

## **Wych Elm Project Questions and Answers**

### **Q. What pieces will be made for the Wych Elm Project?**

A. The organisers would like to see a diverse range of furniture, sculpture and other items made from elm wood. The emphasis will be on quality and variety. We hope to include public art and furniture designed for business or institutional use, as well as domestic pieces.

### **Q. I want to commission a piece of furniture made from Wych Elm, how do I start?**

A. If you are already in contact with one of the makers who are part of the scheme they will know what to do next. If not then register your interest at <http://www.wychelmproject.org> with information on the type of piece you are looking for (indoor/outdoor, furniture/sculpture, traditional/contemporary etc).

### **Q. I am a furniture maker and I want to be part of the scheme what should I do?**

A. Selection of makers for the project will be by a panel. If you are interested in taking part please register your interest at <http://www.wychelmproject.org>

### **Q. How much can I expect to pay for a piece?**

A. The price must be agreed with the maker at the design stage. One-off pieces of commissioned furniture are generally more expensive than furniture on the high street with similar specifications. However, the difference in price is often relatively small and the quality of design and build much higher. The final price for the piece will depend on the amount and complexity of the work involved. If you are unsure about whether you can afford to buy then ask the maker, you might be pleasantly surprised.

### **Q. Will it cost more because it is made from Wych Elm?**

A. It will certainly be more valuable as this will be a strictly limited edition and the value is likely to increase over time. The Wych Elm Project will not ask for a commission but there will be a small premium on the wood when it is released from the sawmill. This will be used to support a Scottish woodland conservation charity. The maker may choose to pass this premium on to the customer.

### **Q. How long will it take to make my piece?**

A. When the designs are agreed between maker and client they should be submitted to the panel. They will confirm the release of wood from the sawmill within four weeks. After that the time depends on the size of the job and the speed of the maker. They should be able to provide an estimate on how long

it will take to complete at the time of commissioning. All work will have to be completed by 15 May 2008.

**Q. Will all the pieces be part of the exhibition?**

A. Yes, we hope to include all the pieces made from the Wych Elm in the exhibition at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. However, participation in the scheme can not guarantee the work be shown.

**Q. What are the arrangements for exhibiting the work?**

A. The pieces will be collected from either the workshop or client and taken to the Botanic Garden. The project will pay for transport and insurance. The work will be exhibited from July to October 2008, in the Exhibition Hall of the RBGE. The exhibition will be free and open to the public. We expect more than 50,000 visitors. All participants will be invited to the opening evening. When the exhibition closes the work will be returned to the participants.

**Q. What will the exhibition involve apart from the pieces?**

A. We want to document the stories involved, including the making of the piece and where appropriate its final resting place. These stories will be displayed as images, text or video along with the pieces in the exhibition. It is anticipated that there will also be a publication and/or DVD catalogue of the exhibition.