

BUILD IT BETTER WITH WOOD

MORE: HEALTHY | SUSTAINABLE | EFFICIENT | SAFE

DESIGN

MAKE

INSTALL



BRITISH
WOODWORKING
FEDERATION



Introduction

Uniting the woodworking & joinery sector to achieve excellence

BWF members form a large community dedicated to achieving excellence, best practice and growth in the woodwork and joinery sector.

Driven by our passion for wood, our shared values and goals guide our purpose to:

- Promote the benefits of wood as a cost effective and truly sustainable building material
- Ensure the use of safer, more efficient products and quality installation
- Narrow the skills gap to accelerate sector growth and create a brighter future for the next generation

Through the dedication of our staff team and membership the BWF continues to develop as a leading representative group in the UK, ensuring our industry is well supported and punches its weight and more in terms of commercial, technical and political representation. This review sets down how we have worked towards our mission of helping members to trade more profitably over the past 12 months and what we intend to do to help secure a successful future for our members and the industry in the UK.

BWF President, Sean Parnaby

Membership at the heart

BWF aims to deliver value to members through the five central objectives:

- **Influential lobbying voice**
- **Number one information point on woodworking matters**
- **Zero accidents in the workplace**
- **Develop a fully qualified, engaged and competent workforce**
- **Champion code of conduct and schemes to ensure the BWF badge is recognised and respected**



There are **700 Member Companies**



Making products such as **staircases, windows, doors, furniture** and **architectural joinery**

At the heart of a Trusted Network

"BWF is well respected in our sector as a pragmatic voice and practical problem solver. A great example is its recent work on installation concerns in the world of fire doors and stairs. This shows how a specialist trade body can play a significant and collaborative role effectively addressing market concerns."

Suzannah Nichol, Chief Executive of Build UK

"At Willmott Dixon, we are focussed on quality and the BWF has helped us to find new ways to work with the supply chain to solve longstanding challenges. We know all too well that installation issues undermine the quality of the product. If you don't get it right, it leaves costly correction, wasted time and unhappy customers. In construction, we have to work these mistakes out of the process, to learn and improve. That is why we are delighted to be drawing on the expertise and working closely with the BWF to look at problems in an open and collaborative way, to get the right guidance, support and training to the people who need it through our own quality procedures."

Martin Adie, Director (Quality Improvement), Willmott Dixon

"We at the Home Builders Federation enjoy a good working relationship with the British Woodworking Federation. Working more effectively with the supply chain is critical to improving productivity and quality in the home building sector and this kind of collaboration between manufacturers and our members is a great example of how this can be done effectively. The quality information that is output from the BWF is a very welcome support to our industry and members."

John Slaughter, Director Home Builders Federation

"BWF is more than a trade association, it is an organisation that combines expertise and energy to develop practical resources and clear guidance to support improvement in the construction sector. It helps our building control teams in local authorities do their work efficiently and with the information they need."

Paul Overall, Chief Executive, LABC



BWF in Numbers



Over **700** Member Companies



Welcomed **75 new Members** in 2017



60,000 people employed in sector



Over **6,000 followers** on twitter



BWF Members' Accident Rate is **300%** better than the industry norm



PR reach over **30 million**



Members turnover an estimated **£2 billion** pa (over 50% of the UK woodworking sector)



7% of the 2.9 million people working in construction are carpenters and joiners

60%

Highest ratio of apprentices in the construction sector (**60%** of BWF Members employ one or more apprentice)



343 Guides and Factsheets in our dedicated Woodworking Toolkit



Over **2,500** calls to the BWF Helplines in 2017



4 Centres of Excellence established in training centres across the UK



BWF Group income **£1.4 million**



Over **three million doors** certificated through the BWF Fire Door Alliance



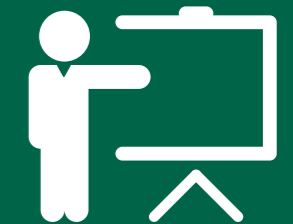
Over **150,000 staircases** accredited through the BWF Stair Scheme



