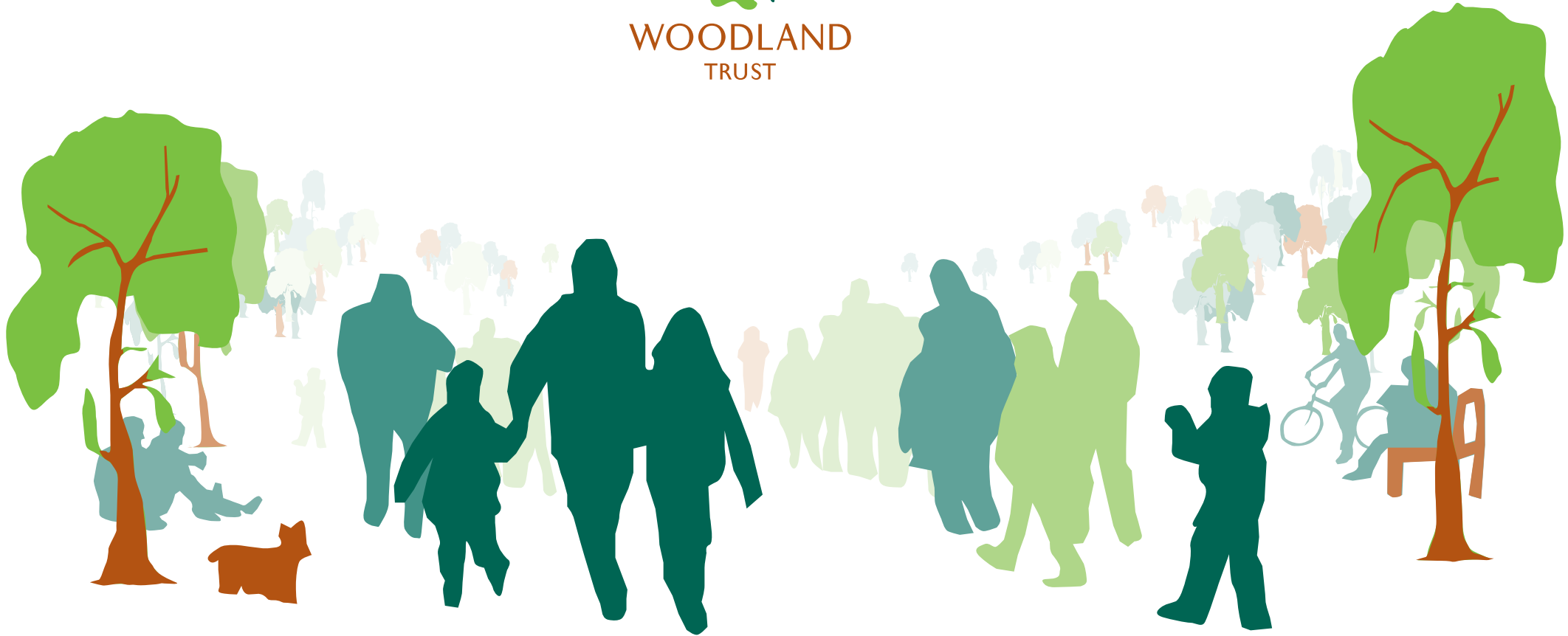




WOODLAND  
TRUST



# Space for People

Targeting action for woodland access

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Photograph: WTPL/Brian Aldrich



# Foreword

I am delighted to welcome the work of the Woodland Trust in creating *Space for People* and also offer the support of the Forestry Commission.

For many years now I have been aware of the diverse range of benefits that trees, woodlands and forests can offer society. Happily, these benefits are being increasingly understood by the public, planners, developers and by those that manage woods. And we, within the woodland sector, will continue to develop the evidence base supported by practical demonstration of how these diverse benefits can be realised.

The accessible woodland 'Woods for People' dataset is the first time that an attempt has been made to collate spatial information on accessible woodland and has enabled a detailed analysis to be undertaken of where these woodlands are located in relation to people's homes. The data collection exercise has been a long process and I would like to add my thanks to those organisations and individuals that have provided data to the project and urge those that have yet to respond, to provide their data through the website:

[www.woodsforpeople.info](http://www.woodsforpeople.info)

The Woodland Access Standard developed by the Woodland Trust will help identify where new access opportunities are needed either within existing woodlands or by creating new woodlands. The creation targets proposed by the Woodland Trust are ambitious but are founded on thorough analyses.

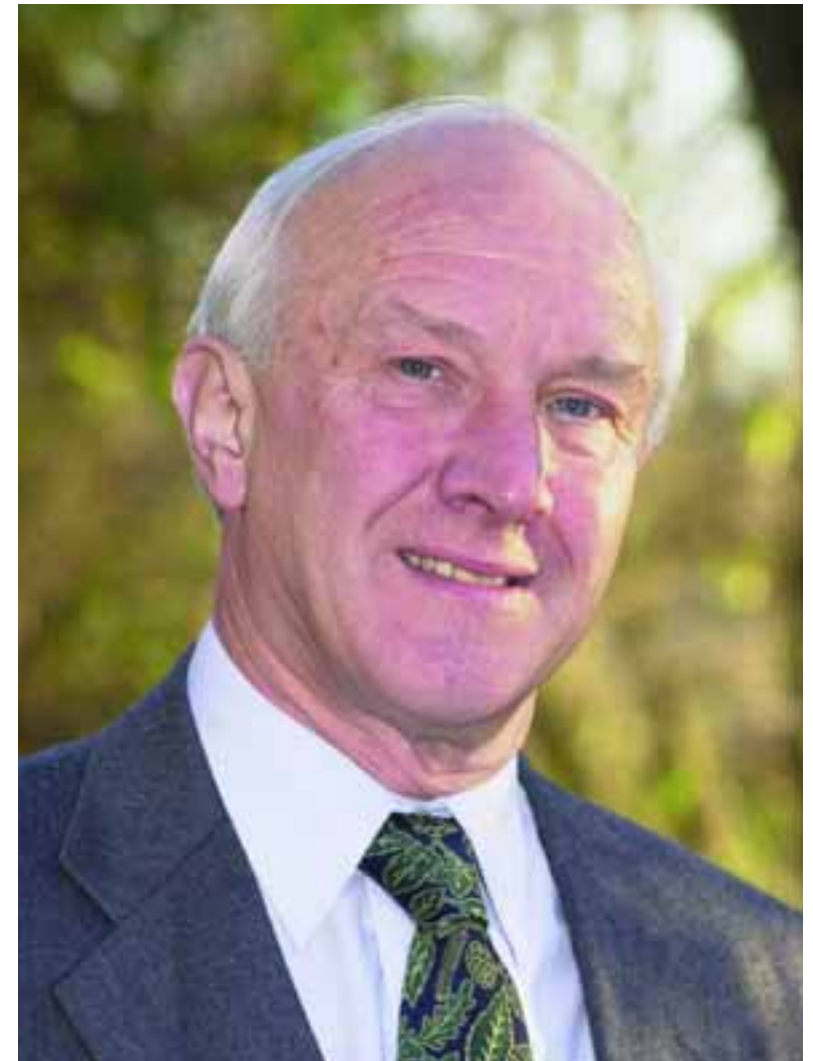
Together with other greenspace standards the Woodland Access Standard will ensure that woodlands play an important part in the wider mosaic of greenspace close to people, providing opportunities to improve the quality of life of many individuals and communities.

I look forward to seeing this work develop and the use of the Woodland Access Standard becoming widespread with the result that more woods become accessible closer to where people live.



Lord Clark of Windermere  
Chairman, Forestry Commission

Photograph: Forestry Commission



# Summary

*Space for People* sets out the Woodland Trust's analysis of access to woodland in the UK. By developing accessible woodland near to where people live, in both urban and rural areas, we believe society will enjoy many of the other benefits that woodland offers, including improvement of health, landscape enhancement, filtration of air pollution, soil stabilisation and flood alleviation. In all, woodland can help deliver 11 of the UK Government's 15 headline quality of life indicators.<sup>1</sup>

No inventory of accessible woodland existed before this work began. The first step was therefore to carry out a comprehensive analysis of the extent of accessible woodland across the UK. This was necessary before any consideration could be given to assessing the need for more accessible woodland. A Woodland Access Standard was developed, based on wide-ranging surveys of public use and opinion of woodland.

*Space for People* describes how we have assessed the extent of permissively accessible woodland in the UK, presents the Woodland Access Standard and the research and thinking behind it, and finally establishes targets across the UK for opening up existing woods for public access and creating new woods where insufficient woodland currently exists. It is the first time such an exercise has been undertaken at a UK level and, while the targets may seem challenging, they represent the result of detailed analysis. This research is,

<sup>1</sup> The Woodland Trust (2004). *Making Woodland Count – a report prepared by ERM, in collaboration with Professor Kenneth Willis, for the Woodland Trust.* [www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications)

however, only the start. As updated or new data on woodland access becomes available, the extent of access to existing woods will be reviewed. The tables at the end illustrate current targets.

*Space for People* is aimed at decision-makers and those working on policy and practice in the planning and recreation sectors. It is hoped that it will encourage new thinking on the quantity and quality of woodland access in the UK, inform the emerging Regional Forestry Frameworks in England and inspire practitioners to value, perhaps for the first time, the role that woodland has to play in the greenspace debate. It includes a number of elements that may serve as useful tools for decision-making at the local level.

New woods will need to be created where insufficient currently exist  
Photograph: WTPL/Nick Collinson, Pound Farm.



Table 1: Summary of targets by country.

Country	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to 20ha+ wood within 4km	Extra % population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	Extra % population with access to 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required to ensure access to 2ha+ wood within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required to ensure access to 20ha+ wood within 4km (hectares)
England	10.18	55.18	26.08	26.74	63.74	18.08	48,683	15,392
Wales	15.74	72.25	43.21	25.28	41.05	2.47	3,817	720
Scotland	15.32	54.41	38.45	41.16	46.23	4.43	2,640	1,280
Northern Ireland	7.45	50.32	22.52	16.29	70.03	33.39	2,604	1,988

# Background

Trees and forests are crucial to life on our planet. They stabilise the soil, generate oxygen, store carbon, play host to a spectacular variety of wildlife, and provide us with raw materials and shelter. They offer us respite, inspire our imagination, creativity and culture, and refresh our souls. A world without trees and forests would be barren, impoverished and intolerable.<sup>2</sup>

In *Keeping Woodland Alive*, the Woodland Trust published its plan for action to conserve, restore and re-establish native woodland in the UK. Central to the plan is the aim of increasing people's understanding and enjoyment of woodland.

Woods bring many benefits,<sup>3</sup> and people appreciate them in all sorts of ways. But for everyone to enjoy them, visit them or indirectly gain from them, they need to be located near to where people live.

The UK is one of the least wooded countries in Europe, with 11.6 per cent woodland cover. Figures for each country show that in England there is only 8.4 per cent cover, Scotland 16.9 per cent, Wales 13.9 per cent and Northern Ireland a mere 6.1 per cent.<sup>4</sup> The European average is some 46 per cent.<sup>5</sup> Despite these UK figures looking very poor in a European context, they do not in themselves indicate that there is insufficient woodland in

the UK from a social or biodiversity perspective. However, *Space for People* and other research carried out by the Woodland Trust does show that the UK's woodland cover is insufficient to meet either our biodiversity or social requirements.

In *Space for Nature*<sup>6</sup> the Trust set out its vision for increasing the amount of new native woodland and other semi-natural habitats, particularly in areas with a high density of ancient woodland, so as to restore ecologically functional landscapes that enable the widest range of biodiversity to survive and adapt to climate change. In *Space for People* we are setting out an analogous vision for new native woodland, but focusing on people and where they live rather than on wildlife.

Approximately 80 per cent of people in the UK live in urban areas<sup>7</sup> and the link between the quality of the local environment and human well-being is one that is increasingly recognised. Numerous studies on greenspace and particularly woodland have shown that they are highly valued by communities<sup>8</sup> and that access to woodland is not only important for health benefits through exercise but also makes visitors feel 'happy', 'relaxed' and 'close to nature'.<sup>9</sup> Indeed, 65 per cent of people surveyed in one study said 'seeing woods on my way to work/school/the shops makes me feel less stressed'.<sup>10</sup>

Economics and Statistics Unit.

<sup>5</sup> Forestry Commission (2002). UK Forestry Statistics.

<sup>6</sup> Woodland Trust (2002). *Space for Nature: landscape-scale action for woodland biodiversity*. [www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications)

<sup>7</sup> Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (2000). *Our towns and cities: the future. Delivering an urban renaissance*

Woods inspire our imagination and refresh our souls  
Photograph: WTPL/Brian Aldrich, Marden Park, Surrey.



<sup>8</sup> MORI (2002). *The Environment: Who cares?*

<sup>9</sup> Coles R.W. and Bussey S.C. (2000). *Urban forest landscapes in the UK – progressing the social agenda*. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 52 (pp181-8).

<sup>10</sup> Woodland Trust (2000). Woodland Trust Omnibus Survey.

<sup>2</sup> The Woodland Trust (2003). *Keeping Woodland Alive: The Woodland Trust's plan for action*. [www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications)

<sup>3</sup> The Woodland Trust (2004). *Making Woodland Count – a report prepared by ERM, in collaboration with Professor Kenneth Willis, for the Woodland Trust*. [www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications)

<sup>4</sup> Forestry Commission (2002). *UK Indicators of Sustainable Forestry*.

# Background (continued)

People appreciate woods in all sorts of ways.  
Photographs: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images



Nature is able to improve the quality of people's lives and, like English Nature, we believe everyone should experience it and should have easy access to it.<sup>11</sup> It is vital therefore that there are sufficient woods close to where people live to enable this interaction to take place, a fact that is illustrated by 85 per cent of respondents agreeing with the statement that 'more woods in urban areas would help us stay in touch with nature'.<sup>12</sup> Access to woodland and other semi-natural greenspace in the wider countryside can also be a problem. It is just as important to facilitate people's interaction with and access to the natural world in rural areas as it is in our towns and cities.

