

If your application:

- passes these initial checks, we will acknowledge it;
- is incomplete, we will send it back highlighting the missing information and we will only process it once all of the required information has been received;
- is ineligible, you will be informed as to what you need to do.

If your application is eligible, a forester will arrange to carry out a site visit in order to confirm suitability. If your application is successful, you will receive a letter of approval, an annotated map and a claim form.

Can I plant Christmas trees?

No. Christmas trees will not be grant aided. However, interplanting with Christmas trees will not debar an otherwise acceptable area from grant aid, provided that their presence does not affect the growth of the main woodland species and does not conflict with the aims of the scheme.

Where can I find out more?



If you would like to find out more, please contact us:

Tel: 0845 3044 509

Website: www.rdpni.info

Email: rdp@dardni.gov.uk

Write to us at: Rural Development Programme, Room 141, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB

or call in to your local DARD office.

Frequently asked questions



When is the work carried out, and when do I receive payment?

It is up to you as the applicant to have the trees planted according to the forester's prescription. Once planting is complete, you will submit a claim form, and Forest Service will arrange an inspection before authorising payment. Grants are paid in two instalments – 70% after planting, and the remaining 30% after five years.

I would like to create woodland for public use, is this allowed?

Yes. A Community Woodland Supplement is also available under the Woodland Grant Scheme to encourage people to create new woodlands in locations which have demonstrable potential to be used for informal public recreation. The rate of supplement is £1000/ha for both conifers and broadleaves, and this is paid in addition to the establishment grant.