

Further written evidence following NRW's Annual Scrutiny session

Forestry Questions

1. *Following a question from Janet Finch Saunders MS on how much land NRW had purchased and how many trees that meant in real terms, Clare Pillman, NRW CEO, responded to say that we had purchased 75 hectares of new woodland in the last 12 months. She committed to give the detail of this in terms of numbers, and we can confirm that 75 hectares of planting means approximately 150,000 trees.*
2. *Mabon ap Gwynfor MS then asked what percentage of those trees are conifers or broadleaf, and what the purpose of that planting is, too — whether it's for crops of for carbon sequestration?*

Using the known % from the completed 2022/23 programme, which will be typical, percentages are 62.5% Broadleaves, 37.5% Conifers. The purpose of the planting is sustainable management of natural resources (SMNR). We choose varieties of conifer and broadleaves to create a woodland appropriate to the site and that achieves a balance of economic, social and environmental benefits in the context of climate change, i.e. SMNR. While the broadleaves tend to achieve more for environment and the conifers more for the economy through timber production, all trees contribute to SMNR and we look at the woodland as an integrated whole.

NRW's relationship with Fujitsu

3. *NRW currently pays the Environment Agency for the use of their Flood Warning Service which was developed by Fujitsu. We are in the process of developing our own bespoke Flood Warning Service, which is planned to go live later this year.*