

Biodiversity; Practical measures to help enhance wildlife and address recent legislation

Wednesday June 25th 2025

Mike Deegan CONSULTING

Helping Local Communities & Organisations Grow



Biodiversity; Measures & New Legislation

Part 1. Background

- Biodiversity in Yorkshire and relevant national policies
- Complying with recent *Biodiversity Duty*
- Possible steps to take
- Role of principal authorities and agencies

Part 2. Opportunities for Local Councils;

- Accessible advice, support and funding
- Liaising and working in partnership
- Community action case studies
- Engaging/bringing your communities with you







Benefits of nature

Nature provides us benefits, many of which are fundamental to our lives. These are summarised in the image below.



WWF

Threats; UK Biodiversity









UK Wildlife









Yorkshire Biodiversity

David Attenborough Warns Of 'Serious Trouble' After Report Shows Britain's Biodiversity Decline Is Among World's Worst

'The natural world needs our help as never before'







State of Yorkshire's Nature

What we know about nature and wildlife in Yorkshire

m 3 Real 2 Community

YORKSHIRE

New State of Nature report highlights the devastating loss of UK nature

I new report by the State of Nature highlights a number of threats to the country's lockversity and the impact it could have

💮 by Vashahina Dylinan — 20 00 2023 10 40 m Basimanaya Musiling Trias & come



Environment Act

Environment Act 2021

GOV.UK

Blog Natural England

Organisations:

Natural England



The Environment Act 2021 a turning point for Nature

Tony Juniper, 23 November 2021 - Biodiversity, Environment Act, Natural Capital, Nature Recovery Network

NERC Act 2006 Parish Council Duties

 'Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'

Biodiversity Duty

Biodiversity Duty

13 October 2023

nalc

National Association of Local Councils

NALC have issued guidance on Biodiversity Duty. The Environment Act 2021 made changes to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 in respect of biodiversity. Section 40 of the 2006 Act, in force 1 January 2023, places a duty on all local authorities, including parish councils, to from time to time consider what action the authority can properly take to further the general biodiversity objective. The general biodiversity objective is the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in England so all parish councils must take biodiversity into account in all their decisions and actions. The government has issued guidance on complying with the duty.

Section 40A of the 2006 Act places a duty on principal authorities (but not parish councils) to produce biodiversity reports.

BIODIVERSITY DUTY ON PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS

GOV.UK

Home > Environment > Wildlife, animals, biodiversity and ecosystems > Biodiversity and ecosystems

Guidance

Complying with the biodiversity duty

As a public authority, understand what the biodiversity duty is and how to comply with it.

From: Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Published 17 May 2023

Minimum Requirements

🗯 GOV.UK

- Have Biodiversity as meeting agenda item
- Note local biodiversity actions taking place
- Agree what further steps to take
- Address biodiversity when commenting on planning applications

Possible Steps to Take



- Review Nature Recovery Plans
- Make Contact with nature conservation NGO's
- Carry out Biodiversity Audit of council landholdings and/or whole council area
- Gather expert Advice on possible Biodiversity Actions
- Draft an Action Plan; for your council and in support other local bodies

Nature Recovery



Local Nature Recovery Strategies: how to prepare and what to include

Overview

Executive summary

Local Nature Recovery Strategies are a new, England-wide system of spatial strategies that will establish prioribles and map proposals for specific actions to drive nature's recovery and provide wider environmental benefits. The requirement for there to be Local Nature Recovery Strategies, what they are and how they should generally work will be established by the Environment Bill once it completes its current passage through Parliament.



Contact In distancement with the stability

WORKSHI

Home 7 Environment and neighbourhoods 7 Conservation 7 Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

We are responsible for preparing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for North Yorkshire and York.

Search our website

- · What is a Local Nature Recovery Strategy?
- Why does North Yorkshire and York need a Local Nature Recovery Strategy?
- Why are we partnering with the City of York Council in the preparation of this study?
- Who is funding the preparation of the strategy?
- When will the strategy be produced?
- What have we already done to protect nature in North Yorkshire and York?
- How do I get involved?



