

Confor Industry Update

Jamie Farquhar

Wednesday 6 October 2021

Confor's Scottish work

ongoing principle work groups (JBF)

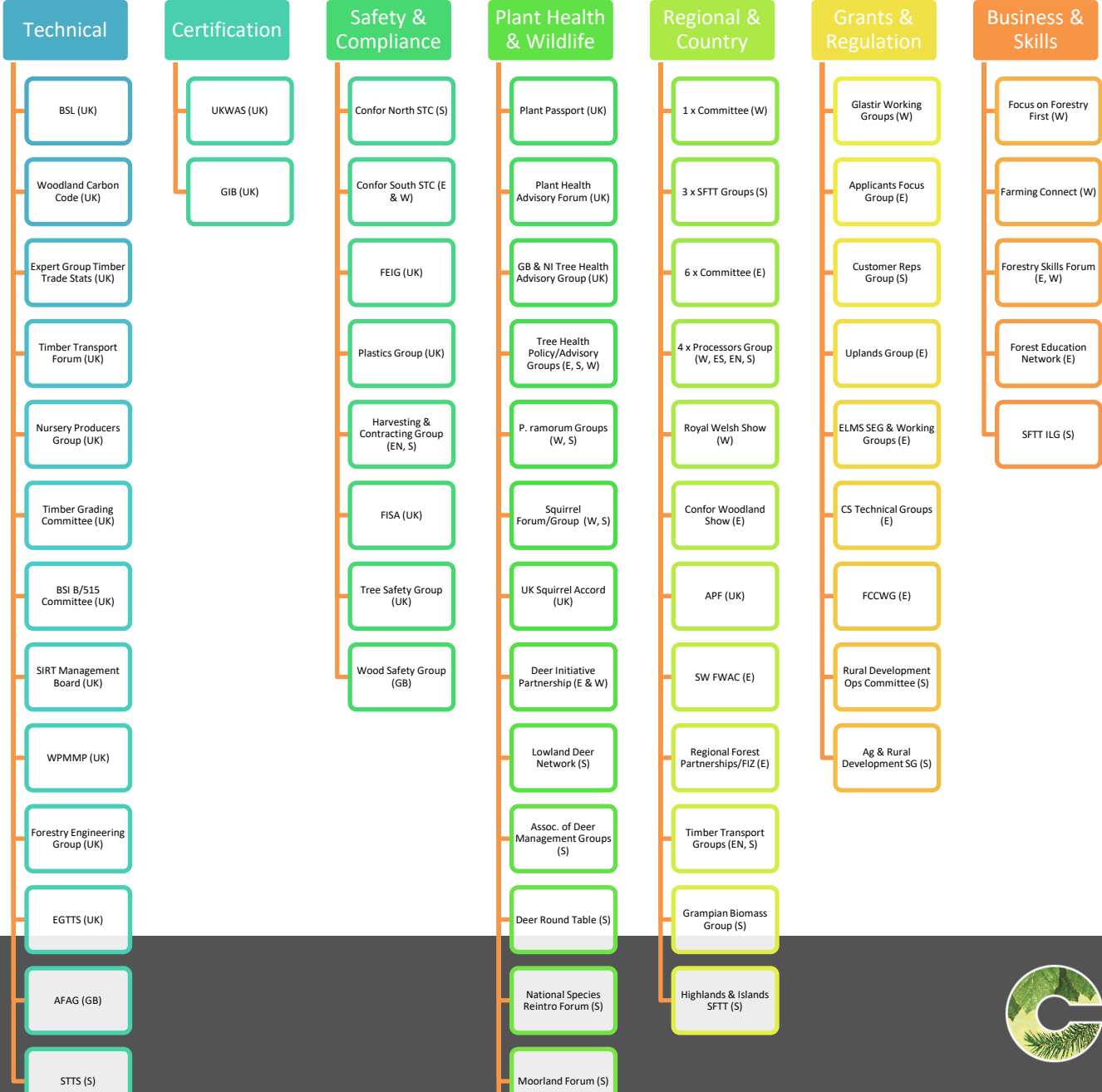
- FGS Customer Reps Group (CRG)
- Agriculture & Rural Development Stakeholder Group (ARD)
- Timber Transport Forum (TTF) & STTS Assessment Panel
- Confor Nursery Producers Group (NPG)
- Scottish Tree Health Advisory Group (STHAG)
- SFTT Industry Leadership Group (ILG)
- Plus another 12+ permanent working groups and other ad hoc short-term issue groups

