

Right tree, right place, for the right reasons.

The UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) sets out criteria and guidance for the sustainable management of forests and woodlands in the UK. Here are the seven key factors you need to consider.

Historic environment

Review your site's historic environment to ensure historic features and historic landscapes will be protected or even enhanced when creating your new woodland.

Climate change

Create a woodland which is diverse in species and age, for resilience against future climate change, and consider how it will be managed in the longer term.

Landscape

New woodland has a significant impact on our landscape. Consider the area's 'landscape character', historic context and how people will experience it. It's important that new woodland fits within your local landscape.

People

It's important to think about how your new woodland might affect people in the local community. Consider access, or any recreation opportunities.

Soil

Ensure you protect soils: assess your site's soil to inform your woodland design.

Water

Your woodland plan should consider water quality, flood risk, water availability, and the impact of establishment and management activity on the water environment.

Biodiversity

Assess your site's existing wildlife to identify if any priority habitats and species are present, including those protected by law.

New woodlands should integrate into and enhance our landscape, connect with communities, and consider any existing features, land use and habitats.

Read more in-depth guidance from the UKFS to help you to understand the effects of your proposal at [gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-forestry-standard](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-forestry-standard)