



GUIDANCE NOTE

This guidance explains how Natural Resources Wales responds to *Woodlands and You* proposals for **community food projects** on the Welsh Government Woodland Estate.

Background

There is a growing demand for allotment sites throughout the UK. As the manager of the Welsh Government's woodland estate, Natural Resources Wales is also receiving more requests from communities wishing to use sites at forest margins for growing food. We are keen to receive proposals for such schemes through our *Woodlands and You* scheme.

First Steps and Development Support

If you have a site in mind, **the first step is to contact your local Area Office** to check that Natural Resources Wales is the woodland manager and talk through options available - [see map of Local Areas in Wales and contact details](#). There may be specific management, local Forest Resource Plan or development issues that you'd need to take into account, or which make the project unsuitable in a specific location. We'll do our best to work with you to resolve any issues.

To ensure that community food proposals have the best possible chance of success and that specialist development support is available, Natural Resources Wales is pleased to be working in partnership with the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens (FCFCG). Contact details for the FCFCG are on page 3, and the Wales Team can help with issues such as site assessment, group constitution options, planning and designing your project, and putting you in touch with other community food projects. Where appropriate, the FCFCG will involve other specialists, to make the best use of their expertise and support services too.

Your *Woodlands and You* Proposal – Project Form

If initial discussions are positive, we'll need you to provide more details and information by completing the **Project Form** – available on the Natural Resources Wales website, along with Guidance to take you through what's needed. If you'd like paper copies, contact us on 0300 065 3000. You'll need to demonstrate that your group has an open membership

policy and describe how the project will provide wider community benefit (e.g. plots for schools, open days, skills training etc.). We'll also ask you to report back annually on progress and outcomes.

Should your proposal be approved, we'll offer your group an Allotment Tenancy – a fixed term lease granting you exclusive use of the designated area, setting out exactly what you are permitted to do.

Please do [contact us](#) if you'd like to discuss any aspect of this guidance or would like to know more.



Contacts for FCFCG Wales Team

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