A Local Nature Recovery Strategy for West Yorkshire

0 ¥ 0 8



Local Organisations; The Wildlife Trust

heffield & totherham





Statutory Organisations



National NATURE RESERVES

Yorkshire's NATURAL TREASURES

NATURAL	
ENGLAND	

	Access and rights of way					
	Land management					
NATURAL ENGLAND	Landscape					
	Parks, trails and nature reserves					
	Protected sites and species					
	Recreation					
	Wildlife and habitat conservation					
	Publications, maps and data					
	Contact Natural England					
	All Natural England services and information					
Commons and greens	2018 Common land notices and decisions					
	Carrying out works on common land					
	Common land declarations of exempt works					
	Common land: guidance for commons registration authorities and applicants					
	Common land and town or village greens; access your property by vehicle					
	Common land and town or village greens: how a claim of ownership can affect the land					
	Manage your town and village greens					
	Managing common land					
	Set up a commons council					

Town and village greens: how to register

National Agencies





NATURAL

Yorkshire Environment Programme A Year in Review: Projects 2021-2022





The Sorby Natural History Society, Sheffield

Addingham Environment Group



Yorkshire Dales Moorland Group

9.4K likes • 12K followers

UPPER WHARFEDALE FIELD SOCIETY



Scarborough Field Naturalists

Ryedale Natural History Society



biodiversity

105 likes + 177 futurers



Rewilding Harrogate

for biodiversity

Rewilding Harrogate for Biodiversity







Specialist Groups











MID-YORKSHIRE

FUNGUS GROUP







District & Metropolitan Councils



Planning & Development

LEEDS.GOV.UK

Home / Planning / Conservation, protection and heritage / Biodiversity and planning

Biodiversity and Planning







Biodiversity Net Gair

GOV.UK

Home > Environment > Wildlife, animals, biodiversity and ecosystems > Biodiversity and ecos

Guidance

Understanding biodiversity net gain

Guidance on what biodiversity net gain is and how it affects land managers, developers, and local planning authorities.

From: Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Published 21 February 2023 Last updated 14 December 2023 - See all updates



Home / Environment and neighbourhoods / Conservation / Biodiversity net

Biodiversity net gain

Learn about our strategy to develop land and contribute to the recovery of nature.

Login	About	Committees	Our Work	Publications	Events	News	Join	Contact
News								
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Home > Planni ... > Applying for ... > Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

National Park

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

Biodiversity Audit

Baseline Habitat Survey and Biodiversity Audit

Otley Parish

Submitted to: Otley Town Council





Chilton Parish Biodiversity Report 2020 19th October, 2020 / In News / by Rebecca Wasey



The Parish Wildlife Map Toolkit



Illustrations by www.gregpoole.co.uk

How To Make A Wildlife Map

Local Records Centres

West Yorkshire Ecology Service

West Yorkshire Ecology Service provides two main services - advising on biodiversity conservation and hosting the West Yorkshire Ecological Record.



SHEFFIELD

BIOLOGICAL

Action Plan

South Gloucestershin Ceancil Delivering for you

Local Nature Action Plans:

guidance for town and parish councils



www.southglos.gov.uk



Selby Town Council Nature Recovery Action Plan 2024- 2030

Selby Town Council has recognised the importance of taking steps to address the ecological crisis our world is facing. This Nature Recovery Action Plan has been drawn up in order for us to take the necessary steps to stop the decline of biodiversity and to assist the council in achieving their aim of reaching Net Zero by 2030.



Horndean Parish

Biodiversity Action Plan



Caring for Horndean's Wildlife

What else can your Council do?

- Manage for Wildlife
- Biodiversity Management Plans
- Planning & Development
- Engage and Inform
- Be Innovative
- Make Links Don't work alone
- Celebrate your Wild Places
- Funding Opportunities



Biodiversity Policy



MALTON TOWN COUNCIL

CLIMATE & BIODIVERSITY POLICY



This policy was adopted by Malton Town Council on 30th March 2022 (next review March 23)

BIODIVERSITY POLICY

STILLINGFLEET PARISH COUNCIL

Stillingfleet Parish Council formally adopted this policy on 14 December 2023 in response to the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' placed on local authorities introduced by the Environment Act 2021. Stillingfleet Parish Council will take biodiversity into account in all its decisions and actions.



Settle Town Council Climate

and Biodiversity Policy



Cantley with Branton Parish Council

BIODIVERSITY POLICY

BIODIVERSITY POLICY

ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL



Environmental Policy

Statement:

This policy statement affirms that Hessle Town Council is committed to the preservation of the environment. Hessle Town Council's aims are for making Hessle a safer, fairer and greener place in which to live, work and play.

Biodiversity Group



Home About Us + Meetings + Documents +

Environment Committee





Climate Change & Biodiversity Sub Committee 12th June 2023 at 10:30 a.m. Meeting in person at the Town Hall



Home- The Parish Council- News & Events- Useful Links- Contact Us

The Environment Committee

Luttons Parish Council Home > Our Services

Our Services

Environment Group

Luttons Parish Council has set up a new group of councillors and volunteers to investigate and discuss ways of improving the environment in West Lutton, East Lutton and Helperthorpe.

