



9th June 2020

To whom it may concern,

The bearer of this letter is engaged in woodland management work, permitted under the current restrictions.

The Welsh First Minister has provided clear guidance that “with the exception of some non-essential shops and public venues, we are not asking any other businesses to close – indeed it is important for business to carry on.”

The management of woodlands, including planting, harvesting, thinning, pest and disease control and safety management is permitted under the restrictions in Wales. There is also no restriction on the distance that woodland managers can travel to undertake such work. Woodland management work can be carried out with limited interaction with other people, and the sector is committed to working safely in accordance with government guidelines for employers and businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19), including social distancing, and in accordance with all existing health and safety standards.

Where workers can work from home they do so. However, much woodland management work simply cannot work from home. In the longer-term, functioning woodlands will be needed to help many businesses get back on their feet and to support our ongoing climate change objectives. It is important that those involved in woodland management are able to travel to undertake their activities without harassment or obstruction. The woodland management sector takes its responsibilities seriously during this current outbreak and has been working closely with government and relevant authorities to ensure appropriate advice is produced at all stages.

Further information is available at <http://smallwoods.org.uk/covid-19/>

Yours faithfully

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