A Strong Future
Taking us into our Second Century

Institute of Chartered Foresters
2022 - 2026
Large scale woodland creation and an end to deforestation are a central international theme for the mitigation of climate change. In 2019, the devolved governments legislated for a target of net zero national greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Increasing tree cover in the right places, rejuvenating degraded peatland and substituting fossil-based materials with wood are crucial and significant elements of all UK nations’ climate change commitments.

Our last three-year strategy identified the public’s growing recognition of the importance of trees, and our focus over that time was to maximise the opportunities and mitigate the risks to our forests and their management arising from increased devolution, Brexit and the removal of the Common Agricultural Policy. This work continues in the next five-year strategy but with renewed impetus as the climate and nature crises intensify. In the last three years we have heard escalating warnings from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and watched the UK host a COP meeting in Glasgow. Government policy in all administrations has responded quickly on woodland creation, less so on agricultural transition, and many issues remain, not least a severe shortage of skilled tree professionals to enable these ambitions to be realised.

In this plan period we will celebrate our centenary, looking back at our journey over the past 100 years. But our purpose over the next five years is more immediate - to ensure that the profession plays a central role combating the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis, securing the importance of forestry and the Institute for the next 100 years.

Sharon Durdant-Hollamby FICFor  
President

Louise Simpson  
Executive Director
Our vision

Chartered status is the goal for all professional foresters and arboriculturists in the UK so that our standards are the key demand from industry with members sought after for their advice and expertise.

Our values

Integrity, excellence, collaboration, sustainability and transparency form the basis on which we operate and underpin everything we do.
Our goals

FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

Gain wider public and political support through rebalancing perceptions and building understanding of forestry

Be a vital, respected partner in key debates and decisions about trees, bringing authority, balance and inclusivity

Be the leader and trusted arbiter of professional conduct and standards, universally recognised as the home of the tree professional

Cultivate and encourage more innovation and entrepreneurship in the sector

Grow our membership to ensure financial security and sustain our mandate
How will we get there?

A STRONG PROFESSION

A STRONG VOICE

A STRONG ORGANISATION

To achieve our goals, we have set out four strategies and six aspirations for the changed world we want to see. This is a broad and ambitious strategy with aspirations to match.

We will monitor the Institute’s performance against these aspirations over the next five years and report progress to members at the Annual General Meetings.
A strong profession

We will ensure that our profession thrives by attracting, retaining and developing people from a wide range of social and cultural backgrounds, by providing access to the education, knowledge and skills to succeed. We will help our members engage with the challenges and opportunities of a changing world. We will lead and support the highest professional and ethical standards by inspiring collaboration, creativity and exemplary best-practice.

We will support members throughout their careers to achieve their potential through thought leadership, access to knowledge networks and peer to peer learning.

“Membership allows me to demonstrate professional competence to people I speak to on a day-to-day basis...it provides the opportunity to look into other sectors in the industry and broaden my horizons.

Tom Coates MICFor
Head of Wood Purchasing at EGGER (UK)
A strong voice

We will ensure that tree professionals are understood and valued by policy-makers, the media and society. We will do this through the expertise of our members, our leadership, advocacy and engagement with stakeholders at all levels. We will base our decisions and policies on sound evidence.

We will influence and inform policy, best practice and attitudes

We will develop effective collaboration, partnerships and networks
A strong organisation

We will grow our membership base and ensure that our business model supports our vision, purpose and strategy. We will do this by engaging talented and committed staff, enhancing the value of our offer to members and others, generating diverse and sustainable sources of income and striving for operational excellence.

We will increase membership and create a more inclusive and diverse membership in the widest sense.

We are supported by

2000+ COMMITTED MEMBERS

A GROWING TEAM OF STAFF IN

EDINBURGH

BRISTOL

9 REGIONAL GROUPS

19 INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVES
What we will achieve

IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

Demonstrate the value of being chartered by elevating professional status

增加我们的会员人数50%

Chartered members...
- 将在资助申请中取得更大的成功
- 将拥有更高的平均收入
- 将在每一个相关的林业组织的董事会中存在

增加我们会员的多样性

增加我们的会员的多样性

Be the trusted voice on all tree-related matters for media and society

Increase the diversity of our membership across a range of Key Performance Indicators
Measuring success

This is the beginning of a five-year process of activity and impact. We will use detailed outcomes and measures to hold ourselves to account for the delivery of this strategy. In addition, we are accountable to our membership and other key stakeholders for our performance. We will openly and transparently communicate our progress against this strategy at regular intervals through existing governance mechanisms, and directly to members at our annual general meetings.
How we work

We will develop new programmes to deliver this work, improving the way we work as an organisation, and remaining mindful of our purpose and roles:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>As a membership body</th>
<th>As a professional body</th>
<th>As a learned society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To provide valued services to our members that are relevant to their stage of career and location, and are regularly reviewed in consultation with our membership</td>
<td>To support the professional development of people working in or with trees</td>
<td>To bring together the woodland community to develop its thinking and support the continuing strength of the core discipline of forestry</td>
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<th>As a publisher</th>
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<td>To support learning and dissemination of knowledge by working with researchers in all forest disciplines in all parts of the world</td>
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