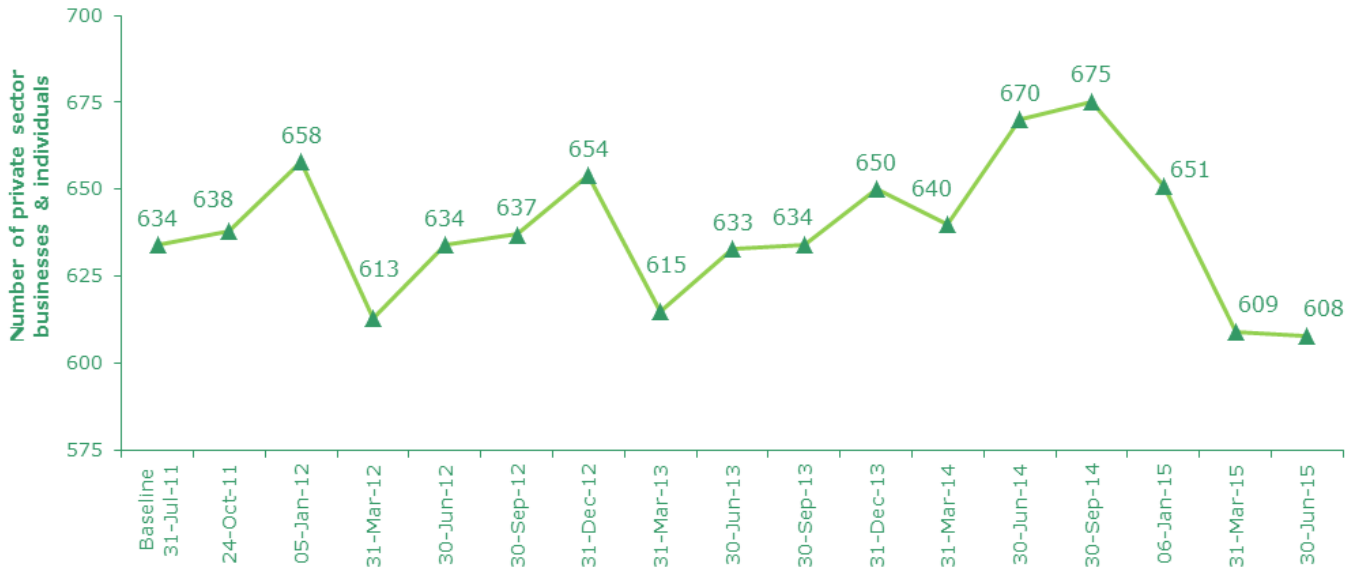
Reports for this indicator are published as at 31 March and 30 September each year. The most recent report as at 31 March 2015 is as follows:

Forecast performance is better than plan as Forest Enterprise England is forecasting a net operating cost of £9.2m against a plan cost of £17.8m. The forecast net operating cost is lower than plan due to current trading conditions.

The forecast figure of **£36.62 per hectare for 2014/15** is better than the 2013/14 outturn figure as a result of the current trading conditions relative to 2013/14.

Customer Service

Number of private sector businesses operating on the Public Forest Estate (PFE)



Position at 30 June 2015: **608 private businesses and individuals.**

The June 2015 measure has not shown the normal seasonal recovery pattern in the overall number of businesses operating on the Public Forest Estate. Specific reductions are still evident in the category of individual Licences and Permissions, especially sporting agreements which ended in January 2015. These are low turnover operations with minimal impact on jobs and rural environment. Comparison with the June 2014 figures also identifies that there has been a reduction of over 50% in the number of individual telecoms businesses operating on the Public Forest Estate which has arisen from Network Consolidation amongst the Operator Group.