Central to this work is the belief that woodland has a particularly important role to play in terms of accessible natural greenspace. Indeed, recent research has shown that people find 'greenspace' a difficult term,<sup>13</sup> so perhaps 'accessible woodland' is a clearer concept. Surveys clearly demonstrate the enjoyment people derive from visiting broadleaved and mixed woodland.<sup>14</sup> Anecdotal evidence also suggests that woodland has a greater capacity for public access than more open habitats, due to the screening effect of trees.

<sup>11</sup> English Nature (2003). *People and Wildlife – position statement*.

<sup>12</sup> Woodland Trust (2000). *Woodland Trust Omnibus Survey*.

<sup>13</sup> English Nature (2004). *Nature for People: the importance of greenspace to East Midlands communities*. English Nature Research Report 567.

<sup>14</sup> Forestry Commission (2003). *UK Public Opinion of Forestry*.

# The extent of accessible woodland in the UK

Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images

The first stage of the work to examine the extent of accessible woodland was to initiate a project known as Woods for People. The aim was to produce a comprehensive, albeit provisional, inventory of accessible woodland across the UK. The information is stored, maintained and analysed in a Geographical Information System (GIS).

Woods for People is an ongoing programme developed by the Woodland Trust and Forestry Commission England and supported by Forestry Commission Wales and the Northern Ireland Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) to identify woodland with public access across the UK.

Before gathering the data, two definitions were required. The first – the definition of woodland – was taken from the Forestry Commission's National Inventory of Woodland and Trees:<sup>15</sup>

'Woodland' is defined as 'land under stands of trees with, or the potential to achieve, tree crown cover of more than 20 per cent'.

The second definition was for accessible woodland:

'Any site that is permissively accessible to the general public for recreational purposes.'

It includes sites with unrestricted open access and restricted, but permissive, access (eg fee-payable, fixed-hours access). Statutory access to woods is discussed in detail on page 9.



<sup>15</sup> [www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory)

# Gathering the information

To collect the data, relevant organisations were asked to give details of woodland with public access that they owned, managed or knew about. Public and voluntary bodies with large woodland portfolios or those with responsibility for particular areas were targeted: eg landowning non-government organisations, statutory agencies and local authorities. Woodland supported by Forestry Commission grant-aid aimed at making improvements to access, eg Walkers Welcome and Woodland Improvement Grants, was also included.

Information from borough and district councils was generally poor, with response rates at around 26 per cent. However, county council responses largely included the information required from borough and district councils. There was a 75 per cent response rate from metropolitan, city, unitary and county councils. More information about the Woods for People project and questionnaires to send in further data on accessible woodland can be found at [www.woodsforpeople.info](http://www.woodsforpeople.info)

Information was received in a wide variety of formats, from digital boundary data to paper maps and leaflets. In each case, the grid reference of the accessible woodland was recorded, as well as digital boundary information where it already existed. Grid reference points were based on the wood's entrance where it was known, or else on the centre of the wood.

Also recorded were a number of attributes describing the quantitative and qualitative features of each wood. These include:

- Site name and owner
- Area
- Type of access provision
- Range of infrastructure provided
- Country and Government Office region
- Unrestricted or restricted access and access by Public Rights of Way

In total, 735 organisations were contacted, including all the unitary, county, city and metropolitan councils in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, resulting in more than 10,000 records of accessible woodland. This accessible woodland data was initially assessed using the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (Great Britain) and the Ordnance Survey Woodland Vector maps (Northern Ireland) to measure the proportion of total woodland that is currently accessible (Table 2).

Woods make people feel happy, relaxed and close to nature.  
Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images



Table 2: Permissively accessible woodland as a proportion of woodland area by Country and Government Office regions

Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images

Country/Government Office region		Woodland area*	Publicly accessible woodland (permissive)	
			Woods for people dataset**	% of woodland area*
Country	Area (ha)	Area (ha)	Area (ha)	
England	13,295,236	1,059,771	488,240	46
Northern Ireland	1,431,496	115,192	82,385	72
Scotland	8,023,384	1,339,736	813,074	61
Wales	2,122,450	281,171	149,741	53
Region				
East Midlands	1,581,477	74,443	35,503	48
East of England	1,957,502	117,004	56,707	48
London	159,472	6,074	4,300	71
North East	867,642	104,460	97,427	93
North West	1,491,831	94,314	50,936	54
South East	1,941,293	267,756	94,573	35
South West	2,439,224	213,612	72,165	34
West Midlands	1,300,380	88,667	28,557	32
Yorkshire and the Humber	1,556,415	93,398	48,072	51

\* Woodland area taken from National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (Great Britain) and the Ordnance Survey Woodland Vector maps (Northern Ireland)

\*\* Woods for People research, Woodland Grant Scheme (Walkers Welcome), Forestry Commission Estate, Woodland Trust sites



# Statutory access

Photograph: WTPL/Andrew Butler

## Public rights of way

The definition of accessible woodland used for this research does not, at this stage, include woods served only by public rights of way (although data on rights of way passing through permissively accessible woods is included where available). There are a number of reasons for this, which are explained below.

The condition of rights of way was last surveyed in England in 2000 by the Countryside Agency<sup>16</sup> and findings showed that it had generally remained unchanged since the last survey in 1994: i.e. walkers could still expect to encounter serious problems approximately every 2 kilometres. The report suggested an initial upgrade would cost over £69 million across England, with ongoing maintenance costs of £18 million per year.

In 2002 the Countryside Council for Wales undertook a similar survey.<sup>17</sup> It found that only 41 per cent of paths were properly signed and that, across the country, serious problems (making paths unusable) were likely every 650 metres. Investment for the next five years was estimated at £13.6 million per year.

Given the Trust seeks to ensure that people feel welcome to visit woodland, that they have a high-quality experience when they do so and are therefore encouraged to visit frequently, issues of access quality had to be taken into account in this research. Clearly, problems of quality can equally exist on permissive routes through woodland and it is important that, just as with rights of way, such issues are properly considered. However, while some problems are inevitable on all woodland paths, it seems fair to suggest that owners and managers will be more likely to address them in woods in which they have invited people to walk.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) in England and Wales now requires local authorities to undertake rights of way improvement plans by 2005, but does not specifically require them to invest in such improvements. As part of the improvement plan process, local authorities are likely to prepare digital maps of their rights of way (see case study). Currently rights of way networks are not available from all local authorities in a digital format for use with GIS, so at this stage, regardless of quality, it is not possible to include woodland served only by rights of way in the data analysis.



<sup>16</sup> The Countryside Agency (2001). *Rights of way condition survey 2000*. Research notes CRN 43.

<sup>17</sup> Countryside Council for Wales (2003). *Wales rights of way condition survey 2002*.

People should feel welcome to enjoy woodland. Photograph left: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images  
Photograph right: WTPL/Helen Parr: Hoddesdon Park Wood, Hertfordshire



When improvement plans have been completed across England and Wales, and digital maps have been produced in a suitable format, it will be possible to include woods accessed solely by rights of way as a subset of the accessible woodland data.



### Case study – Rights of way access analysis in Devon

The rights of way data supplied by Devon County Council<sup>18</sup> showed footpaths, bridleways and byways that have been digitised to Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 base maps. The data was overlaid on the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees data and queried for intersections of rights of way and woodland.

In Devon there are 65,650 ha of woodland greater than 2 ha. 15,049 ha (22.9 per cent) are permissively accessible. Two queries were run to assess how much more woodland could be considered accessible if woods served only by rights of way are included in Devon. The first assumed that if the length of a right of way through a wood was more than 25 per cent of the length of the perimeter of the wood, the wood is accessible. The second query simply assumed 100m either side of the right of way was the area of accessible woodland. The first query showed a further 2,596 ha (4 per cent) of all woodland contained stretches of rights of way that were more than 25 per cent longer than the length of the perimeter of the wood. The second showed a further 6,580 ha (10 per cent) of all woodland lay within 100m of rights of way. Both results demonstrate that including woods served only by rights of way in the analysis may not change the proportion of all woodland that is accessible as much as might have been expected.

<sup>18</sup> [www.devon.gov.uk/prow/prowdevon.shtml](http://www.devon.gov.uk/prow/prowdevon.shtml)

# Statutory access (continued)

Photograph left: WTPL/Nicholas Spurling, Church Covert.  
Photograph right: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images



## Right of responsible access in Scotland

There are distinct differences in the general rights of access to land across the UK. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland there is no assumed right of access, other than statutory public rights of way. Open-access land (ie mountain, moor, heathland, downland and registered common land) defined under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act ensures a right of access to larger areas in England and Wales. However open-access land does not include woodland unless voluntarily dedicated under Section 16 of the Act. In Scotland there is a right of responsible access to almost all land and inland water, as defined in the Land Reform (Scotland) Act.<sup>19</sup>

Although people have a right of responsible access to all woodland areas in Scotland, accessible woodland data in this research only includes woods that actually encourage access. Just as public rights of way may not ensure quality access, a right of responsible access in Scotland does not mean that access will be encouraged to all woodland. A right of access to a wood does not necessarily mean that people are made to feel welcome in it and neither does it mean that any access facilities are available.<sup>20</sup>

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act of 2003 requires that, within three years, local authorities must draw up a plan of 'core paths' sufficient for the purpose of providing reasonable access throughout their area. These core paths may include rights of way, paths, cycle tracks, waterways or other means by which people may cross land. The plans are to be drawn up with a view that people exercising rights of way and access rights will do so by using these core paths, so while people have a right of responsible access throughout Scotland, it is likely that the core path network will be a significant means by which that right will be exercised.

Core-path data for Scotland was not available for this research, but clearly, when all work on drawing up plans is complete by 2006, it would be desirable to include woods through which core paths run in the accessible woodland data. This will increase the number of woods to which the public are assured of access, although quality of the core-path network may remain an important issue.



<sup>19</sup> Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, ISBN 0 10 590044 3.

<sup>20</sup> Forestry Commission Scotland (2004). *Review of Land Managed by Forestry Commission Scotland – consultation paper*. Scottish Executive.

# Developing a Woodland Access Standard

Green spaces need to be accessible for everyone.

Photograph: Woodland Trust Picture Library, Martinshaw Wood.



## The context for accessible greenspace standards

The setting of national standards for accessible greenspace can strengthen the role of greenspace planning; indeed, adopting the standards approach can also facilitate communication and negotiation with other sectors that themselves use standards. There can be little doubt that without the development of standards there is no way of thoroughly assessing whether a sufficient resource of accessible greenspace exists. Furthermore, providing it is well founded, the research supporting national standards is just as relevant locally as it is nationally. National standards also have a useful function in setting objective levels of provision. These can be assessed and tested locally, providing a useful framework for implementation, but remain divorced from the subjectivity of local decision-making.

Accessible greenspace standards have been around for some time, the most commonly used being the National Playing Fields Association's Six Acre Standard for 'playing space'. This is a guide for planners to ensure that sufficient land is set aside in appropriate locations to enable people of all ages,

<sup>21</sup> National Playing Fields Association. The Six Acre Standard: [www.npfa.org.uk](http://www.npfa.org.uk)

<sup>22</sup> Kit Campbell Associates (2001). *Rethinking open space – open space provision and management – a way forward*. The Scottish Executive Central Research Unit 2001.

<sup>23</sup> English Nature (1995 and 2003). *Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards in Towns and Cities: a review and toolkit for their*

especially the young, to participate in outdoor play, games, sports and other physical recreation.<sup>21</sup> The standard, which advocates 6 acres (2.4 hectares) of outdoor recreational space for every 1,000 people, comprises 1.6 hectares for outdoor sport and 0.8 hectares for children's play. The wide use of the Six Acre Standard is an indication of its success, but while it has been a catalyst for action it has also recently been criticised.<sup>22</sup>

English Nature has published *Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards*<sup>23</sup> and the Countryside Council for Wales is considering the same standards for use in Wales.<sup>24</sup> These seek to recognise specifically the importance of nature in the urban context in terms of improving the quality of people's lives and people's entitlement to have access to, and experience of, nature near to where they live. English Nature's standard, which is included in the companion guide to England's Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation,<sup>25</sup> provided a useful background against which to establish the Woodland Access Standard.

*implementation*. English Nature Research Report 153 and 526.

<sup>24</sup> Countryside Council for Wales (2002). *Developing Standards for Accessible Natural Greenspace in Towns and Cities*. A report produced by the Centre for Urban and Regional Ecology, University of Manchester.

<sup>25</sup> Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. *Assessing needs and opportunities: Planning Policy Guidance 17 companion guide*.

# Developing a Woodland Access Standard (continued)

English Nature and Countryside Council for Wales  
Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards require:

- that no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace of at least 2ha in size
- provision of at least 1ha of Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 people
- that there should be at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km from home
- that there should be one accessible 100ha site within 5km.
- that there should be one accessible 500ha site within 10km

National planning guidance for open space, sport and recreation across the UK suggests that open-space standards are best set locally, based on assessments of need and opportunity,<sup>26</sup> and that national standards cannot cater for local circumstances, such as differing demographic profiles and the extent of existing built development in an area. While this is a valid view in terms of devolving decision-making, national access standards, when properly conceived, do have a useful role to play as a tool in framing local assessment.