275,000 Visits to the BWF Websites



Over **60,000 search results** served on BWF Supplier Directories



Approaching **1,000 training days** delivered via our WIT Forum

Influential lobbying voice - Achieved

- **A PR reach of over 30 million:**
 - **Radio Coverage:** 26 Radio Interviews
 - **TV Coverage:** 3 National News and 1 Regional News Feature
 - 22 items of coverage in National Newspapers and hundreds of articles placed in trade, consumer and local media
- **BWF directly engaged with more MPs and Civil Servants than in any previous year**
- **Responded to ten key policy consultations - invited to participate in high level policy round tables in Westminster**
- **Active member of the department BEIS Better Regulation Working Group, presented at BEIS training day on "Best Practice: Working with Trade Bodies" to around 120 Civil Servants**
- **Through the Confederation of Timber Industries and our Timber All Party Parliamentary group held two Westminster Networking Events attracting over 30 MPs**
- **Dedicated significant resource to support the Government's post Grenfell review and investigation process, leading on Doors through the Construction Products Association Expert Panel**
- **BWF CEO, elected Vice Chair of the Construction Products Association and Technical Manager, Chair of the Passive Fire Protection Forum**
- **Reception in the Senedd to launch the new Fire Door Installation Qualification**



Environment Minister Dr Thérèse Coffey MP talks of the "fantastic contribution timber industry makes to the UK economy" at a CTI sponsored reception



Iain McIlwee with Peter Aldous MP lobbying on unfair retentions



The Rt Hon Sajid Javid Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government writes to BWF to thank for support in post Grenfell Review and suggest follow-up meeting on Building Safety Fund

Next steps

- **Maintain high level Governmental contacts to ensure BWF is respected as an expert, authoritative and impartial voice for our sector**
- **Continue to lead on Skills and Industrial Strategy for the timber sector, helping politicians and civil servants understand the value and contribution of the wood products manufacturing sector in a post Brexit economy**
- **Build on work in the Welsh Senedd and establish a stronger voice for the woodworking sector in Scotland and Northern Ireland**
- **Encourage more local lobbying through the BWF Membership, maintaining factory visit programme with local MPs and empowering members to deliver consistent messages to local authority on conservation and sustainability matters**

CORE LOBBYING AIMS:

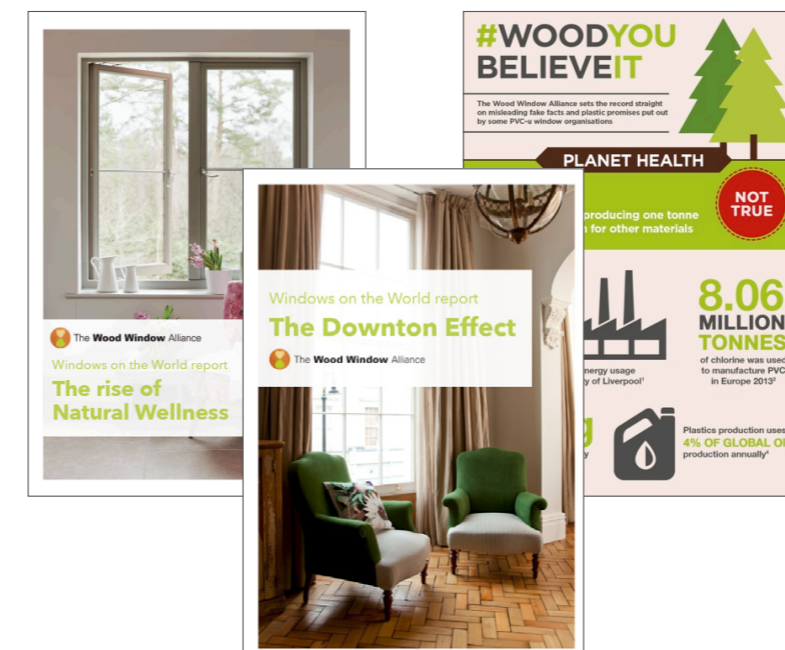
- **Mandatory third party certification for life safety products (e.g. fire doors)**
- **A predisposition to renewable materials in public sector procurement**
- **Mandatory Life Cycle Assessments for construction products**
- **Parity of esteem for Design and Technology and Science in Schools**
- **UCAS reform to recognise apprenticeships**
- **An Industry friendly Brexit**

