

Contracts – period of undertakings

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Introduction

When your Forestry Grant Scheme contract expires is dependent upon the approved options in your contract.

You will be bound by the conditions of the contract from the date of approval until the required number of years after the date of approval, as shown in the table below.

Option	Period of grant payment	Period of contract
Woodland Creation – Conifer	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Diverse Conifer	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Broadleaves	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Native Scots Pine	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Native Upland Birch	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Native Broadleaves	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Native Low-density Broadleaves	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Small or Farm Woodlands	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Woodland Creation – Native Broadleaves in Northern and Western Isles	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after contract approval
Agroforestry	Initial planting + five years of maintenance	20 years after initial planting payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Habitats and Species	Payment of agreed capital items	Six years after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Natural Regeneration	Payment of agreed capital items	10 years after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Low Impact Silvicultural Systems	Payment of agreed capital items	Six years after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Woods In and Around Towns	Payment of agreed capital items	Six years after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Long-term Forest Plan	Payment of agreed capital items	One year after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Forest Plan Renewal	Payment of agreed capital items	One year after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Woodland Grazing Management Plan	Payment of agreed capital items	One year after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Woods In and Around Towns – Urban Woodland Management Plan	Payment of agreed capital items	One year after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Deer Management Plan	Payment of agreed capital items	One year after the final capital item payment
Woodland Improvement Grant – Restructuring Regeneration	Payment of agreed capital items	10 years after the final capital item payment

Sustainable Management of Forests – Low Impact Silvicultural Systems	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Native Woodlands	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Livestock Exclusion	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Woodland Grazing	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Public Access – Rural Woods	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Public Access – Woods In and Around Towns	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Grey Squirrel Control	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Predator Control for Capercaillie and Black Grouse	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Sustainable Management of Forests – Reducing Deer Impact	Payments made annually for a period of five years	One year after final annual payment
Tree Health	Range of agreed capital items with the exception of Tree Health – Restocking, Agent Services and Uneconomic Felling	Six years after final payment
Tree Health	Tree Health - Restocking	10 years after the final capital item payment
Tree Health	Tree Health – Uneconomic Felling	One year after final payment
Tree Health	Tree Health – Agent Services	One year after final payment
Harvesting and Processing	Agreed capital items	Six years after final payment
Forest Infrastructure	Agreed capital items	Six years after final payment
Forestry Co-operation	Agreed capital items	One year after final payment

Withdrawing from a contract

If you want to withdraw from a Forestry Grant Scheme contract, you should first contact your local conservancy office.

You may be required to repay any grants that you have already received, plus interest, unless you meet the force majeure or exceptional circumstances criteria.

Force majeure or exceptional circumstances

If you find you are no longer able to meet the conditions of your Forestry Grant Scheme contract, you should write to your local conservancy office as soon as possible.

You must explain the reason why and supply any relevant evidence. You may have to pay back some or all of the payments we have made to you, plus interest. You may also have to pay a penalty.

However, we would not seek recovery where you can provide evidence that the reason for the failure meets the strict conditions of force majeure or exceptional circumstances.

The criteria for this are set out in [European Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 1306/2013 – Article 2.2](#) – and could be one of the following:

- the death of the beneficiary
- long-term professional incapacity of the beneficiary
- a severe natural disaster gravely affecting the holding
- an epizootic or plant disease affecting part or all of the beneficiary's livestock or crops
- expropriation of all or a large part of the holding if that expropriation could not have been anticipated on the day of lodging the application

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