## Woodland as natural greenspace

There is of course a distinction to be made between sports fields and formal parks, and natural greenspace such as woodland. Playing fields and parks may, in certain locations, be the only practicable accessible greenspace and thus be extremely valuable in their own right. None the less woods near to people, in both urban and rural areas, have a particularly important role to play in terms of accessible natural greenspace, not only because of the nature of the experience for visitors, but also because of the many additional benefits woods and trees provide to society. These include encouraging exercise and reducing stress, thereby improving health, encouraging learning and recreation, improving air quality, encouraging wildlife, providing shade, reducing flood risk, enhancing landscapes, providing raw materials and improving property values.<sup>27</sup> Woods and trees, being as visually prominent as buildings, are also able to compete structurally with the built environment, thus affording a degree of balance between the built and natural worlds.<sup>28</sup> Woodland can also help deliver 11 of the UK Government's 15 headline quality of life indicators.<sup>29</sup> Therefore, in terms of provision of natural greenspace, wooded areas incorporating open space should be seen as the optimal habitat.

In order to take a view on whether there is sufficient accessible woodland in an area, it is important to take the distribution and density of the population of that area into consideration as well as the proximity of that population to the resource in question.

<sup>26</sup> PPG17 Planning for open space, sport and recreation: [www.odpm.gov.uk](http://www.odpm.gov.uk)

<sup>27</sup> NUFU (1998). *Trees matter! The benefits of trees and woods in towns.*

<sup>28</sup> Coles R.W. (2003). *Personal communication.*

Photograph top: Woodland Trust Picture Library. Old Wood, Skellingthorpe.  
Photograph bottom: WTPL/Steve Barlow. Billinge Plantation, Merseyside.



<sup>29</sup> The Woodland Trust (2004). *Making Woodland Count – a report prepared by ERM, in collaboration with Professor Kenneth Willis, for the Woodland Trust.* [www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/publications)

## The Woodland Trust Woodland Access Standard

In setting a woodland access standard, there is a considerable body of market research and information to draw upon.

Visits to woodland occur more frequently when woodland is located near to where people live. Indeed, 59 per cent of woodland visits are undertaken within a total round-trip distance of under 5 miles (8 kilometres).<sup>30</sup> Beyond 8 kilometres, the frequency of visits drops markedly. Furthermore, the main mode of transport to woodland is on foot (more than half), with only 32 per cent of visits made by car.<sup>30,31</sup>

In 2003, 56 per cent of adults surveyed said they did not have woodland that they could get to easily without using a car or other transport and 67 per cent said they would like to see more woodland in their part of the UK.<sup>32</sup> In addition, 90 per cent selected 'a good place to walk in' as one of the top four reasons why the forestry sector should be supported with public money. Woods are indeed popular places to visit, with the 2002-3 Great Britain Day Visits Survey showing that 40 per cent of all people questioned had visited a wood within the last year, 8 per cent within the last two weeks, and that 252 million day visits in that year were to woods or forests.<sup>33</sup> The survey also found that day visits to woods were most likely to be made on foot (57 per cent).

Public opinion clearly favours woods that are nearby. In other words, location is everything. This is also consistent with a sustainable approach to access to natural greenspace.

Walkable distance to woodland is well documented at approximately 500 metres or 6-8 minutes walking time.<sup>34</sup>

Equally, people wish to visit sites of at least 2 hectares, that being a size at which they can feel a sense of escape from the outside world. Respondents in the same survey expressed a preference for larger woods of between 11 and 40 hectares. The preferred type of woodland was mixed and broadleaved woodland incorporating open space and with less than 85 per cent canopy cover. This is important in terms of an individual's perception of safety.

Perception of safety is vital, as is the issue of accessibility generally. Just because a wood is located near to where people live, it is not necessarily accessible. If people are afraid of a place, it is not accessible to them.<sup>35</sup> A wood that a healthy man finds easy to use may be out of the question for a mother with toddlers, a lone woman, old people or those who have mobility problems. These are crucial points that must be addressed when providing access to any form of greenspace, let alone woodland. However, while it is clearly important that woodland is near enough for people to visit, accessibility requires detailed local assessment. *Space for People* does not seek to address such issues, rather concentrating on the location of sites so that as many people as possible have access to them.

The Woodland Trust Woodland Access Standard aspires that people should have access to woodland of an adequate size within easy reach of where they live. Furthermore, given the optimal 8 kilometre round-trip distance, there are further opportunities to provide larger-sized woods around cities, towns and communities within a distance that people can easily travel.



<sup>30</sup> Forestry Commission (2002). Forestry Statistics.

<sup>31</sup> Woodland Trust Scotland (2001). Woodland Trust Visitor Survey March 2000-April 2001. Final report.

<sup>32</sup> Forestry Commission (2003). UK Public Opinion of Forestry.

<sup>33</sup> Great Britain Day Visits Survey 2002/3. A survey undertaken by the Countryside Agency, Countryside Council for Wales, British Waterways, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Scottish Natural Heritage, VisitBritain, VisitScotland and

Wales Tourist Board. [www.countryside.gov.uk](http://www.countryside.gov.uk)

<sup>34</sup> Coles R.W. and Bussey S.C. (2000). *Urban forest landscapes in the UK – progressing the social agenda*. Landscape and Urban Planning 52 (pp181-8).

<sup>35</sup> English Nature (1996). *A Space for Nature – nature is good for you*.

# Developing a Woodland Access Standard (continued)

Everyone should have access to woodland of an adequate size within easy reach of where they live.  
Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images

The Woodland Trust Woodland Access Standard aspires:

- that no person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2ha in size
- that there should also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20ha within 4km (8km round-trip) of people's homes.



Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images



<sup>36</sup> Forestry Commission (2002). *UK Indicators of Sustainable Forestry*. Economics and Statistics Unit.

The Woodland Access Standard is intended as an aspirational benchmark on which discussions and decisions regarding provision of accessible woodland can be based; it can therefore facilitate communication and negotiation with other sectors that themselves use standards. It reflects public use and opinion of woodland as it is based on the findings of a number of wide-ranging surveys. In its scope it is consistent with similar accessible greenspace standards and as such it should be adopted wherever possible, although where necessary pragmatism in delivery will be required.

The Woodland Access Standard ideally aspires to deliver appropriately-sized woods within both 500 metres and 4 kilometres of where people live. However, in cases where there is no possibility of achieving the 500-metre threshold, due to lack of available land in urban situations, 20 hectares of woodland within 4 kilometres should be the minimum provided. 20 hectares is within the range of woodland size that people would prefer to visit and can also be regarded as relatively large in a UK context, given only about 8 per cent of all woods in Great Britain are larger than 10 hectares in size.<sup>36</sup>

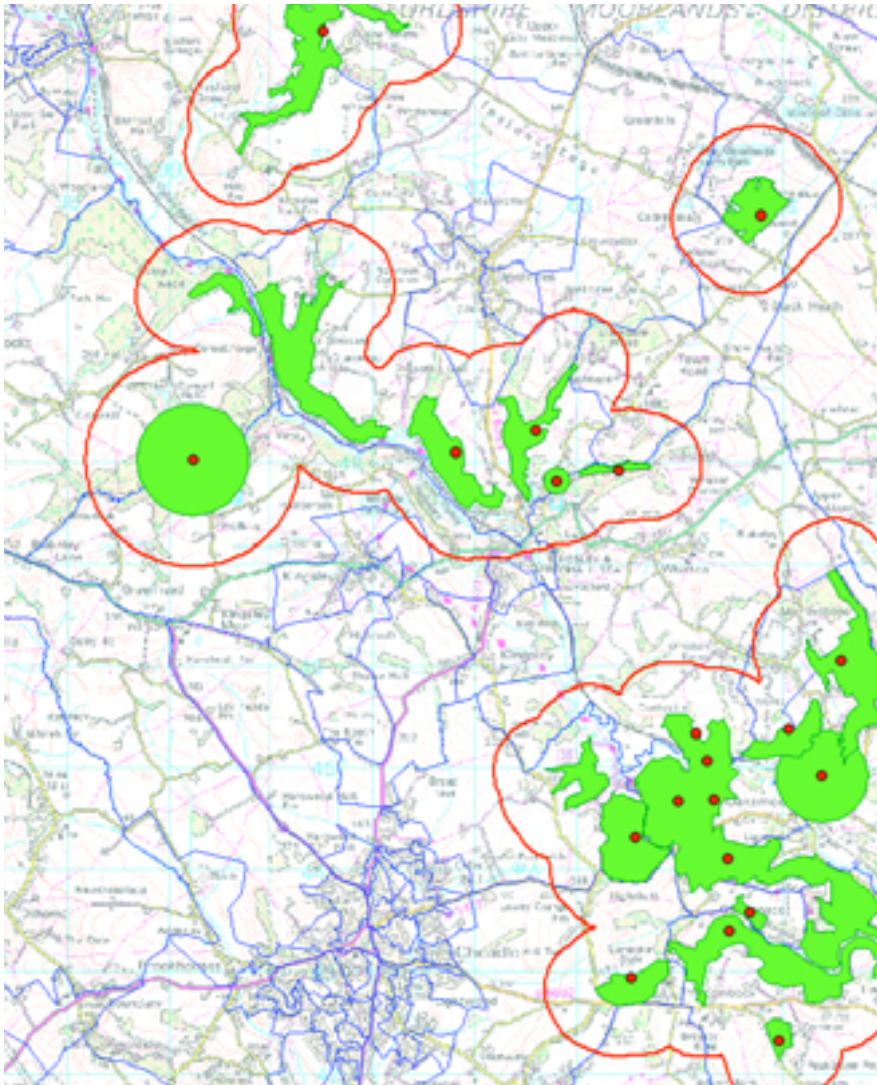
Although the focus of the Woodland Access Standard is towns and cities, where the majority of people live, it is equally applicable to rural areas where, despite perceptions to the contrary, a lack of accessible greenspace can be just as acute. However, in remoter areas, with very low densities of population, relative distances are greater and common sense is required in trying to provide accessible woodland for everyone. Implicit also to the delivery of the Woodland Access

Standard, particularly in rural areas, is that woodland exists within a patchwork of land use, including other semi-natural greenspace. Indeed, both the Countryside and Rights of Way Act and the Land Reform (Scotland) Act provide a right of access to large areas of countryside. It will often not be appropriate or necessary to sustain the Woodland Access Standard in landscapes that already have a high degree of accessible natural greenspace, neither should new woodland be sited on existing semi-natural open-ground habitat, ecologically valuable brownfield land or archeological sites.

Unlike the English Nature and Countryside Council for Wales' models, which include provision for at least 2 hectares of accessible natural greenspace for every 1,000 people, the Woodland Access Standard is non-prescriptive. This is because sites will experience different levels and types of use in different areas. In some places, relatively large amounts of woodland may be required per 1,000 people, as regardless of population density the level of use is high, while in other places the area of woodland may be lower as use is less intense. It is therefore not only unlikely that level of use and therefore woodland area can be calculated simply on the basis of population density, but also that this can be determined before the wood is created. Clearly though, in areas where there is a high level of use, more than one site within the appropriate distance threshold will be required. For this reason the Woodland Access Standard suggests at least one area of accessible woodland within each distance threshold to accommodate such local variation in use. Local assessment is therefore key to ensure sufficient accessible woodland is provided.

# Development of the targets

**Map 1:** Buffer zones were added to woods. Accessible woods contain red dots. Census Output Area Boundaries are shown in blue. (Reproduced from Ordnance Survey digital data and 2001 Census Output Area Boundaries with the permission of HMSO © Crown Copyright. AL 100017626).



## Development of targets

(A more detailed description and discussion of the GIS methodology for target development can be found in Annex 1.)

Having established the extent and location of accessible woodland across the UK and having developed the Woodland Access Standard, the extent to which the area of existing accessible woodland meets the standard and the area of additional woodland required to meet the standard can now be considered.

Accessible woodland data was captured in a GIS as both grid-reference-point data and digital woodland boundaries, depending on how the woodland information had been received. The first process in target development was to improve the grid-reference-point data as far as possible by creating woodland boundaries for those sites for which only grid-reference detail had been captured. In order to assess the proportion of the population able to access these accessible woods, within the aspirations of the Woodland Access Standard, 500-metre and 4-kilometre buffers were extended around the appropriately sized woods (Map 1). The proportion of the population falling within these buffers was then calculated using Census 2001 data.

The same process was used to assess the proportion of the population that could have access to woodland if appropriately located existing woods were opened for public access. This left areas of the UK devoid of

woodland, where people have no access, or no potential for access. In these areas woodland creation is required. Optimum location, for new woods in these areas, was modelled based on population density and therefore designed to achieve high return rates, typically around 90 per cent, of people having access. Results are therefore a function of current deficiency of woodland and the distribution and density of the population.

The woodland creation targets resulting from this analysis (Annex 2) should be seen as minimum requirements for four reasons. Firstly, it is unlikely all existing woods will be opened for public access so a larger degree of woodland creation will almost certainly be required. Secondly, it is doubtful that optimal location will be achieved in practice. Thirdly, local decision-makers need to take account of level of use and the size of the population to decide whether additional new sites should supplement provision. Finally, the Woodland Access Standard aspires that 2 hectares and 20 hectares are the minimum size of site in each distance threshold.

Finally, having assessed current provision and future requirement, sufficient information existed to consider ratios of woodland area/population size. These ratios are not part of the Woodland Access Standard, and should only be seen as indicative as they assume an idealised situation in which everyone has access to woodland. However, they may be useful for comparison with other area/population ratios.

# Results

Results demonstrate a lack of community woods within walking distance.

Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images

The figures in Table 2, on page 8, show a broad assessment of the amount of accessible woodland in the UK. Expressed as a proportion of the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (Great Britain) and Ordnance Survey Woodland Vector maps (Northern Ireland), the results show some parts of the UK with significant proportions of existing woodland already permissively



open to the public. However, some areas do not fare so well: for example, South East England. Here large amounts of woodland exist, although only 35 per cent of it is permissively accessible, with 176,000 hectares of woodland having no permissive access. This raises interesting questions about increasing access to existing woods before creating new ones.