Confor's Scottish work

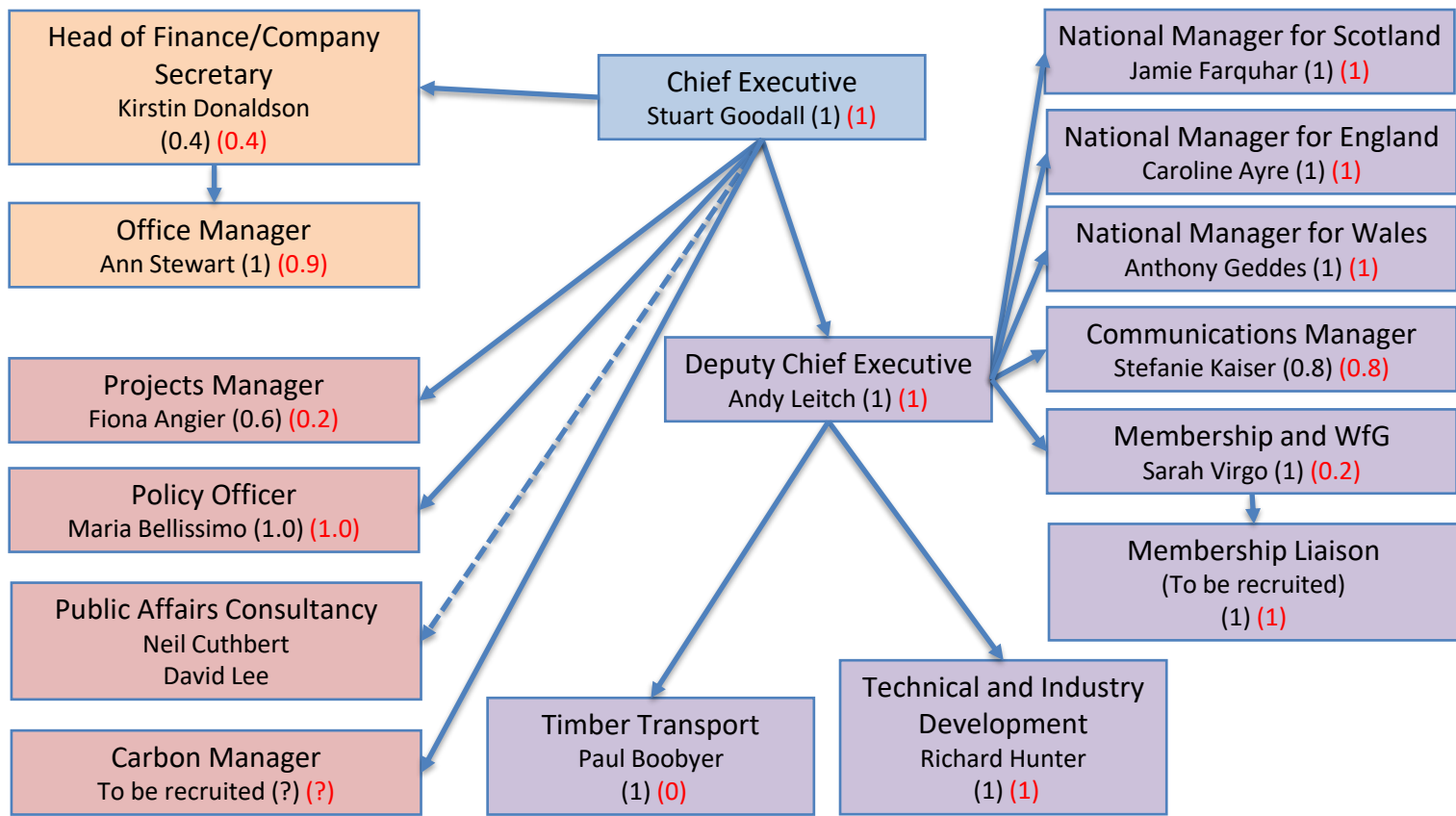
ongoing principle work groups (AL)

