Woodland Creation Scoring and Selection Process

This booklet explains the scoring and selection process for the following schemes:

- Woodland Creation Planning Scheme
- Woodland Creation Grant
- Small Grants–Woodland Creation Scheme

To be considered for funding under these schemes an Expression of Interest must be submitted to Welsh Government via RPW Online. All eligible Expressions of Interest received by the Welsh Government will be considered for selection.

The selection process will analyse the potential for each Expression of Interest to contribute to key objectives of the scheme. This is undertaken by measuring the intersection of the area of land included in the Expression of Interest with a number of digital maps known as Geographical Information System (GIS) layers covering the whole of Wales. These GIS layers inform where specific objectives of the schemes can be delivered.

Each GIS layer is given a score per area ($20m^2$) which is determined by Welsh Government policy priorities. The score is designed to evolve to reflect changing priorities and may change in future years.

Please see table at **Annex 1** for details of the Woodland Creation Objective Layers and Weighting.

The Expression of Interest is assessed against each GIS layer and a score is allocated based on the area that intersects with the layer, which is calculated using the following formula:

Area of Objective Layer* x Weighting of layer   =   Score
_____
      Area of Expression of Interest

*within area of Expression of Interest

This calculation is completed for each objective GIS layer the Expression of Interest intersects. The scores achieved for each layer are then added together to give a total score for the Expression of Interest. An Expression of Interest which intersects with more objective layers, will collect a score from each area resulting in a higher overall score. All Expressions of Interest are ranked according to the total score achieved and the highest scorers will then be selected and processed, according to budgetary availability.

Annex 1 – Woodland Creation Objective Layers and Weighting

Priority	Objective Layer	Layer	Weighting
Water	WWNP_Flood_Mitigation	WWNP_Flood_Mitigation (5)	5
Water	Diffuse Water Pollution	Diffuse Water Pollution (1)	1
Water	Diffuse Water Pollution	Diffuse Water Pollution (2)	2
Water	Diffuse Water Pollution	Diffuse Water Pollution (3)	3
Water	Diffuse Water Pollution	Diffuse Water Pollution (4)	4
Water	Diffuse Water Pollution	Diffuse Water Pollution (5)	5
Woodland	Tree Suitability	Tree Suitability (1)	1
Woodland	Tree Suitability	Tree Suitability (2)	2
Woodland	Tree Suitability	Tree Suitability (3)	3
Woodland	Tree Suitability	Tree Suitability (4)	4
Woodland	Tree Suitability	Tree Suitability (5)	5
Carbon	Social Benefits	Social Benefits (1)	1
Carbon	Social Benefits	Social Benefits (2)	2
Carbon	Social Benefits	Social Benefits (3)	3
Carbon	Social Benefits	Social Benefits (4)	4
Carbon	Social Benefits	Social Benefits (5)	5
Biodiversity	Non-Habitat Land	Non-Habitat Land (2)	2
Biodiversity	Non-Habitat Land	Non-Habitat Land (3)	3
Biodiversity	Non-Habitat Land	Non-Habitat Land (4)	4
Biodiversity	Non-Habitat Land	Non-Habitat Land (5)	5
Carbon	Carbon sequestration	Carbon (1)	1
Carbon	Carbon sequestration	Carbon (2)	2
Carbon	Carbon sequestration	Carbon (3)	3
Carbon	Carbon sequestration	Carbon (4)	4
Carbon	Carbon sequestration	Carbon (5)	5
Carbon	Air Quality PM25	Air Quality PM25 (1)	1
Carbon	Air Quality PM25	Air Quality PM25 (1.5)	1.5
Carbon	Air Quality PM25	Air Quality PM25 (2.5)	2.5
Biodiversity	Woodland Habitat Networks	Woodland Habitat Networks (1)	1
Biodiversity	Woodland Habitat Networks	Woodland Habitat Networks (2)	2
Biodiversity	Woodland Habitat Networks	Woodland Habitat Networks (3)	3
Biodiversity	Woodland Habitat Networks	Woodland Habitat Networks (4)	4
Biodiversity	Woodland Habitat Networks	Woodland Habitat Networks (5)	5
Carbon	Air Quality Ammonia	Air Quality Ammonia (0.5)	0.5
Carbon	Air Quality Ammonia	Air Quality Ammonia (1)	1

Carbon	Air Quality Ammonia	Air Quality Ammonia (1.5)	1.5
Carbon	Air Quality Ammonia	Air Quality Ammonia (1)	2
Carbon	Air Quality Ammonia	Air Quality Ammonia (2.5)	2.5