The Number One Information Point on woodworking matters - Achieved

- Respected member of over 30 European and UK technical standard setting work groups focussing on key areas such as timber specification, product design, sustainability, installation, manufacturing process, coating technology and auditing frameworks
- With an estimated 19 million people engaged, Fire Door Safety Week awarded Campaign of the Year in the Safety and Health Excellence Awards
- New "Fake Facts" campaign highlighting false claims about the benefits of PVC windows over timber
- Developed Windows on the World set of publications exploring the wider benefits of timber windows
- Concluded the pan European SERVWOOD coatings project focussed on improving service life – results already finding their way into new standards work
- Maintained active engagement with the Heritage and Conservation sector through our dedicated Heritage Group
- Relunched Wow I Made that campaign to support Woodworking through Design and Technology with a BBC Short via the BBC iplayer
- With Wood Knowledge Wales launched a new series of workshops run with Housing Associations focussed on the benefits of specifying timber
- Exhibited two "Home Grown Windows" with Grown in Britain at UK Construction Week to help focus on the positive benefits of a wood culture in the UK and reflect advancements in material technology
- Added or upgraded over 35 factsheets or guides in the BWF Woodworking Toolkit (including new Staircase, Design and Installation Guides, a new Fire Door Installation Guide, Windows Maintenance Guidance, new resources for the H&S Toolkit, Windows Security Testing Guide, Updated Guidance on Warranties and Insurance, CE Marking Guidance, Employment and new General Data Protection Rules)
- 100% of the 150 attendees at Members Day rated it good or excellent

Next steps

- Develop Build it Better With Wood strategy, linking technical and development work with promotional activity and projects to promote timber usage
- Through the new Head of Technical Research and Insight, intensify focus on innovation, productivity and supply chain research to support the strategic pillars of health, sustainability, productivity and safety
- Launch new website, to build a stronger, more unified online presence supporting the Build it Better with Wood Strategy
- Work with the Confederation of Timber Industries and Wood for Good to leverage the supply chain more effectively in promoting the economic and social value of timber
- Unlock learnings from health assessments, life cycle assessment tool and new technical research to scrutinise the presence of VOCs and use of chemicals in our industry (e.g. BS 644 window design)
- Help members in developing Life Cycle Assessments through the free BWF calculator to support promotion of the sustainable credentials of timber products
- Continue to lead the fire door debate and ensure lessons are learned from Grenfell
- Develop detailed BWF Installation Guide for Windows and new online installation training modules for all joinery products
- Refresh Whole Life Costing work for timber windows



BWF working with London Fire Brigade at a dedicated Fire Door Awareness event during Fire Door Safety Week



On BBC IPlayer – Iain McIlwee talks about the making culture in the UK

Zero Accidents in the workplace - Achieved

- Setup a new Health and Safety Members Taskgroup to steer activity and exchange best practice
- Extended and updated Core Health and Safety Guide, drawing together BWF's award winning resources and featuring videos on key subjects
- Launched new interactive Health and Safety Audit and Assessment Tool, helping members to prioritise and structure improvements
- Lead role in the Woodworking Safety Group, BWF resources circulated to exemplify best practice
- Dealt with over 100 enquiries through our dedicated H&S helpline



Based on BWF Accident Survey:
RIDDOR reported accidents for BWF Members
300% better than the industry norm

Next steps

- Continue to take a lead role with the HSE through the UK Woodworking Safety Group
- Integrate the H&S Hero Campaign into the BWF Code of Conduct
- New resources to help members manage tightening legislation particularly on Dust (and Occupational Health)
- Development of H&S Toolbox Talk kit for joinery industry and H&S handbook for new employees



Champion code of conduct and schemes to ensure the BWF badge is recognised and respected - Achieved

- Introduced new Build it Better with Wood PR and Social Media Strategy to amplify all core messaging
- At UK Construction Week launched new Design Guide for Timber Staircases (Domestic and General Access) – supported by the Home Builders Federation and NHBC - further strengthening the BWF Stair Scheme audit process
- Streamlined and enhanced Code of Conduct Auditing process, strengthening the code and increasing the value of audits
- Supported Willmott Dixon Defect Free Doors programme and overhaul of Quality Academy with new exhibits covering stairs and fire doors
- Constituted the new Fire Door Alliance to provide greater unity in the Fire Door Supply Chain
- Used the BWF Awards to generate significant local and trade press
- Used Fire Door Safety Week as a platform to develop a new Fire Door Best Practice Installation Guide and hard hitting fire door safety film



