

Confor Industry Update

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Confor's Scottish work

ongoing principle work groups (JBF)

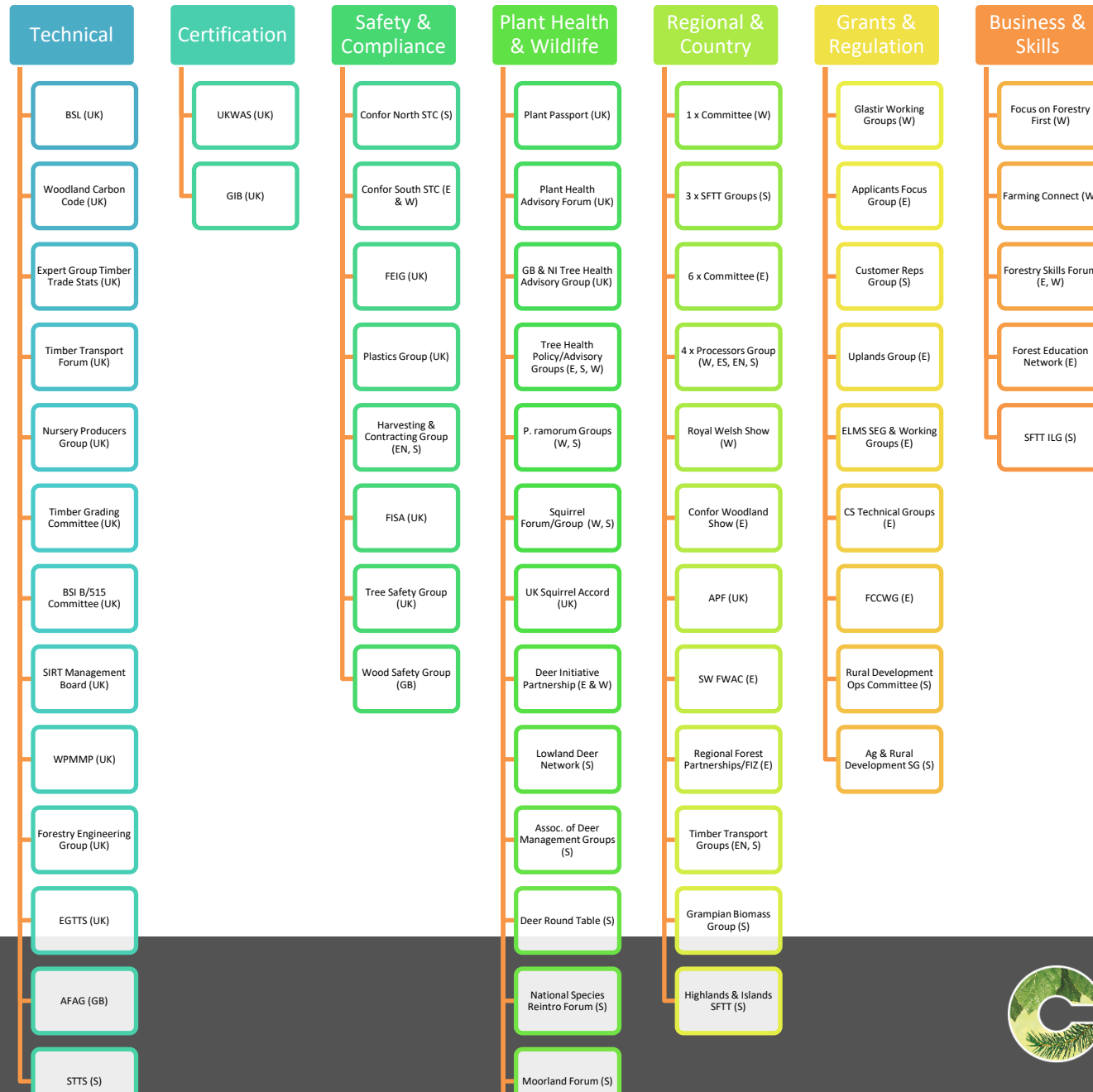
- FGS Customer Reps Group (CRG)
- Agriculture & Rural Development Stakeholder Group (ARD)
- Timber Transport Forum (TTF) & STTS Assessment Panel
- Confor Nursery Producers Group (NPG)
- Scottish Tree Health Advisory Group (STHAG)
- SFTT Industry Leadership Group (ILG)
- Plus another 12+ permanent working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

Confor's Scottish work

ongoing principle work groups (AL)