Table 1, map 2 and Annex 2 present the results of in-depth analysis into permissively accessible woodland provision based on the Woodland Access Standard and population data from Census 2001. By identifying the number of people living within 500 metres of accessible woods greater than 2 hectares and within 4 kilometres of accessible woods greater than 20 hectares, it is possible to assess the proportion of the population, in any given area, with access to woods within the aspiration of the standard. The same process for woods not known to be accessible gives an insight into the extra proportion of the population that could have access to woodland if these inaccessible sites were made permissively accessible. Results show that for the 4-kilometre threshold, large proportions of the population across the UK could have access to existing woodland.

Indeed, at country level, results show that more than 80 per cent of the population of England and more than 95 per cent of the populations of Scotland and Wales could have access to larger woods within 4 kilometres if those inaccessible woods were made accessible.

The same is not true of the 500-metre woods, and the results clearly demonstrate a lack of community woods within walking distance. At a country level, across the UK, no more than 16 per cent of the population currently have access to such sites and, even if all other existing woods were made accessible, proportions of the population with potential for access only rise to 36 per cent in England, 59 per cent in Wales, 54 per cent in Scotland and 30 per cent in Northern Ireland. While not necessarily small, these are the woods located closest to where people live and therefore those woods that have the most to offer in terms of public benefits. They are also the woods that people visit daily and to which access is possible without the use of a car and, perhaps most importantly, the woods that are crucial to ensure people have the everyday opportunity to experience nature. However, they are also often the woods that offer the greatest challenges in terms of delivery, due to constraints of land price and availability in urban and semi-urban areas and other land use in rural areas.

Given the nature of woodland creation, attaining the 4-kilometre threshold targets in semi-urban or rural situations may present fewer challenges. In some local authority areas, the modelled targets for new woodland are less than 20 hectares. However, given the aspirations of the Woodland Access Standard, woods of no smaller than 20 hectares should be created in practice. In practice too, while the targets suggest the need for more woodland by each local authority area, access to woodland within 4 kilometres could well be delivered by a new wood in the neighbouring local authority area.

# Results (continued)

The minimum areas of new woodland presented in Table 1 and Annex 2 may at first seem low. However, they are still likely to be tremendously challenging to deliver. This is particularly the case for the 500-metre woods. The target for these woods in England (48,683 hectares) is significantly larger than for Scotland (2,640 hectares), Wales (3,817 hectares) and Northern Ireland (2,604 hectares). This is because not only is the amount of woodland low in England but also the population density is much higher than in the other countries and therefore more census output areas, in areas devoid of woodland, met the criteria for inclusion (Annex 1, Step 4). The same is true of the 4-kilometres targets, with England requiring more woodland within this threshold. The analysis of locational targeting of these new woods, typically achieved around 90 per cent inclusion of those people still requiring access to woodland. This demonstrates that the methodology used (Annex 1) can be used to ensure best use of public funds when deciding where to create new woods.

The ratios (hectares of accessible woodland/1000 people) resulting from the final part of the analysis (Annex 1, Step 5) vary across the UK and are for England 0.2 to 314, Scotland 2.09 to 2365, Wales 4.44 to 551 and Northern Ireland 1.99 to 494. The lower figures are those found in central urban locations with the highest figures generally in the most rural. Delivery of the Woodland Access Standard across the UK would therefore see one-third of England's unitary authorities (the most urban) fall below the currently accepted ratio of 2 hectares/1000 people for accessible natural greenspace. Scotland, Wales and

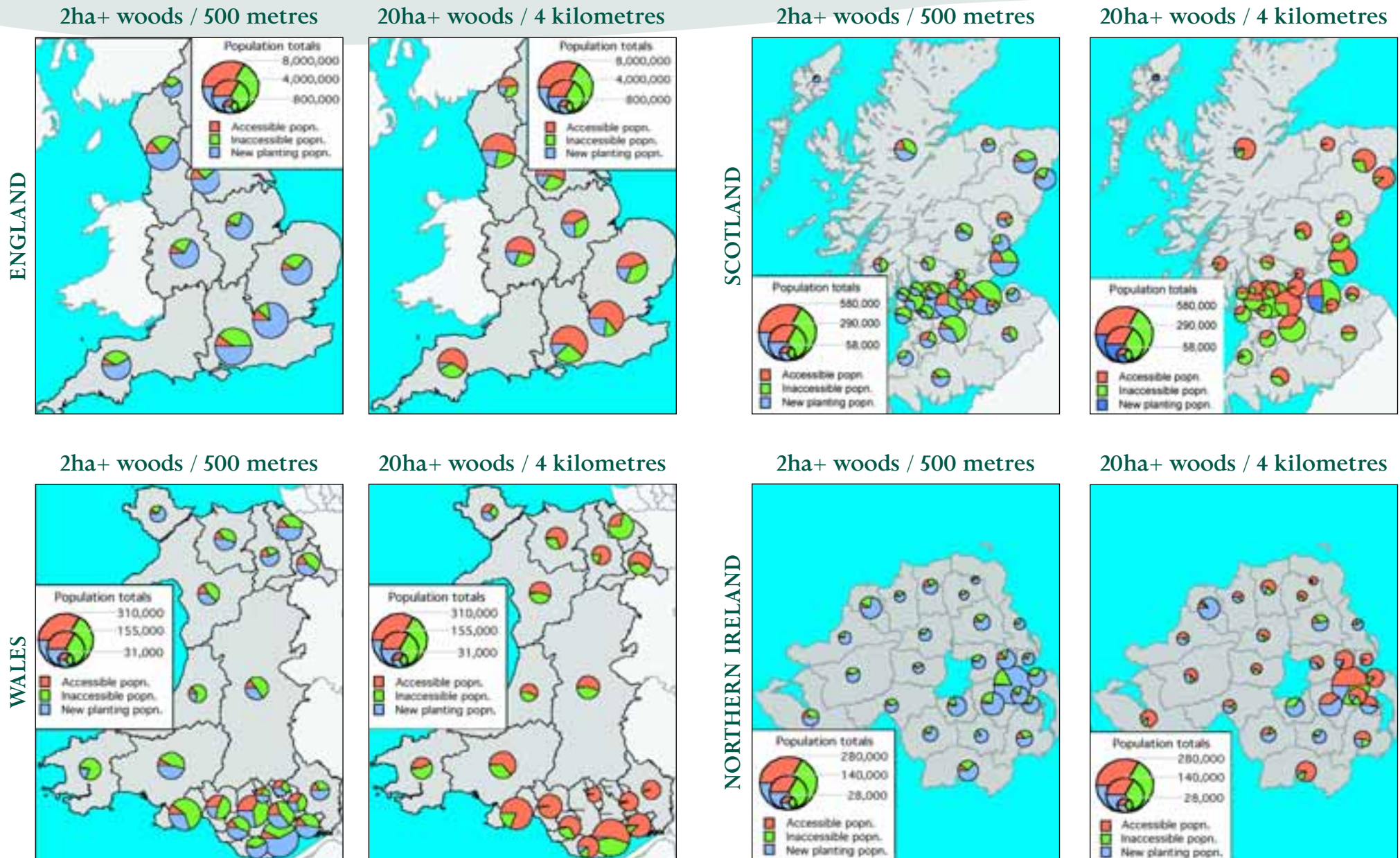
Northern Ireland would largely meet this ratio. As with the woodland creation targets this is again a function of the relatively small amount of woodland and the high population densities that exist in parts of England. However, the Woodland Access Standard suggests at least one area of accessible woodland within each distance threshold to accommodate local variation in use. In areas with very low ratios of accessible woodland/1000 people it is therefore likely that more than one site within the appropriate distance threshold will be required. Local assessment is therefore key to ensure sufficient accessible woodland is provided.



Local assessment is key to ensure sufficient accessible woodland is provided.  
Photographs: Woodland Trust Picture Library



Map 2: Results of analysis showing proportions of the population that have access to woodland, that could have access to woodland and that will require new woodland.



# Implications for public policy on accessible woodland

Photograph left: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images  
Photograph right: WTPL/Gareth Lovett-Jones

## Current public policy

Public opinion is in favour of more accessible woodland situated close to where people live. Forestry policy and incentives are also now moving in this direction. Indeed, all published country forestry strategies provide clear policies and targets supporting increased access to woodland near to where people live. In England, the strategy seeks to promote more and better-quality public access to woodland.<sup>37</sup> In Wales, key objectives for promoting access include the use of woodland to create a high-quality experience and health promotion through access to woodland for all communities<sup>38</sup> and in Scotland one of the forestry sector's key aims is to create opportunities for more people to enjoy trees, woods and forests.<sup>39</sup> The Northern Ireland strategy has yet to be published. The UK Woodland Assurance Scheme certification standard also requires provision of public access, although it does include certain exemptions.<sup>40</sup> Moreover, in a recent independent economic analysis of forestry policy in England, public access provided by both the public forest estate and access procured through grant intervention was shown to be a good public investment,<sup>41</sup> particularly in urban and suburban situations.

We now need to tighten these policies to ensure implementation is achieved with best effect in those areas where need is greatest. This will ensure that public funds are used in the most cost-effective way.



<sup>37</sup> Forestry Commission (1998). *A new focus for England's woodlands – England Forestry Strategy*.

<sup>38</sup> Forestry Commission (2001). *Woodlands for Wales – A strategy for Trees and Woodlands in Wales*.

<sup>39</sup> Forestry Commission (Scotland) (2000). *Forests for Scotland –*

*The Scottish Forestry Strategy*.

<sup>40</sup> UKWAS Steering Group (2000). *Certification Standard for UK Woodland Assurance Scheme*.

<sup>41</sup> CJC Consulting (2003). *Economic Analysis of Forestry Policy in England: The Crabtree Report*.

## Role of the public forest estate

The public forest estate, owned and/or managed by the Forestry Commission in Great Britain and Forest Service in Northern Ireland, is crucially important for access across the UK. The Forestry Commission's estate (by area) as a proportion of all accessible woodland is: England 66 per cent, Scotland 86 per cent and Wales 91 per cent. In Northern Ireland over 90 per cent of accessible woodland (by area) is Forest Service estate. Any proposed rationalisation of, or changes to, the status of the public forest estate could be potentially disastrous unless it is recognised that existing access should be protected, through binding agreements.

## Role of the private woodland owner

*Space for People* demonstrates the deficit in accessible woods near to where people live and the extent to which this deficit can be offset by opening existing woods to the public. There is clearly a need to look more widely than publicly owned woods. Much of the available woodland is privately owned and is not currently permissively open to the public. If it were, the situation would be transformed. For example, if all privately owned woodland in England were accessible, the percentage of the population with access to a 20-hectare wood within 4 kilometres would increase from 55 per cent to 82 per cent. The corresponding figures for the other countries are: Wales 72 per cent to 98 per cent, Scotland 54 per cent to 95 per cent and Northern Ireland 50 per cent to 66 per cent.

Provision of permissive access to woodland is not compulsory for private woodland owners and, if we are to expect substantial provision of public benefits from private land, with the exception of UK Woodland Assurance Scheme requirements for certified woods, current mechanisms and resources clearly need to do more. However, the availability of permissive access to private woods has steadily increased since the 1980s, boosted by the Forestry Commission's various grant schemes, demonstrating that some benefit can be obtained by using grant incentives to encourage access provision, although activity must be targeted to ensure best use of public funds.

## Strategies for delivery – constraints and opportunities

Research into the types of woodland that people wish to visit points to distinct size and distance thresholds, which are presented in the Woodland Access Standard. However, a wood's composition also appears to be an important factor. According to the Forestry Commission's definition of woodland, sites should contain more than 20 per cent canopy cover, but perceptions of safety require less than 85 per cent canopy cover. This provides a useful range within which to work and also allows for significant amounts of open space. People also prefer broadleaved and mixed woodland, with evergreen trees providing colour throughout the year. However, given many of these sites will also be important for wildlife, which itself forms part of the attraction of accessible woodland, native trees and shrubs, including native evergreen

species such as holly and yew, should be given priority wherever possible.



# Implications for public policy on accessible woodland (continued)

*Space for People* demonstrates a need for a substantial increase in woodland across the UK.  
Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images



It is clear that there is a move towards policies that encourage an increase in accessible woodland closer to where people live in both urban and rural areas. This is welcome and recognises the link with society's needs. The Woodland Trust believes that there is a strong rationale for creating incentives to open up existing mature woodland as a first step to delivery of the Woodland Access Standard. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act offers a significant opportunity to improve and increase access to woodland, both through delivery of rights of way improvement plans and through the dedication of access in perpetuity under Section 16 of the Act. But no incentives currently exist to encourage landowners to dedicate land. This research strongly suggests the need for a wider public debate on current mechanisms and the case for stronger mechanisms to substantially increase access to privately owned woodland. In Scotland completion of core-path plans, under the Land Reform Act, will see an improvement in the quality of access now available by right. However, across the UK, adequate investment and improvements in quality of statutory access must be made so that statutory access can truly be included as providing high-quality, welcoming access to woods.

*Space for People* demonstrates that the requirement for an increase in woodland access cannot be met solely by concentrating on incentives for making existing woods accessible. It demonstrates a need for a substantial expansion in woodland across the UK close to where

people live in order to deliver not only public access, as suggested by the Woodland Access Standard, but also other locationally dependent public benefits particularly in urban areas. Local initiatives such as Regional Forestry Frameworks, Local Development Frameworks and Community Strategies will be well placed to help guide and deliver implementation of the Woodland Access Standard and can also play a pivotal role in targeting action to those areas where access to high-quality natural greenspace is most needed.

While the Woodland Access Standard and the woodland creation targets aim for a minimum requirement of woodland for public access, it is accepted that in our existing towns and cities a largely built environment will mean that land is often only available at a premium, if at all. Constraints to implementation of the Woodland Access Standard, such as optimal location of a new wood, will therefore be largely local in character. Similarly, in the wider countryside, the Woodland Access Standard should be delivered with pragmatism particularly in remoter areas or areas where a statutory right of access exists to other types of natural greenspace.