- ILG Skills Group
- Strategic Integrated Research in Timber (SIRT)
- Private Sector Production Forecasting Group
- Skills Action Plan for Rural Scotland Implementation Group
- Expert Group on Timber Trade Statistics
- Mass Timber Commercialisation Alliance
- UK Timber Grading Committee

Confor representation



14 staff (12.8 FTE) **Confor time (10.5 FTE)**



Customer Reps Group – ongoing work

- Future of FGS
- Stability & Simplicity – getting rid of land parcels
- Earned recognition – initially just new woodland creation
- New guidance:
 - Value for money – e.g. deer fencing for Conifer model
 - Economic impact of ‘tweaking’ schemes beyond UKFS
 - Customer type
 - Neighbour engagement
 - Native woodland stocking density – variations
 - For consultees on engagement with scoping, etc.

Timber transport

- £7m of STTS contracts awarded for 2021/22
- [Low ground pressure haulage regime](#) on some of the weak forest roads on the national forest estate
 - Implementation group has given its recommendations to FLS
 - TTF to consider revising [Tread Softly guidance](#) to address forest roads
- TTF [advice](#) on roadside chipping of brash
- TTF [survey](#) on GB timber haulage fleet
- FISA has produced a forest haulage induction [video](#)
- UKGov proposals for simplifying HGV testing

Forest nurseries

- UK Forest Plant & Seed Supply forum
 - Bringing governments, forest agencies and the private nurseries together
- Seed & plant supply strategy / action plan
 - Confor leading on this action in the SFS Implementation Plan
- Pesticides stakeholder group
 - Formed last year by Fergus Ewing at our request following the withdrawal of Basamid

Various

- Stocking density survey reporting
 - [FGS briefing note 39](#)
- Changes at Scottish Forestry
 - James Nott now SF Head of Tree Health
 - And the new Grampian Conservator is
 - Neil Murray now Conservator for South Scotland

New woodland creation

2020 claim year @ 31 August 2021

- 13,500 ha approved
- 10,500 ha claimed
- 1,000 ha of potential roll-over to 2021 not varied yet – ownership issues?
- 850 ha not claimed yet

New woodland creation (hectares)

Private sector in Scotland @ 27 August 2021

Claim year			2021	2022	2023 +
Approved			11,610	3,475	1,201
Submitted but not yet approved			2,939	2,295	716
Potential			14,549	5,770	1,917
Pipeline	(June)		3,392	7,045	590
Total possible			14,549	12,815	2,507
ScotGov target			13,500	15,000	16,500

Diary dates

- Autumn 2021 SFTT meetings:
 - Mid 28 October **Woodland Carbon Code**
- Confor annual Dinner & Awards 1st March 2022
- 2020 Timber Production Forecast – to be published in early 2022
- Spring 2022 SFTT meetings
 - 9 March North Scotland
 - 16 March South
 - 23 March Mid
- Royal Highland Show – 23-26 June 2022
- APF at Ragley Hall – 22-24 September **2022**

Catch-up

- This and the other SFTT spring 2021 webinars will be recorded, and will be available shortly after each event – see
- <http://www.forestryscotland.com/regional-groups/north-east-scotland/north-east-events>
- Any questions, please contact Jamie Farquhar:
 - 07817 374906
 - jamie@confor.org.uk