Next steps

- Develop Build it Better with Wood, Build it with the Badge strategy to support stronger awareness of the BWF, our product schemes and the core values on which our membership is built
- Through our new Membership Director further develop systems to streamline auditing to ensure a growing community of UK Woodworkers meet the BWF Code of Conduct Standard
- Continue to strengthen our guidance, training services and relationships with contractors, clients, specifiers and inspectors (and their respective trade groups) to support the specification of member products and services
- Evolve labelling within the schemes to improve information exchange and ensure woodworking is at the forefront of the digital revolution in construction
- Establish a Taskgroup focussed on productivity and develop tools to support efficiency improvements in the sector
- Build on existing risk management toolkit to further support the exchange of best practice and practical advice to support the decision making process of the membership



BWF @ Construction Week - Tim Hartwell | Divisional Design Architectural Manager | Miller Homes helps BWF to launch new Domestic Stairs Design Guide

Our Fire Door Installation Guide was also launched at a live demo at the Exhibition



A fully qualified, engaged and competent workforce - Achieved

- New investment in training through the BWF's first ever full time training manager
- Completed and launched new apprenticeship standards in Architectural Joinery and Wood Products Manufacturing
- Completed pilot of British Woodworking Federation Centres of Excellence, this exciting new model is set to revolutionise the construction and manufacturing training landscape, improving standards, developing new qualifications and modulising apprentice programmes to open up new provision to support upskilling
- Training helpline dealt with over 800 calls actively helping companies to source training, access funding, manage apprenticeships and develop training plans
- Over 400 people enrolled on the FDIS Fire Door Diploma in 2017
- 40 Number of companies supported by the fully funded BWF Business Mentoring Programme
- 28 Number of courses available through the new British Woodworking Federation Training Prospectus
- Secured and delivered £31,000 in Grants directly to members through the BWF's Wood Industry Training Forum – supporting nearly 1,000 training days
- A resounding 80% of members voted to support of the CITB Levy proposal

Next steps

- Follow-up with CITB to ensure that a vote to continue the levy is not a vote for the status quo
- Extend the Centres of Excellence Pilot to support the delivery of high quality, consistent apprenticeship training provision across the UK
- Continue through the Centres of Excellence concept and other initiatives to develop a more modular agile training environment
- A focus on elearning, including launching three new online Installation Training Programmes covering Stairs, Fire Doors and Windows
- Complete new Heritage Woodworking Apprenticeship Standard
- Build on BWF Training Prospectus to extend the network and range of support



The first of these courses short courses developed focussed on Fire Door Installation and was launched in Neath Port Talbot College Group (NPTC). This new qualification will lead to a Fire Door Installers endorsement on CSCS Cards. The launch at the Senedd was Chaired by Ann Jones AM



Driven by our core values

1. Make decisions with the best interest of the membership at heart
2. Link activity to objectives and be guided by close contact and consultation with the membership
3. Focus on simplicity in communication
4. Champion the principles of our code of conduct at every opportunity
5. Be generous in seeking to connect and share knowledge
6. Be honest, clear and transparent in all that we do

A code that unites us

BWF members are committed to providing all clients with a quality driven service that reflects best manufacturing practice, good craft skills and value for money. The Code is a clear sign to customers that each member is committed to best practice in every area of its operation.



Customer care
and complaints



Technical expertise
and training



Environmental
impact and waste



Financial,
insurance and
contractual



Employment,
education legislation,
health and safety

Raising standards through accreditation and certification

The British Woodworking Federation is the leading authority for the woodworking and joinery sector in the UK.

The BWF offers its members support, advice and representation with the objective of raising their sales, profitability and standards.

Specifiers, buyers and maintainers can rely on BWF members for a quality product and service offering, and count on the BWF for support and guidance in the purchase and maintenance of joinery products.

For more information on how the BWF can help, visit
www.bwf.org.uk



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