

**AYRSHIRE JOINT STRUCTURE PLAN AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

[ANNOUNCES AYRSHIRE WOODLAND REVIEW](#)

The Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan are preparing an Indicative Forestry Strategy on behalf of the three Ayrshire Councils. This document will review the potential of all woodland development in Ayrshire.

The first steps have already been taken with the publication of an issues document entitled "An Indicative Forestry Strategy for Ayrshire: Issues and Opportunities 2000"
<http://www.ayrshire-jsu.gov.uk/download/ifs.pdf>

Commenting at the launch, Ian Johnson, Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Manager, said:

"This Issues Report could not have been launched at a more critical period for the future of Scottish Woodlands and the Forestry Industry."

"Both the Forestry Commission and Scottish Enterprise are also currently undertaking separate reviews regarding the future direction of national forestry policy. These investigations when completed will feed and complement future regional forestry policy in Ayrshire."

The Councils of East, North and South Ayrshire asked the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee to prepare an Indicative Forestry Strategy following guidance set out in a recent Scottish Office Circular. This document forms the initial stage in policy development, which, once completed, will lead to a new forestry policy in the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan.

The Report undertakes an audit of forests and the forestry industry of Ayrshire, whilst also exploring topical issues including economic, social and environment factors which must be considered in the formulation of future forestry policy. Future policy development relating to these issues is to be set within the wider strategic objectives of the Structure Plan.

Comments regarding the Issues Report or any aspect of forestry policy can be made either through the website or by contacting Eric Owens, Policy Officer at the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan and Transportation Committee on (01292) 673764.