Any constraints in delivering sufficient accessible natural greenspace must be overcome in new developments. It is critical that local authorities make provision for high-quality natural greenspace right from the start. Communities of the future need to have direct access to the natural world if they are to be genuinely sustainable. Government itself has acknowledged that greenspaces have an important role to play in promoting and encouraging healthy lifestyles.<sup>42</sup> They are therefore fundamental to the well-being of future settlements. *Space for People* is designed to help the natural greenspace decision-making process and demonstrates that woodland has a large part to play in people's quality of life.



It also sets out a rationale for woodland creation where it is most needed from an access perspective. It provides a basis for local decision-makers to assess and make adequate provision of accessible woodland and, in doing so, allows targeting of public money where need is greatest. Due to the way the targets have been created, they can set a context for action from council wards right up to regional and country level. Most of all, however, *Space for People* sets out a cogent, quantified and objective justification for creation of new woodland across the UK.

It is only through people's understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of woodland that we will ensure its survival. Woods are magical places which bring many benefits and which people enjoy in many different ways.

The Woodland Trust believes everyone should be able to experience nature and appreciate human beings' integral part within it. As well as the variety of public benefits they offer, we believe woods are the perfect places to deliver high-quality space for people.

<sup>42</sup> Government response to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Select Committee (2002). *Report on Living Places: Cleaner, Safer, Greener*, p2.

It is only through people's understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of woodland that we will ensure its survival.

Photograph left: WTPL/Dick Todds. Ashenbank Wood, Kent

Photograph right: WTPL/Uta Reed. Aversley Wood, Cambridgeshire



# Annex 1. Development of the targets

Photograph: WTPL/Archie Miles

## Development of the targets

GIS was used to analyse the accessible woodland data together with Census 2001 data to establish proportions of the population with access to woodland, within the requirements of the Woodland Access Standard.

### Step 1

To carry out the analysis, based on the Woodland Access Standard, it was imperative that digital woodland boundary data was collected and used wherever possible. However, determining the extent of accessible woodland throughout the UK is not an easy task. Four types of woodland boundary data were used:

- a. Straightforward accessible woodland boundary data (polygon data) such as that derived from the Woodland Trust estate or Forestry Commission's Walkers Welcome data.
- b. Woodland boundaries were created to take the place of data collected simply as grid-reference-point information. Where an accessible woodland point corresponds to a boundary in the site owner's dataset, the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees



data falling within that site was used to determine the appropriate woodland extent within it.

- c. National Inventory of Woodland and Trees woodland boundary data were used where the grid-reference point falls within it and the area recorded for the grid-reference point matches that of the woodland boundary by plus or minus 20 per cent.
- d. Where the recorded grid-reference point does not fall within an existing woodland boundary, the point data was converted into a circular woodland boundary, centred on the grid reference point, whose area matched that recorded for the point.

### Step 2

In order to assess proximity on foot, 500-metre buffers were extended around all accessible woods of 2 hectares and above. Census Output Areas<sup>43</sup> (small geographical units of similar population size, around 125 households, designed specifically for statistical purposes) that overlapped these woodland buffers were then queried for the proportion of the population with access. This detailed information, collected at Census Output Area level, was then aggregated upwards to provide information on the ward, district, unitary authority/county, region or country. (See tables in Annex 2 for results.)

The same method was used, with 4-kilometre woodland buffers, to assess the proportion of the population with access by car, or otherwise, to an accessible wood of at least 20 hectares. (See tables in Annex 2 for results.)

<sup>43</sup> Provided by the Office of National Statistics, General Register Office for Scotland and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.

## Accessible woodland data – health check

- Woods for People is a provisional dataset of accessible woodland across the UK. It is therefore likely that some gaps in the data exist in this first version. Data will be updated annually.
- Only woods that are permissively open to the public are defined as accessible and included in the analysis.
- Where only point data was captured, some circular boundaries were created (Annex 1, Step 1). While these woodland areas are accurate in terms of size, exact boundary locations and therefore some 500-metre and 4-kilometre buffers around them may be subject to error.
- Each Census Output Area contains an accurate count of population. However, within the GIS, the population was spread uniformly across each area as no better method of locating exactly where people lived was available to the Woodland Trust at the time of analysis.
- Analysis has assumed that access is possible at any point along the woodland boundary and that access within the 500-metre or 4-kilometre thresholds is unhindered. In reality, there are many barriers to access, such as roads, railways and waterways, as well as issues of mobility and perceptions of safety.
- Optimally located woodland-creation targets, designed to achieve high return rates in terms of the number of people having access, should be seen as minimum targets.
- Optimal location takes no account of land use, as in practice this is an issue for local assessment.

### Step 3

Having established the proportion of the population with access to woodland within the aspirations of the Woodland Access Standard, attention then turned to the remaining woods of greater than 2 hectares and 20 hectares, for 500-metre and 4-kilometre buffers respectively. Using the same method established in Step 2, buffers were extended around all remaining woods to assess the proportion of the population that would have access to woodland, within the aspirations of the Woodland Access Standard, if they were made available. For the purposes of this research, existing woods includes those areas where planting is clearly visible on interpretation of aerial photographs used to compile the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees. It is important that existing woodland is considered before any targets for woodland creation are developed, as the experience of visiting mature woodland is more satisfying than that of visiting a newly planted wood. (See tables in Annex 2 for results.)



# Annex 1. Development of the targets (continued)

Photograph: David Woodfall/Woodfall Wild Images

## Step 4

Having assessed the extent to which woods currently open to the public are delivering access (Step 2), and the extent to which woods currently thought to be closed to the public could deliver access (Step 3), there is sufficient information to develop targets to cater for the remaining proportion of the population.

Those Census Output Areas untouched by 500-metre and 4-kilometre buffers of existing woods require new accessible woodland. Optimal location of these new woods was modelled for the purposes of developing a woodland creation target. Optimal location was based on the ability of a new wood to deliver access to as many people as possible, although a pragmatic approach was taken in catering for remote and sparsely populated census output areas.

1. Planting unit areas were established for both 500-metre and 4-kilometre thresholds. These equated to a uniform wood of 2 hectares and 20 hectares respectively, plus the area of its relevant distance threshold. These planting area units were 105 hectares for 500-metre threshold woods and 5680 hectares for 4-kilometre threshold woods.

2. For 500-metre threshold woods, Census Output Areas in which the density of the population still requiring new woodland was greater than 100 people/planting unit area (105 hectares) were chosen, a population density ratio of approximately 1:1.

3. For 4-kilometre woods, Census Output Areas in which the density of the population still requiring new woodland was greater

than 5000 people/planting unit area (5680 hectares) were chosen, again a population density ratio of approximately 1:1.

4. Of all those output areas chosen on the basis of population density, only those output areas, or amalgamations of adjacent output areas, with actual populations of more than 100 people still requiring woodland were included for woodland creation target development.

5. Amalgamated areas that were smaller than the planting unit area in question, but that had more than 100 people requiring new woodland, were attributed a single planting unit, as 2 hectares and 20 hectares woods are the minimum sizes. Output areas or amalgamations of output areas that were chosen and that were larger than the planting unit area were attributed a corresponding multiple of the planting unit area.

6. Planting unit area figures were then added to create targets for new woodland, by local authority areas. Given the basis of planting area unit establishment, each 105-hectare and 5680-hectare planting area unit requires the creation of a single 2-hectare and 20-hectare wood respectively. (See tables in Annex 2 for results).

The resulting area of woodland creation required to ensure everyone has access to woodland is a minimum target. It should be seen as the minimum requirement for four reasons. Firstly, it is unlikely that we will ever see all existing woods open for public access so it is likely a larger degree of woodland creation will be required. Secondly, if local decision-making cannot achieve

optimal location, it is likely that a larger area, or more than one new woodland, will be needed. Thirdly, given the Woodland Access Standard requires at least one area of accessible woodland within each distance threshold, local decision-makers need to take account of level of use and the size of the population. Single woods receiving high levels of use, regardless of population size, will need to be supplemented by additional new sites. Finally, the Woodland Access Standard aspires that 2 hectares and 20 hectares are the minimum size of site in each threshold.





### Step 5

Finally, having worked out current provision and future requirement, sufficient information exists to assess the range of woodland area/population ratios that would exist across the UK if everyone had access to woodland within the aspirations of the Woodland Access Standard.

Ratios were calculated for each unitary authority by adding together total area of accessible and inaccessible woodland with area of new woodland required. These ratios are not part of the standard, and should only be seen as indicative as they assume the idealised situation in which everyone has access to woodland. Total area of woodland required for everyone to have access to woodland was then divided by the total population for that unitary authority and multiplied by 1000 to give a hectares/1000 population ratio. Whilst only indicative, the ratios may be useful for comparison with area/population ratios published by others (see page 19).



# Annex 2: Tables showing provision of woodland access and targets for woodland creation at country, regional and local authority level across the UK.

NOTE: 1. Only permissively accessible woods have been included in this analysis. See Statutory Access section for more details.

2. Some local authorities appear to have very little accessible woodland. This may be a true reflection of the situation but in some cases may be due to lack of data or large areas of woodland within private ownership and not under Woodland Grant Scheme

Photograph: Woodland Trust Picture Library, Trinity Wood.



UK	Country	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	ENGLAND	Region	East Midlands	East of England
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	10.18	15.74	15.32	7.45			7.08	8.49
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	55.18	72.25	54.41	50.32			42.14	44.24
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	26.08	43.21	38.45	22.52			21.46	27.48
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	26.74	25.28	41.16	16.29			31.87	37.55
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	63.74	41.05	46.23	70.03			71.46	64.03
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	18.08	2.47	4.43	33.39			26.00	18.21
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	48,683	3,817	2,640	2,604			5,662	7,352
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	15,392	720	1,280	1,988			2,989	3,254



ENGLAND		Region						
		London	North East	North West	South East	South West	West Midlands	Yorkshire & the Humber
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	10.98	9.89	12.18	10.66	7.97	9.42	13.09
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	64.28	48.42	54.27	61.54	59.41	54.66	55.60
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	11.67	30.54	23.36	39.05	34.14	23.19	24.92
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	11.76	32.91	24.08	26.30	32.99	25.82	28.33
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	77.35	59.57	64.46	50.29	57.88	67.39	61.99
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	23.96	18.67	21.64	12.16	7.60	19.52	16.07
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	2,471	2,230	5,999	8,812	6,126	4,834	5,199
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	620	540	1,712	1,819	1,644	914	1,900

SCOTLAND		Local authority																			
		Aberdeen City	Aberdeenshire	Angus	Argyll & Bute	Clackmannanshire	Dumfries & Galloway	Dundee City	East Ayrshire	East Dunbartonshire	East Lothian	East Renfrewshire	Edinburgh, City of	Eilean Siar	Falkirk	Fife	Glasgow City	Highland	Inverclyde	Midlothian	Moray
		8.61	10.67	45.58	27.36	8.92	11.64	1.07	29.42	16.73	3.81	5.86	12.59	13.26	29.67	17.73	7.76	20.29	9.30	38.83	16.75
		89.95	71.52	21.01	82.56	91.12	64.80	35.53	37.42	69.12	59.50	25.53	22.63	32.22	96.31	69.80	22.97	78.77	48.13	99.19	95.07
		20.99	34.80	16.97	42.63	73.63	36.45	22.78	28.82	43.84	28.20	64.63	45.46	8.80	32.32	33.29	34.63	37.59	49.78	21.43	28.93
		9.91	26.53	73.45	15.57	8.88	34.54	64.47	62.14	30.71	29.83	74.18	53.68	14.31	3.68	28.70	76.02	14.65	51.86	0.81	4.86
		70.40	54.53	37.44	30.01	17.45	51.91	76.14	41.76	39.43	67.98	29.51	41.95	77.94	38.01	48.98	57.61	42.13	40.92	39.75	54.32
		0.14	1.96	5.54	1.87	0	0.66	0	0.43	0.17	10.67	0.29	23.69	53.47	0	1.50	1.01	6.59	0.01	0	0.07
		106	160	64	40	14	119	69	62	51	53	37	142	73	76	216	200	136	32	48	62
		20	60	40	0	0	40	0	20	20	40	20	20	240	0	20	40	80	0	0	0



SCOTLAND	Local authority												
		North Ayrshire	North Lanarkshire	Orkney Islands	Perth & Kinross	Renfrewshire	Scottish Borders	Shetland Islands	South Ayrshire	South Lanarkshire	Stirling	West Dunbartonshire	West Lothian
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	4.25	25.27	0.71	13.46	5.39	24.83	7.22	1.16	8.06	11.91	5.87	52.87
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	33.09	74.45	0	68.18	50.73	49.90	0	12.05	36.76	57.55	77.94	99.65
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	52.80	33.94	0.24	43.31	65.31	41.24	0.02	29.85	59.97	61.65	56.04	18.26
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	66.17	25.55	0	28.66	49.27	48.97	0	83.56	62.55	42.43	22.05	0.35
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	42.95	40.79	99.05	43.23	29.30	33.93	92.76	68.98	31.97	26.44	38.10	28.87
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	0.74	0	100	3.16	0	1.13	100	4.39	0.69	0.02	0	0
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	75	160	24	85	70	72	39	73	133	34	43	73
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	40	0	180	40	0	40	280	20	20	0	0	0

