

Society of Biology gives evidence to Science and Technology Committee on Forestry Research

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The Society of Biology gave evidence today to a concurrent session of the Science and Technology Committees of the Lords and Commons as part of the inquiry into the effect of the 2010 Spending Review on forestry research.

Jackie Caine, Science Policy Officer at the Society gave evidence and robustly argued that continuity in public funding of this area is vital to retaining the skills and research base which the UK has developed over many years.

The Society highlighted the value to the economy of current and future forest-derived benefits, and the witness panel discussed potential threats to this national resource, including emerging tree pests and diseases.

The Committee explored the governance and funding streams available to Forest Research (the agency) and university scientists working in the sector, and how this can be improved given the possibly damaging austerity measures.

[Click here](#) to view the Science and Technology Committee session about forestry research.