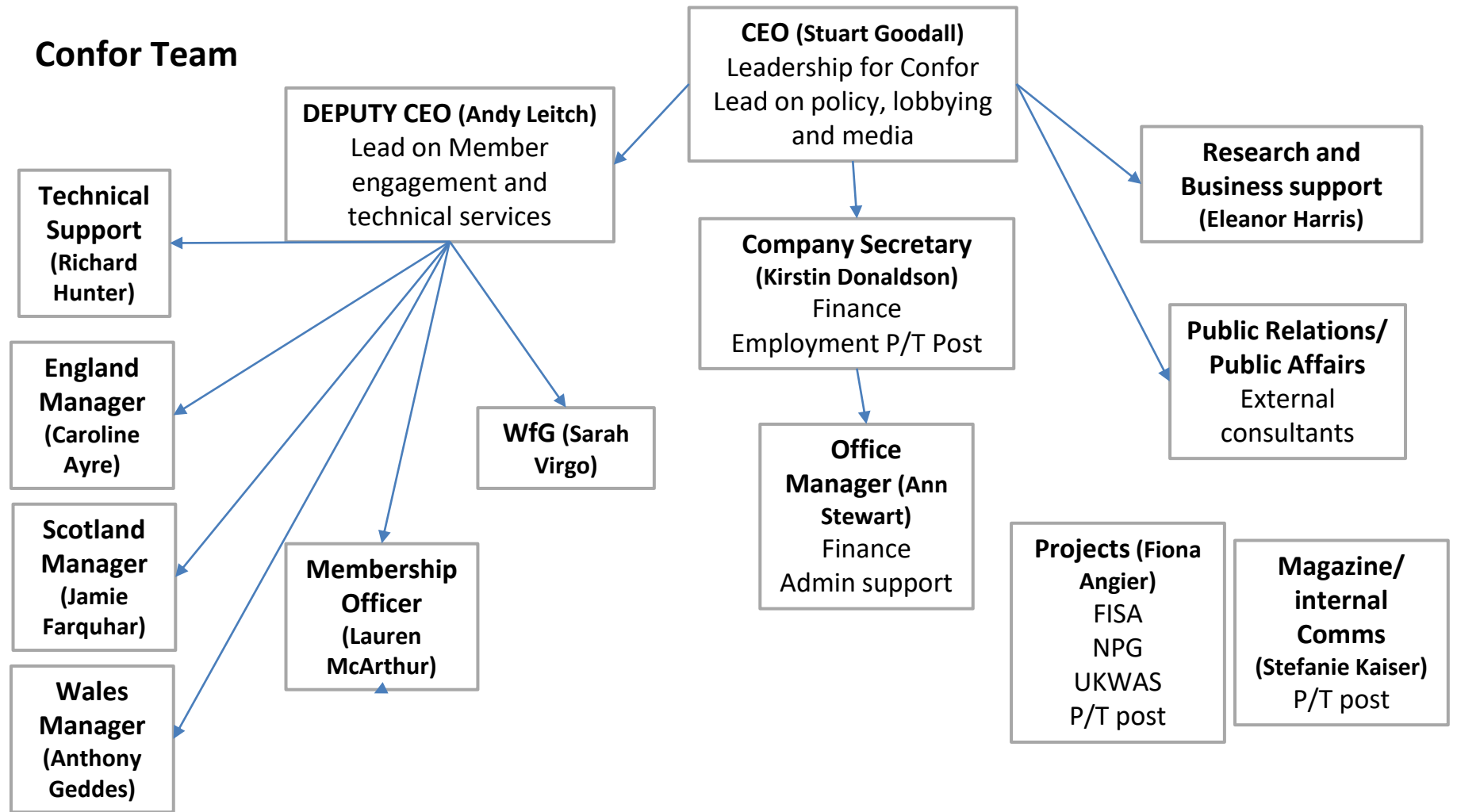
- ILG Skills Group
- Strategic Integrated Research in Timber (SIRT)
- Private Sector Production Forecasting Group
- Skills Action Plan for Rural Scotland Implementation Group
- Expert Group on Timber Trade Statistics
- Mass Timber Commercialisation Alliance
- UK Timber Grading Committee

Confor representation



Confor
Promoting forestry and wood

Confor Team



Customer Reps Group – ongoing work

- Cultivation guidance
- 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

Timber transport

- STTS again awarded £7m for 2021/22
 - Closing date for applications 22 March
- [Low ground pressure haulage regime](#) to be introduced by FLS to some of the weak forest roads on the national forest estate from 1st April
 - Meeting held with hauliers and timber buyers on 1st March to discuss some of the challenges of compliance
 - Implementation group to be formed
 - By 2025 only approved configuration haulage will be permitted
 - [Tread Softly guidance](#) to be revised to address forest roads

Tree health

- Following loss of Basamid (forest nursery soil fumigant) ScotGov to form a Scottish Pesticide Stakeholders Group
- Working with Defra to clear plants for sale to Northern Ireland and EU – UK now treated as a third country for PH purposes following Brexit.
- Also working with Defra to push for equivalence with EU on FRM (forest reproductive material). Without this the UK cannot sell tree seed to the EU (and NI).
- Phytophthora ramorum – review in progress – next slide

Phytophthora ramorum

Review of actions to help reduce the spread of *Phytophthora ramorum* on larch is underway

Purpose - to facilitate discussion between policy makers, researchers, land managers and operational delivery professionals on **what, if any amendments may be made to the existing protocols in relation to slowing the spread of *P. ramorum***

Intended outcomes;

Development of options and recommendations on any changes to the status quo and produce a refreshed strategy for the management of *P. ramorum* which achieves support and buy in from land managers and the sector

A regulatory framework and clear unambiguous guidance on the application and management of a *P. ramorum* Management Zone (as identified by the review group) and management measures which are deliverable and meets with both the legislative and scientific conditions required to slow spore dispersal

Clear unambiguous guidance on how the sector will deal with non-compliance (SPHN's)

Identification of additional research or work streams that may be required including identifying the resource required to progress these

New woodland creation (hectares)

Private sector in Scotland @ 29 January 2021

Claim year			2020	2021	2022 +
Approved			13,068	6,459	2,849
Submitted but not yet approved				4,799	1,469
Potential			13,068	11,258	4,318
Pipeline (as at October)				7,849	4,235
Total possible			13,068	c. 19,000	c. 8,500

Diary dates

- Spring 2021 SFTT meetings:
 - 24 March **Deer management in the forest**
- Confor Hustings pre Holyrood elections – 1pm 25 March. [Book here](#).
- Scotland's Finest Woods Awards – closing date 31 March
- Royal Highland Show – postponed to 2022
- Autumn SFTT meetings
 - 29 Sept South Scotland
 - 6 Oct North
 - 28 Oct Mid
- 2020 Timber Production Forecast – to be published in September
- Confor annual Dinner & Awards 9 November (provisional)
- APF at Ragley Hall – postponed to 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:
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