WALES															
	Blaenau Gwent	Bridgend	Caerphilly	Cardiff	Cardiff	Carmarthenshire	Ceredigion	Conwy	Denbighshire	Flintshire	Gwynedd	Isle of Anglesey	Merthyr Tydfil	Monmouthshire	Neath Port Talbot
	32.43	14.17	19.70	6.71	8.36	12.12	14.21	18.42	12.56	16.85	7.72	26.29	17.38	32.12	12.80
	99.84	66.78	99.95	54.82	63.96	57.66	69.30	80.49	27.23	55.30	33.86	97.85	96.04	97.14	88.43
	28.17	41.71	43.71	35.39	45.11	65.16	40.79	24.43	38.60	45.59	23.32	26.88	30.93	46.37	39.23
	0.16	30.69	0.03	41.60	34.89	41.85	28.51	19.51	72.52	42.65	28.24	2.15	3.44	2.86	9.84
	39.40	44.12	36.59	57.90	46.53	22.72	45	57.15	48.84	37.56	68.96	46.83	51.69	21.51	47.96
	0	2.53	0.02	3.58	1.15	0.48	2.19	0	0.25	2.06	37.89	0	0.52	0	1.73
	110	193	200	191	305	91	153	116	298	258	184	61	121	106	111
	0	20	0	20	80	0	40	0	0	60	240	0	0	0	40



WALES	Local authority	Pembrokeshire		Powys		Rhondda, Cynon, Taff		Swansea		The Vale of Glamorgan		Torfaen		Wrexham		
		Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	2.48	14.06	31.62	10.76	4.04	32.46	15.34	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	42.79	54.72	99.95	80.81	74.35
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	78.55	51.06	40.79	59.24	38.27	39.99	45.07	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	54.86	44.45	0.05	19.08	16.08	3	35.05
	Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	18.97	34.88	27.59	30	57.68	27.55	39.59	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	2.35	0.84	0.00	0.12	9.57	1.15
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	148	144	335	255	158	102	176	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	60	0	0	0	80	20	60

NORTHERN IRELAND	District	Antrim		Ards		Armagh		Ballymena		Ballymoney		Banbridge		Belfast		Carrickfergus		Castlereagh		Coleraine		Cookstown		Craigavon		Derry		Down		Dungannon		Fermanagh		Larne		Limavady		Lisburn		
		Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	3.96	5.64	9.42	9.88	4.73	0.57	1.27	12.33	9.80	18.10	8.37	6.54	6.66	15.93	12.71	14.64	2.91	9.76	4.38	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	63.27	50.80	32.90	14.92	68.69	6	48.63	91.07	67.70	62.68	63.42	0	9.44	53.76	45.20	78.25	21.80
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	30.04	25.17	19.73	24.18	27.97	14.30	15.52	16.51	18.19	22.24	32.39	15.18	20.23	29.63	32.30	35.60	25.91	28.68	21.39	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	5.40	4.06	12.19	31.23	20.29	22.67	33.13	0.29	19.06	19.05	23.53	33.80	4.79	20.56	11.53	11.96	17.68	14.35	0.45
	Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	66	69.19	70.85	65.94	67.29	85.13	83.21	71.16	72.01	59.66	59.24	78.27	73.11	54.44	54.99	49.76	71.18	61.57	74.23	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	31.33	45.14	54.91	53.86	11.02	71.33	18.23	8.64	13.24	18.27	13.05	66.20	85.77	25.67	43.27	9.80	60.52	38.08
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	82	191	86	104	51	88	146	42	79	100	47	177	139	146	128	97	61	48	159	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	100	160	140	100	40	120	20	20	80	60	100	47	41	140	60	120	40	40	160



NORTHERN IRELAND	District	Magherafelt		Moyle		Newry & Mourne		Newtownabbey		North Down		Omagh		Strabane		
	Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	5.85	14.46	10.59	13.61	5.13	6.60	4.80							
% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km		60.88	83.23	79.36	80.46	89.30	63.34	46.37								
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	27.53	24.10	26.26	13.98	27.13	36.66	20.94								
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	11.20	8.89	13.32	3.98	9.11	10.57	12.19								
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	66.62	61.44	63.15	72.42	67.74	56.74	74.26								
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	27.92	7.88	7.32	15.57	1.59	26.09	41.44								
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	94	29	194	98	89	54	74								
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	40	40	40	80	40	60	100								

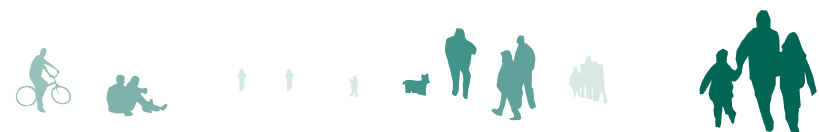
ENGLAND	County/Unitary authority	Barking & Dagenham		Barnet		Barnsley		Bath & North East Somerset		Bedfordshire		Bexley		Birmingham		Blackburn & Darwen		Blackpool		Bolton		Bournemouth		Bracknell Forest		Bradford		Brent		Brighton & Hove		Bristol, City of		Bromley		Buckinghamshire		Bury		Calderdale		Cambridgeshire			
			6.80	5.77	4.54	22.23	5.19	10.41	7.68	6.38	0	17.30	0	29.33	3.67	4.95	1.02	11.33	19.21	19.50	13.45	8.88	2.23																						
		92.42	78.09	73.73	49.22	43.53	98.67	36.94	75.09	0	96.45	24.95	93.42	48.39	40.54	43.37	84.10	77.06	79.49	53.17	29.27	19.96																							
		5.16	23.97	28.20	27.31	22.59	24.90	22.49	39.39	7.91	29.68	47.15	57.33	31.18	7.59	26.76	21.17	22.73	33.89	41.64	55.74	17.24																							
		0	20.53	25.43	48.80	25.74	1.06	15.18	24.81	0.13	3.55	75.02	6.58	49.35	2.18	31.88	13.37	21.65	3.55	37.08	70.57	26.47																							
		88.04	70.26	67.26	50.47	72.22	64.68	69.83	54.23	92.09	53.02	52.85	13.33	65.14	87.46	72.22	67.50	58.06	46.62	44.91	35.38	80.53																							
		7.58	1.38	0.85	1.98	30.72	0.27	47.88	0.11	99.87	0	0.03	0	2.26	57.28	24.75	2.53	1.29	16.95	9.75	0.16	53.57																							
		64	151	283	245	590	102	420	101	65	167	71	72	315	79	116	156	189	869	154	245	1,055																							
		20	20	20	40	163	20	51	20	20	0	0	0	80	20	40	20	20	280	20	0	910																							



ENGLAND	County/Unitary authority																														
		Camden	Cheshire	City of London	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly	Coventry	Croydon	Cumbria	Darlington	Derby	Derbyshire	Devon	Doncaster	Dorset	Dudley	Durham	Ealing	East Riding of Yorkshire	East Sussex	Enfield	Essex	Gateshead	Gloucestershire	Greenwich	Hackney	Halton	Hammersmith & Fulham	Hampshire	Haringey	Harrow	Hartlepool
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	10.44	7.18	0	5.49	13.86	26.14	14.50	4.13	6.73	10.58	5.76	19.87	12.35	4.62	11.35	0.84	1.57	11.08	0.03	11.20	14.57	10.14	35.44	17.33	19.81	0.32	15.74	21.48	0	9.77
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	81.55	37.71	0	46.85	60.99	72.31	50.95	1.55	32.33	55.48	60.83	76.57	54.31	75.39	62.28	36.75	4.80	76.19	41.62	51.88	85.06	54.35	93.95	17.15	75.22	87.17	77	69.48	56.92	89.49
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	7.22	25.04	3.18	45.12	10.90	14	26.57	27.45	9.09	39.37	40.92	17.68	44.60	24.61	47.71	13.52	15.01	41.45	8.35	28.05	23.73	24.09	6.75	0	8.86	0.17	46.69	0.39	22.15	4.49
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	1.32	47.20	0	50.09	2.11	17.80	24.45	7.47	27.53	37.16	35.66	20.41	32.39	22.58	36.94	0.47	61.06	11.43	37.81	36.11	4.84	29.17	0	0	0.36	0	21.24	0	26.32	6.36
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	82.34	67.78	96.82	49.39	75.24	59.86	58.94	68.42	84.18	50.06	53.32	62.45	43.05	70.77	40.94	85.64	83.42	47.47	91.62	60.75	61.70	65.78	57.80	82.67	71.33	99.51	37.57	78.14	77.84	85.74
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	17.14	15.09	100	3.06	36.90	9.90	24.60	90.98	40.15	7.36	3.51	3.02	13.31	2.03	0.79	62.79	34.15	12.38	20.57	12.02	10.10	16.49	6.05	82.85	24.42	12.83	1.77	30.52	16.76	4.15
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	36	954	5	880	153	125	659	86	134	1,207	929	345	559	169	666	102	537	499	129	1,693	139	789	72	33	118	31	1,208	50	74	68
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	20	360	20	300	20	20	360	80	20	204	220	40	60	20	40	20	581	80	20	780	20	104	20	20	20	20	60	20	20	40



ENGLAND	County/Unitary authority																														
		County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority	County/Unitary authority		
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	32.38	8.37	14.36	6.53	2	9.30	2.27	0.10	7.10	1.72	2.12	5.48	35.23	3.73	8.98	23.38	0.34	8.58	3.67	3.24	6.88	6.51	11.67	8.51	1.51	13.60	10.61	2.81	20.80	5.15
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	100	47.83	70.13	81.13	36.30	77.56	49.70	52.64	47.64	0	72.65	44.91	96.84	79.99	35.85	92.10	6.93	42.81	10.47	19.36	59.91	0	49.02	82.27	58.74	62.26	68.54	18.68	86.57	32.24
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	0.85	22.41	30.02	18.29	23.15	63.08	0	17.24	32.40	3.52	21.43	47.66	9.58	7.89	32	19.63	6.04	16.01	15.61	15.36	19.27	24.51	21.07	31.01	11.18	19.53	24.08	26.39	0.22	33.58
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	0	39.56	24.24	0	15.20	20.56	4.64	0	34.46	6.68	27.21	33.81	2.38	10.54	29.34	7.46	0.91	16.88	68.07	33.81	14.34	80.80	16.51	16.14	2.79	3.77	27.53	78.31	0	55.88
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	66.77	69.22	55.63	75.18	74.85	27.62	97.73	82.66	60.51	94.75	76.46	46.86	55.19	88.38	59.02	57	93.62	75.41	80.72	81.40	73.85	68.98	67.25	60.48	87.31	66.86	65.31	70.81	78.97	61.27
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	0	12.61	5.63	18.87	48.49	1.87	45.66	47.36	17.90	93.32	0.14	21.28	0.77	9.47	34.81	0.44	92.17	40.30	21.45	46.83	25.75	19.20	34.46	1.58	38.48	33.97	3.93	3.01	13.43	11.88
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	137	259	1,104	181	97	185	28	21	1,822	128	66	390	104	48	1,398	577	138	1,013	64	1,161	185	77	184	172	68	85	209	144	62	1,463
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	0	80	180	20	20	40	20	20	360	23	20	60	20	20	528	20	24	430	20	1,400	20	20	20	40	20	20	80	20	20	520



ENGLAND	County/Unitary authority																														
		North East Lincolnshire	North Lincolnshire	North Somerset	North Tyenside	North Yorkshire	Northamptonshire	Northumberland	Nottingham	Nottinghamshire	Oldham	Oxfordshire	Peterborough	Plymouth	Poole	Portsmouth	Reading	Redbridge	Redcar & Cleveland	Richmond upon Thames	Rochdale	Rotherham	Rutland	Salford	Sandwell	Sefton	Sheffield	Shropshire	Slough	Solihull	Somerset
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	0.73	8.59	10.58	1.65	5.74	4.62	8.21	4.35	11.54	22.38	3.88	12.24	13.27	0	3.08	0.36	17.65	21.38	12.82	21.12	16.52	3.84	9.59	13.89	6.30	44.46	4.92	2.68	3.57	3.67
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	0	53.73	77.77	0.19	44.99	36.75	19.72	40.09	69.04	80.35	35.17	50.78	99.84	47.33	0.84	37.34	97.84	85.61	54.12	11.32	65.55	52.32	68.55	56.05	53.17	92.18	51.19	71.83	8.80	30.06
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	10.89	18.59	27.89	24.43	37.54	25.83	49.33	21.33	19.37	7.09	30.19	19	44.59	69.16	20.28	48.33	8.74	27.79	24.59	22.87	21.91	21.37	22.02	13.62	9.14	18.16	37.11	31.67	38.31	20.90
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	57.63	29.50	21.75	55.62	40.76	46.57	69.97	59.34	27.21	3.51	47.33	45.23	0.16	52.66	36.92	30.76	0.42	14.19	42.05	66.85	34.35	47.58	17.13	30.48	7.30	4.61	46.92	13.23	37.32	45.11
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	88.38	72.83	61.53	73.92	56.72	69.54	42.46	74.31	69.09	70.53	65.94	68.75	42.14	30.84	76.64	51.32	73.61	50.82	62.59	56.01	61.57	74.78	68.40	72.50	84.56	37.38	57.97	65.65	58.12	75.43
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	42.37	16.76	0.47	44.19	14.25	16.68	10.31	0.57	3.75	16.14	17.50	3.99	0	0.01	62.24	31.90	1.74	0.19	3.83	21.83	0.10	0.09	14.31	13.48	39.53	3.21	1.89	14.94	53.88	24.83
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	146	215	250	133	823	865	373	133	934	144	927	171	108	74	69	68	71	93	78	159	316	77	136	147	203	257	381	58	174	872
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	40	220	0	20	700	631	160	20	260	40	526	80	0	0	20	20	20	20	20	20	23	20	0	20	20	40	20	80	20	22



