

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Structural Reform Plan Monthly Implementation Update	March 2011
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1) Actions due to be completed in March 2011

Section	Action	Status
1.3(iii)(c)	Begin to implement agreed approach [on affordable options for a carefully managed and science-led policy of badger control in areas of high and persistent levels of bovine tuberculosis (bTB)]	Not complete
2.1(iv)	Develop, with the Department for Communities and Local Government, proposals for a new designation, similar to Sites of Special Scientific Interest, to protect green areas of particular importance to local communities	Not complete
2.3(iii)	Work with European partners to agree a new EU biodiversity strategy	Complete
3.3(iv)	Publish Government Buying Standards for transport, food, furniture, textiles, gardening services, water-using products and cleaning products and services	Not complete

(2) Actions due to be started by end March 2011

Section	Action	Status
1.2(iii)	Evaluate the effectiveness of voluntary approach [to encourage food retailers and producers to provide more detail on the origins of their produce] (due to complete Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
1.3(viii)	Make the case for significant reform of the CAP as part of the EU's negotiations for the period beyond 2013 (due to complete Jan 2013)	Work ongoing
2.1(iii)(a)	Transfer British Waterways from government to a new charity for the waterways in England and Wales, through the Public Bodies Bill (due to complete Apr 2012)	Work ongoing
2.2(ii)	Implement the findings of the Pitt Review to improve our flood defences and prevent unnecessary building in areas of high flood risk (due to complete May 2015)	Work ongoing
2.2(ii)(b)	Implement the Flood and Water Management Act (due to complete Dec 2014)	Work ongoing
2.2(iii)	Assess the scope for actions to offset the impact of development on biodiversity (due to complete Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
2.3(i)(a)	Agree Marine Policy Statement and publish first draft of Marine Conservation Zones (due to complete Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
2.3(v)(c)	Implement legislation to make it a criminal offence to allow illegal timber to enter the UK market (due to complete Mar 2013)	Work ongoing
3.1(i)	Agree goals for 2014/20 and set the path towards a 'zero waste' economy through a review of waste policies (due to complete Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
3.1(iii)	Explore voluntary responsibility deals on waste among businesses (due to complete Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
3.1(iv)	Repeal Climate Change Act powers for household charging (due to complete Nov 2011)	Work ongoing
3.2(i)	Examine the conclusions of the Cave and Walker Reviews, and review the water regulator (Ofwat) (due to complete Jun 2011)	Work ongoing
3.5(i)	Work with the Treasury and DECC to investigate the options available to help those in remote rural areas with the cost of fuel (due to complete Mar 2012)	Work ongoing
3.5(ii)	Work with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to deliver universal broadband at speeds of 2mbps and stimulate private sector investment to deliver the best superfast broadband network in Europe by 2015 (due to complete May 2015)	Work ongoing

Explanation of missed deadlines

In March 2011, Defra missed the following deadlines in its Structural Reform Plan:

Section	Action	Reason
1.3.(iii)(c)	Begin to implement agreed approach [on affordable options for a carefully managed and science-led policy of badger control in areas of high and persistent levels of bovine tuberculosis (bTB)]	Defra recently concluded a public consultation on, 'Bovine Tuberculosis: The Government's approach to tackling the disease and consultation on a badger control policy'. We received a large number of responses, which we are considering carefully. This is a difficult and sensitive issue and we need to get it right. We will announce our decision as part of a comprehensive and balanced TB Eradication Programme for England as soon as possible.
2.1.(iv)	Develop, with the Department for Communities and Local Government, proposals for a new designation, similar to Sites of Special Scientific Interest, to protect green areas of particular importance to local communities	In its response to the Penfold Review of Non Planning Consents the Government said it would consider whether any changes to the town and village green registration system were required as part of our commitment to create a new designation to protect green areas of particular importance to local communities. This work is ongoing and we expect to make an announcement shortly.
3.3.(iv)	Publish Government Buying Standards for transport, food, furniture, textiles, gardening services, water-using products and cleaning products and services	Defra has published new Government Buying Standards for transport, furniture, textiles, gardening services, water-using products and cleaning products and services. Publication of the Government Buying Standards for food and catering services has been delayed to allow for the full completion of Whitehall clearance processes. The standards are being formally considered by the Home Affairs Committee and an announcement will follow shortly.

The status of missed deadlines from previous reports is:

Section	Deadline missed	Status	Comments
1.3.(iii)(b)	Consider responses to consultation and announce outcome as part of a balanced package of measures to control bTB (due to complete Feb 2011)	Still not complete	Please see explanation for missed deadline 1.3.iii(c), above.