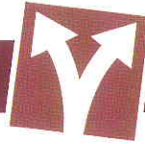


What happens next?



When your application is received we will check it to make sure that it is eligible and to see that it has been correctly completed, best practice guidelines have been followed and that all relevant documents are included.

If your application:

- passes these initial checks, we will acknowledge it;
- is incomplete, does not follow best practice guidelines, or ineligible, we will inform you of what you need to do and will only process it once all of the required information has been received.

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.

Do I need to have an end use for the harvested crop?

Yes. You will need to submit a letter of intent from your intended end user as well as a contract showing how much biomass they expect to receive and for how long. If you intend to grow the crop to heat your own home, you will need to produce evidence of plans you have to install suitable equipment.

Can I plant in several phases?

No. The agreed area must be planted in one phase in the season immediately following application (usually Springtime). It is not possible to add land to an existing agreement. A new application must be submitted for any additional land.

Would the Short Rotation Coppice Scheme affect my Single Farm Payments?

You can plant land with Short Rotation Coppice and this area can be claimed under your Single Farm Payment.

Frequently asked questions



When can I apply?

You can apply at any time during the year, but applications must be received before 31 January each year for funding of planting in the following spring.

How long does the application process take?

You will normally be informed whether your application has been approved within eight weeks of Forest Service acknowledging the eligibility of your application. However, this will depend on whether any objections are raised or if further information is required.

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.