ENGLAND	County/Unitary authority																													
		South Gloucestershire	South Tyneside	Southampton	Southend-on-Sea	Southwark	St.Helens	Staffordshire	Stockport	Stockton-on-Tees	Stoke-on-Trent	Suffolk	Sunderland	Surrey	Sutton	Swindon	Tameside	Telford & Wrekin	Thurrock	Torbay	Tower Hamlets	Trafford	Wakefield	Walsall	Waltham Forest	Wandsworth	Warrington	Warwickshire	West Berkshire	West Sussex
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	6.86	3.55	38.51	5.94	0.59	26.51	10.77	9.75	19.61	1.42	6	10	11.41	0.76	4.19	24.98	49.16	5.68	10.95	0.04	10.18	7.20	16.66	28.98	36.37	16.93	5.16	7.29	7.55
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	78.01	71.53	98.60	50.37	6.31	97.39	66.23	16.63	77.21	41.26	34.14	38.45	65.14	64.61	62.81	79.72	92.29	39.44	99.62	2.27	57.88	60.34	72.46	99.96	99.74	70.89	44.41	73.07	55.09
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	18.34	9.72	22.13	4.13	15.05	20.55	24.34	22.54	11.61	10.42	36.32	31.85	53.38	20.19	22.80	28.81	16.05	20.76	47.29	9.10	8.87	16.83	20.27	2.06	7.86	19.90	28.03	56.49	33.49
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	11.30	0.44	1.40	15.49	37.02	0.62	30.48	54.72	19.78	35.67	47.60	13.54	28.18	21.47	36.41	19.07	7.52	33.02	0.38	0	16.79	9.61	26.02	0	0	9.75	42.61	26.80	28.68
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	74.81	86.73	39.36	89.93	84.37	52.93	64.89	67.71	68.79	88.16	57.68	58.15	35.21	79.05	73.01	46.21	34.80	73.55	41.76	90.86	80.95	75.97	63.07	68.96	55.77	63.17	66.80	36.22	58.96
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	10.69	28.03	0	34.14	56.67	1.99	3.29	28.66	3	23.07	18.27	48.01	6.68	13.92	0.79	1.21	0.18	27.54	0	97.73	25.33	30.05	1.52	0.04	0.26	19.36	12.98	0.13	16.23
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	239	103	65	77	50	155	1,084	180	165	174	992	175	1,202	79	146	116	116	131	82	36	133	424	167	57	48	180	706	163	752
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	80	20	0	20	20	40	200	21	60	20	540	40	33	20	40	20	0	40	0	20	20	55	20	0	20	40	180	0	180



ENGLAND	County/Unitary authority										
		Westminster	Wigan	Wiltshire	Windsor & Maidenhead	Wirral	Wokingham	Wolverhampton	Worcestershire	York	
Accessible woods	% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	0.20	11.38	6.92	5.89	6.94	8.31	5.49	7.54	6.37	
	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	62.04	99.40	61.33	60.15	50.85	40.22	59.49	68.54	46.43	
Inaccessible woods	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	5.93	21.74	34.03	34.67	25.69	57.73	12.63	30.46	17.04	
	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	0	0.51	33.07	37.54	48.89	51.11	5.02	25.33	14.39	
Woodland creation	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	93.87	66.88	59.05	59.44	67.37	33.96	81.88	62	76.60	
	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	37.96	0.09	5.60	2.31	0.26	8.66	35.49	6.12	39.19	
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	39	283	726	164	219	191	126	760	197	
	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)	20	40	180	20	20	20	20	180	20	

ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs																				
		Bedfordshire Bedford	Bedfordshire Mid Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire South Bedfordshire	Buckinghamshire Aylesbury Vale	Buckinghamshire Chiltern	Buckinghamshire South Bucks	Buckinghamshire Wycombe	Cambridgeshire Cambridge	Cambridgeshire East Cambridgeshire	Cambridgeshire Fenland	Cambridgeshire Huntingdonshire	Cambridgeshire South Cambridgeshire	Cheshire Chester	Cheshire Congleton	Cheshire Crewe & Nantwich					
		3.61	8.97	3.22	5.03	21.32	18.45	33.57	0.09	2.61	0.19	2.46	4.86	0.45	0.30	2.70					
		8.73	75.24	55.25	41.36	99.89	97.90	99.88	20.02	4.45	0	30.17	29.18	8.62	1.04	0.70					
		16.05	27.73	25.66	14.59	50.24	47.73	39.14	24.88	13.86	4.25	11.62	27.84	15.46	44.77	11.74					
		32.50	13.41	30.08	9.60	0.11	1.48	0.11	17.11	29.70	0	42.33	30.38	64.91	77.27	64.52					
		80.34	63.30	71.12	80.38	28.44	33.82	27.29	75.03	83.53	95.56	85.92	67.30	84.09	54.93	85.56					
		58.77	11.34	14.67	49.04	0	0.62	0.01	62.87	65.85	100	27.50	40.45	26.48	21.70	34.78					
		195	275	119	315	194	141	218	75	187	157	268	368	169	126	133					
		63	40	80	260	0	20	0	20	200	240	220	260	160	40	80					



ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
		% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)
	Cheshire Ellesmere Port & Neston	14.18	76.84	3.56	22.73	82.26	0.43	84	20
	Cheshire Macclesfield	3.19	58.68	46.34	34.06	50.47	7.26	225	60
	Cheshire Vale Royal	23.09	74.82	19.95	24.48	56.96	0.70	218	20
	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Caradon	15.92	70.17	39.91	29.82	44.18	0.01	137	0
	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Carrick	3.22	43.50	50.56	55.94	46.23	0.56	168	20
	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Isles of Scilly	0	0	44.52	0	55.48	100	5	20
	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Kerrier	4.49	52.17	33.60	46.68	61.91	1.15	174	20
	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly North Cornwall	5.46	55.12	53.66	39.51	40.88	5.38	147	120
	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Penwith	0.89	0.63	39.14	87.91	59.96	11.46	115	120
	Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Restormel	3.07	50.04	52.34	49.90	44.60	0.05	135	0
	Cumbria Allerdale	9.29	49.58	37.44	28.40	53.27	22.02	169	140
	Cumbria Barrow-in-Furness	12.98	0	10.21	0	76.81	100	73	60
	Cumbria Carlisle	10.48	71.23	18.93	28.48	70.59	0.29	86	20
	Cumbria Copeland	25.67	79.59	27.49	16.58	46.84	3.84	114	60
	Cumbria Eden	1.89	18.19	40.37	76.02	57.74	5.79	53	0
	Cumbria South Lakeland	22.91	64.78	28.31	14.27	48.78	20.95	164	100
	Derbyshire Amber Valley	3.75	51.09	45.35	46.69	50.91	2.22	195	20
	Derbyshire Bolsover	14.34	86.69	27.63	11.06	58.03	2.25	137	40
	Derbyshire Chesterfield	4.21	20.13	53.80	79.58	41.99	0.29	101	20
	Derbyshire Derbyshire Dales	15.27	61.07	51.72	32.42	33.01	6.51	155	40
	Derbyshire Erewash	4.96	34.59	18.13	41.32	76.91	24.09	124	60
	Derbyshire High Peak	13.43	59.63	64.78	31.86	21.79	8.51	124	20
	Derbyshire North East Derbyshire	12.72	79.44	33.92	20.56	53.36	0	194	0
	Derbyshire South Derbyshire	22.68	67.56	20.46	19.01	56.87	13.43	177	40
	Devon East Devon	8.23	86.07	31.54	12.23	60.23	1.70	202	40
	Devon Exeter	0.45	79.54	17.55	8.41	81.99	12.05	80	20
	Devon Mid Devon	2.13	40.62	38.53	49.97	59.34	9.41	113	140
	Devon North Devon	2.76	48.61	42.91	50.17	54.33	1.21	131	20
	Devon South Hams	7.97	35.25	47.26	63.62	44.77	1.13	112	20
	Devon Teignbridge	10.08	53.77	48.54	46.22	41.38	0.01	170	0



ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
		% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)
	Devon Torridge	6.19	48.35	62.71	51.04	31.10	0.61	56	0
	Devon West Devon	7.15	79.97	62.44	19.56	30.41	0.47	64	0
	Dorset Christchurch	0.63	45.22	54.57	54.77	44.80	0.01	33	0
	Dorset East Dorset	28.62	98.62	56.08	1.38	15.30	0	123	0
	Dorset North Dorset	7.38	79.57	38.13	19.84	54.49	0.59	118	0
	Dorset Purbeck	8.94	83.09	64.64	16.89	26.42	0.02	66	0
	Dorset West Dorset	9.78	24.96	37.50	53.76	52.73	21.27	152	60
	Dorset Weymouth & Portland	9.95	0.04	24.57	49.39	65.48	50.57	67	20
	Durham Chester-le-Street	16.40	99.64	58.80	0.36	24.81	0	85	0
	Durham Derwentside	22.19	60.56	54.25	39.43	23.55	0.01	114	0
	Durham Durham	10.37	55.49	56.42	44.50	33.21	0.01	121	0
	Durham Easington	12.33	93.81	41.03	6.19	46.64	0	112	0
	Durham Sedgfield	7.13	19.20	36.02	77.71	56.85	3.10	104	20
	Durham Teesdale	3.73	25.94	40.68	71.43	55.59	2.64	31	0
	Durham Wear Valley	0.77	68.71	46.23	30.45	53	0.83	101	20
	East Sussex Eastbourne	12.54	82.03	15.66	0	71.80	17.97	46	20
	East Sussex Hastings	7.82	80.61	48.99	19.38	43.19	0.01	43	0
	East Sussex Lewes	0.73	32.09	37.91	28.61	61.36	39.29	120	20
	East Sussex Rother	10.48	85.82	51.14	11.26	38.39	2.92	143	40
	East Sussex Wealden	19.30	92.87	49.80	2.73	30.90	4.40	147	20
	Essex Basildon	20.01	85.20	28.67	14.79	51.32	0.01	146	0
	Essex Braintree	1.37	29.82	26.93	54.57	71.70	15.60	187	140
	Essex Brentwood	24.51	84.81	30.92	15.18	44.57	0.01	87	0
	Essex Castle Point	5.08	62.90	28.65	37.08	66.27	0.02	66	0
	Essex Chelmsford	4.69	24.50	18.37	51.80	76.94	23.69	183	80
	Essex Colchester	3.08	27.67	47.84	67.06	49.09	5.27	197	40
	Essex Epping Forest	21.84	85.85	20.67	10.87	57.50	3.28	173	40
	Essex Harlow	40.78	95.99	28.74	0.46	30.49	3.56	45	20
	Essex Maldon	0.41	4.78	22.26	50.75	77.33	44.47	130	220
	Essex Rochford	20.34	84.15	23.30	8.94	56.35	6.91	95	60

ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
		% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)
	Essex Tendring	1.26	2.79	23.43	46.37	75.31	35.27	224	140
	Essex Uttlesford	0.08	3.47	34.59	49.19	62.63	5.60	160	60
	Gloucestershire Cheltenham	50.43	30.47	6.64	0.01	93.28	49.56	72	20
	Gloucestershire Cotswold	46.73	0	52.40	67.46	44.13	2.07	111	0
	Gloucestershire Forest of Dean	24.93	87.62	20.19	2.08	33.09	0.64	131	20
	Gloucestershire Gloucester	14.85	35.44	10.84	66.24	89.16	8.83	75	20
	Gloucestershire Stroud	1.27	9.50	39.32	10.60	45.82	1.78	227	40
	Gloucestershire Tewkesbury	21.98	26.90	21.05	32.19	77.68	32.37	173	40
	Hampshire Basingstoke & Deane	42.97	18.30	41.43	39.49	49.07	0.01	152	0
	Hampshire East Hampshire	81.06	0	46.89	0.59	31.12	0	122	0
	Hampshire Eastleigh	37.33	0	42.97	1.89	30.13	0	83	0
	Hampshire Fareham	48.05	99.42	38.54	39.82	43.16	0.01	90	0
	Hampshire Gosport	22.20	60.68	47.94	99.97	49.09	0.03	41	0
	Hampshire Hart	11	87.81	81.06	12.19	7.93	0	66	0
	Hampshire Havant	25.81	85.21	37.33	0.51	36.86	14.28	74	20
	Hampshire New Forest	22.20	91.33	48.05	8.67	29.75	0	201	0
	Hampshire Rushmoor	4.89	99.42	53.23	0.58	41.88	0	36	0
	Hampshire Test Valley	12.36	60.68	48.21	39.27	39.43	0.05	181	0
	Hampshire Winchester	7.39	83.74	39.85	11.54	52.75	4.73	163	40
	Hertfordshire Broxbourne	2.68	91.32	31.36	8.67	65.96	0	73	0
	Hertfordshire Dacorum	31.44	70.98	11.10	28.38	57.46	0.65	169	40
	Hertfordshire East Hertfordshire	8.90	70.54	34.55	23.69	56.55	5.78	193	80
	Hertfordshire Hertsmere	9.39	98.88	24.98	1.12	65.63	0	109	0
	Hertfordshire North Hertfordshire	1.48	7.82	27.89	50.83	70.63	41.35	145	40
	Hertfordshire St Albans	5.44	34.26	35.39	64.60	59.17	1.14	138	20
	Hertfordshire Stevenage	45.40	99.95	9.97	0.02	44.63	0.03	34	0
	Hertfordshire Three Rivers	21.83	97.16	47.54	2.84	30.62	0	103	0
	Hertfordshire Watford	3.90	100	44.06	0	52.04	0	36	0
	Hertfordshire Welwyn Hatfield	16.84	71.98	39.77	28.02	43.39	0.01	105	0
	Kent Ashford	11.37	30.38	30.29	69.61	58.34	0.01	163	0



ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
		% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)
Kent	Canterbury	4.53	96.13	21.94	3.52	73.54	0.35	179	0
Kent	Dartford	4.36	39.09	38.81	60.65	56.82	0.26	117	20
Kent	Dover	3.74	4.56	48.08	64.45	48.18	30.99	178	80
Kent	Gravesham	2.88	53.85	14.44	27.09	82.68	19.06	100	20
Kent	Maidstone	5	30.95	44.25	68.62	50.76	0.42	189	40
Kent	Sevenoaks	13.46	95.26	45.59	4.73	40.94	0	179	0
Kent	Shepway	0.70	7.12	33.49	72.91	65.81	19.97	125	60
Kent	Swale	7.68	36.71	14.77	30.49	77.55	32.80	170	60
Kent	Thanet	0	0	1.62	0	98.38	100	121	80
Kent	Tonbridge & Malling	9.50	74.10	44.95	25.89	45.55	0	196	0
Kent	Tunbridge Wells	23.17	99.06	58.11	0.94	18.73	0	107	0
Lancashire	Burnley	34.70	83.49	20.16	10.86	45.14	5.65	51	20
Lancashire	Chorley	11.99	41.53	44.13	49.85	43.88	8.61	127	60
Lancashire	Fylde	0	0	18.37	53.78	81.63	46.22	112	120
Lancashire	Hyndburn	16.17	61.58	31.83	1.14	52.00	37.29	75	20
Lancashire	Lancaster	2.15	45.83	22.90	13.91	74.94	40.26	166	20
Lancashire	Pendle	13.64	34.32	28.01	26.36	58.35	39.32	93	60
Lancashire	Preston	11.97	0.77	35.23	55.94	52.80	43.29	102	40
Lancashire	Ribble Valley	2.85	48.86	48.22	49.95	48.93	1.19	96	20
Lancashire	Rosendale	3.24	20.70	66.12	51.19	30.64	28.11	103	60
Lancashire	South Ribble	5.32	64.91	45.50	1.98	49.18	33.11	131	20
Lancashire	West Lancashire	5.25	35.95	34.43	38.72	60.32	25.32	216	100
Lancashire	Wyre	0.15	0.60	5.76	13.29	94.09	86.11	125	100
Leicestershire	Blaby	6.16	22.93	20.08	2.17	73.76	74.90	131	21
Leicestershire	Charnwood	1.72	49.49	24.39	32.07	73.89	18.44	231	80
Leicestershire	Harborough	1.02	1.90	17.36	21.56	81.62	76.53	155	140
Leicestershire	Hinkley & Bosworth	7.26	88.11	11.67	7.33	81.07	4.56	166	60
Leicestershire	Melton	0.44	1.08	11.63	34.53	87.94	64.40	119	140
Leicestershire	North West Leicestershire	36.73	86.37	9.32	13.21	53.95	0.42	167	0
Leicestershire	Oadby & Wigston	7.88	0	6.35	0	85.77	100	43	20



ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
		% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)
Lincolnshire	Boston	3.89	0	0.05	0	96.05	100	92	220
Lincolnshire	East Lindsey	3.52	14.81	9.47	30.02	87.02	55.17	273	420
Lincolnshire	Lincoln	2.38	13.67	37.19	55.16	60.43	31.17	61	20
Lincolnshire	North Kesteven	2.27	7.74	21.45	57.75	76.28	34.51	176	160
Lincolnshire	South Holland	0	0	1.83	0	98.17	100	207	320
Lincolnshire	South Kesteven	4.32	49.56	14.14	31.55	81.54	18.89	168	160
Lincolnshire	West Lindsey	5.80	31.26	20.14	48.81	74.06	19.92	184	160
Norfolk	Breckland	8.59	53.99	30.20	40.30	61.21	5.71	241	60
Norfolk	Broadland	7.54	52.74	46.63	47.22	45.82	0.04	210	0
Norfolk	Great Yarmouth	0.20	6.13	14.72	58.13	85.08	35.75	132	20
Norfolk	King's Lynn & West Norfolk	8.24	46.56	22.89	30.96	68.87	22.48	324	200
Norfolk	North Norfolk	6.42	56.89	41.17	40.26	52.41	2.85	195	40
Norfolk	Norwich	1.13	0.72	33.36	99.05	65.51	0.23	62	20
Norfolk	South Norfolk	2.43	3.39	45.32	77.05	52.25	19.56	298	180
North Yorkshire	Craven	4.33	11.11	36.64	66.21	59.03	22.68	80	100
North Yorkshire	Hambleton	4.37	16.80	28.93	48.68	66.69	34.52	144	180
North Yorkshire	Harrogate	4.68	49.18	43.82	44.95	51.50	5.86	177	80
North Yorkshire	Richmondshire	8.69	41.52	42.80	50.45	48.51	8.03	65	60
North Yorkshire	Ryedale	10.64	39.48	41.28	53.32	48.08	7.20	60	20
North Yorkshire	Scarborough	8.69	79.94	38.05	9.62	53.26	10.44	130	40
North Yorkshire	Selby	1.21	48.32	29.02	35.41	69.77	16.27	167	220
Northamptonshire	Corby	15.39	96.65	48.50	3.35	36.11	0	39	0
Northamptonshire	Daventry	5.17	8.31	27.95	46.99	66.88	44.70	163	300
Northamptonshire	East Northamptonshire	3.61	52.34	33.27	37.50	63.12	10.16	116	60
Northamptonshire	Kettering	0.26	53.11	36.34	25.35	63.40	21.54	96	20
Northamptonshire	Northampton	5.32	0	22.31	89.24	72.37	10.75	133	20
Northamptonshire	South Northamptonshire	3.70	42.79	16.27	34.96	80.03	22.24	191	220
Northamptonshire	Wellingborough	1.31	77.98	7.23	9.41	91.46	12.60	127	60
Northumberland	Alnwick	5.46	26.32	43.78	73.11	50.76	0.56	64	0
Northumberland	Berwick-upon-Tweed	3.25	21.82	38.97	16.24	57.79	61.94	45	100



ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
		% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)
	Northumberland Blyth Valley	11.33	23.42	31.41	60.92	57.26	15.67	59	20
	Northumberland Castle Morpeth	12.97	4.88	47.25	94.99	39.78	0.13	72	0
	Northumberland Tynedale	9.25	19.58	71.35	78.08	19.40	2.34	74	20
	Northumberland Wansbeck	2.85	22.37	60.78	75.75	36.37	1.89	59	40
	Nottinghamshire Ashfield	22.99	100	16.23	0	60.77	0	131	0
	Nottinghamshire Bassetlaw	5.12	68.53	30.01	26.18	64.87	5.29	186	100
	Nottinghamshire Broxtowe	4.82	27.27	24.55	66.36	70.63	6.38	106	20
	Nottinghamshire Gedling	6.87	61.71	18.90	38.27	74.23	0.02	97	0
	Nottinghamshire Mansfield	18.60	100	16.25	0	102	0	102	0
	Nottinghamshire Newark & Sherwood	18.60	79.05	12.41	18.56	68.99	2.38	163	60
	Nottinghamshire Rushcliffe	4.12	48.30	16.99	39.38	78.89	12.32	148	80
	Oxfordshire Cherwell	2.11	10.11	12.98	41.62	84.91	48.27	208	260
	Oxfordshire Oxford	0.05	59.67	41.71	39.85	58.24	0.48	70	20
	Oxfordshire South Oxfordshire	8.89	43.61	30.88	34.84	60.23	21.56	242	60
	Oxfordshire Vale of White Horse	3.14	36.41	40.25	53.95	56.61	9.64	215	160
	Oxfordshire West Oxfordshire	5.87	22.35	24.55	74.33	69.58	3.32	192	60
	Shropshire Bridgnorth	8.04	80.41	55.63	19.58	36.33	0.02	64	0
	Shropshire North Shropshire	2.41	12.88	28.55	84.14	69.04	2.98	78	20
	Shropshire Oswestry	1.79	21.01	33.72	77.08	64.49	1.91	89	20
	Shropshire Shrewsbury & Atcham	1.85	57.40	35.84	39.73	62.32	2.87	113	40
	Shropshire South Shropshire	14.71	81.21	32.03	18.39	53.27	0.40	37	0
	Somerset Mendip	3.18	36.52	28.68	55.93	68.14	7.55	190	20
	Somerset Sedgemoor	1.88	25.36	13.71	5.43	84.41	69.21	178	320
	Somerset South Somerset	1.61	6.69	26.47	71.40	71.92	21.91	314	180
	Somerset Taunton Deane	2.49	45.43	8.66	46.92	88.85	7.65	149	40
	Somerset West Somerset	22.75	80.64	31.31	15	45.94	4.36	41	40
	Staffordshire Cannock Chase	25.48	94.20	14.08	5.80	60.44	0	69	0
	Staffordshire East Staffordshire	30.47	79.32	14.32	19.95	55.21	0.73	143	60
	Staffordshire Lichfield	2.29	75.50	22.09	23.74	75.61	0.76	138	20
	Staffordshire Newcastle-under-Lyme	5.07	86.30	36.84	13.67	58.09	0.02	139	0



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		% population with access to 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened	% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m	% population requiring new woodland for access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km	Minimum area of new woodland required for 2ha+ woods within 500m (hectares)	Minimum area of new woodland required for 20ha+ woods within 4km (hectares)
	Staffordshire South Staffordshire	15.58	70.68	27.90	26.38	56.53	2.94	166	40
	Staffordshire Stafford	2.19	37.29	27.05	45.62	70.75	17.08	210	60
	Staffordshire Staffordshire Moorlands	4.50	72.99	33.50	25.55	62.00	1.46	165	20
	Staffordshire Tamworth	0	0.74	12.32	99.24	87.68	0.02	55	0
	Suffolk Babergh	4.51	44.84	38.56	36.28	56.93	18.88	165	80
	Suffolk Forest Heath	19.15	56.98	35.94	40.68	44.92	2.33	79	40
	Suffolk Ipswich	3.55	38.04	38.81	26.36	57.63	35.59	63	20
	Suffolk Mid Suffolk	4.68	41.41	37.25	40.87	58.07	17.72	212	220
	Surrey St. Edmundsbury	7.44	34.50	33.06	53.78	59.50	11.73	163	100
	Suffolk Suffolk Coastal	5.87	38.30	43.78	31.44	50.35	30.26	195	100
	Suffolk Waveney	3.06	0.55	26.70	98.10	70.24	1.35	117	20
	Surrey Elmbridge	2.81	37.94	41.93	62.05	55.26	0.01	132	0
	Surrey Epsom & Ewell	4.10	100	36.09	0	59.81	0	59	0
	Surrey Guildford	23.62	94.01	45.37	5.99	31.01	0	188	0
	Surrey Mole Valley	40.57	99.13	38.53	0.87	20.90	0	105	0
	Surrey Reigate & Banstead	5.46	52.84	58.43	47.15	36.11	0.01	137	0
	Surrey Runnymede	4.13	26.67	51.81	73.32	44.06	0.01	98	0
	Surrey Spelthorne	0	0	20.17	22.01	79.83	77.99	79	20
	Surrey Surrey Heath	11.76	99.14	83.06	0.86	5.18	0	72	0
	Surrey Tandridge	3.93	83.21	70.11	16.79	25.96	0	153	0
	Surrey Waverley	22.14	91.75	65.85	8.25	12.01	0	115	0
	Surrey Woking	3.70	40.24	77.06	59.74	19.23	0.01	64	0
	Warwickshire North Warwickshire	9.04	74.02	40.84	25.97	50.12	0.01	138	0
	Warwickshire Nuneaton & Bedworth	0.65	30.69	33.46	54.45	65.88	14.86	109	40
	Warwickshire Rugby	5.01	12.69	27.68	49.48	67.32	37.83	97	60
	Warwickshire Stratford-on-Avon	2.60	44.46	24.06	42.71	73.33	12.83	220	80
	Warwickshire Warwick	9.91	64.74	20.37	34.74	69.73	0.51	142	20
	West Sussex Adur	0	0.24	6.32	39.55	93.68	60.22	38	20
	West Sussex Arun	3.98	41.30	10.78	13.07	85.24	45.63	167	40
	West Sussex Chichester	12.07	43.31	30.95	38.25	56.98	18.44	173	100



ENGLAND	County Districts/boroughs	Accessible woods		Inaccessible woods		Woodland creation			
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	West Sussex Crawley	5.59	96.05	60.71	3.95	33.70	0	53	0
	West Sussex Horsesham	8.62	67.27	48.30	32.62	43.08	0.11	157	0
	West Sussex Mid Sussex	17.56	92.24	56.50	7.76	25.94	0	104	0
	West Sussex Worthing	0	15.69	9.13	81.78	90.87	2.53	61	20
	Wiltshire Kennet	7.08	65.48	45.50	23.13	47.42	11.39	143	100
	Wiltshire North Wiltshire	5.08	40.33	32.44	58.60	62.48	1.07	212	20
	Wiltshire Salisbury	10.69	71.18	43.14	26.84	46.16	1.99	181	40
	Wiltshire West Wiltshire	5.15	71.48	19.89	18.26	74.96	10.26	190	20
	Worcestershire Bromsgrove	3.54	62.05	15.12	29.96	81.34	7.99	155	40
	Worcestershire Malvern Hills	3	61.92	29.73	33.15	67.27	4.94	132	60
	Worcestershire Redditch	5.40	72.97	66.97	27.02	27.64	0.01	54	0
	Worcestershire Worcester	5.25	87.01	30.47	11.17	64.28	1.82	59	20
	Worcestershire Wychavon	2.28	32.54	23.96	48.91	73.75	18.55	268	80
	Worcestershire Wyre Forest	24.56	99.71	22.65	0.28	52.78	0.01	93	0



The Woodland Trust would like to acknowledge the following people who have supported and offered advice throughout this project: Helen Townsend (Forestry Commission), Martyn Potton (Forestry Commission), Steve Keyworth and colleagues (Environment Systems), David Knight (English Nature), Dr. Richard Coles (University of Central England), Mike Sibthorp (South Kesteven District Council), June Rothwell (Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council), Brian Watmough (Canterbury City Council).





The Woodland Trust was founded in 1972 and is the UK's leading woodland conservation organisation. The Trust achieves its aims through a combination of acquiring woodland and sites for planting and through advocacy of the importance of protecting ancient woodland, enhancing its biodiversity, expanding native woodland cover and increasing public enjoyment of woodland.

The Trust relies on the generosity of the public, industry, commerce and agencies to carry out its work. To find out how you can help, and about membership details, please contact one of the addresses opposite.

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