Manage for Wildlife





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Contact Us	- F
Neighbourhood Plan	T
Parish Information Your Council	D
Community Information Mneting Dates,	Tr Ro
Agendes & Minutes Pra 2022 Meeting	R

Riverside Environmental Park - A Hidden reasure

to you know it's there?

he Huntington Riverside Environmental Park covers all the area east of the over Foss, between the A1237 and Church Lane, from the upper bank of the ver to the boundaries of residential properties.

is owned by the Parish Council and managed by a Committee of Council representatives and local representatives. There are 3 main areas:-



Nawton

a Raedale, North Yorkshire parish

Wildlife Garden



Picking Gill Nature Trail

Picking Gill Nature Resorve is a four acre community nature reserve, owned and cared for by Grantley. Sawley, Skelding and Eavestone Parish Council, From 1799, for about 100 years, sandstone was extracted from this former quarry to build walls and roads in the area.



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Revised edition 2014

Hughenden Parish Council Management Plan; 2023-2028

klike Dawger Cerculory

Sciniar 2023

Little Burnham Meadow & Spinney







Hedgerows

% Contact us Visit CPRE.org

CRRE.org

The countryside charity North and East Yorkshire

What we care about Get involved Discover our countryside About us Q

form 3. What we care about 3. Itedgecovs

Hedgerows





Hedgerow

Hedgerows are one of our most easily encountered wildlife habitats, found lining roads, railways and footpaths, bordering fields and gardens and on the coast.

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Tickton & Routh

Home Your Council Documents

Planning Applications

Parish News Po

Hedgerow Planting with Tickton Primary School

Tickton & Routh Parish Council celebrate a community initiative by planting a new hedgerow with the local primary school.

Orchards



Wilberfoss Community Orchard

Parish Clerk • Apr 02, 2023

Wilberfoss Community Orchard

Planted in October 2020, Wilberfoss has a small communi orchard in the front garden of the Community Centre on I Street. Residents are encouraged to help themselves once trees have become established. Why not take a book from Book Exchange, a piece of fruit from the orchard and sit a the porch at the Community Centre?

Apple & Pear Day

Wortley Hall Walled Garden

Sunday 17th October 12pm-4pm

Celebrate the Autumn fruit harvest in the Walled Garden with an afternoon of fruity diversions. Our orchard has over 50 varieties of apple, including Yorkshire heritage varieties, and old & modern pears. Help make and share juice made in our press. Apples and pears for sale. Information and advice on your own fruit growing.

Tours of orchard and more ... Free admission. More info: www.wortleyorganic.org





Watercourses & Wetlands







Ponds



TY KAR DESTROY

Reduce Grass Cutting










Verges





Parish council leading the way in wildflower revolution

Twelve parishes have signed up for wild flower verges

Thursday, 6 August, 2000





(LR) Clir Blake Pain, Partsh Counciliars Janet Earwaier and Tina Mcdimagh, and Clir Timer Pendleton at Packery's wild fower veran-

Leicestershire Matters

Project uses sound to dementia >

British Library project embra

Businesses encourage Kickstart placements

The county council has offer young people so far, with far available in areas including f operations, surveying, busine administration.

Help at hand to quit sr Stoptober >

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WE WANT LESS OF THIS



AND MORE OF THIS





We are leaving some areas uncut to encourage a more diverse range of flowers and grasses. Which in turn will provide food and shelter for a variety of wildlife.

Perhaps you could do something similar in your garden?



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Why hasn't this grass been cut?

We have decided to change the way we manage this local green space and we are now cutting less frequently. By leaving grass and wildflowers in this area to grow long we are:

- increasing habitat for beneficial insects and wildlife
- promoting sustainable landscapes that are bigger, better and joined-up
- encouraging native wildflowers to flourish and grow
- saving energy and reducing emissions by not using mowers and equipment
- providing an opportunity for observation and education about local wildlife and plants
- cutting costs, not flowers
- creating a beautiful meadow for the whole community to enjoy!

For more information on managing green spaces for wildlife, visit: www.bucksmknep.co.uk/wilder



Bucks Buzzing

Bucks Buzzing is a project by the Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Natural Environment Partnership



Buckinghamshire





We're cutting this verge less so wildflowers can grow more

For more information on managing green spaces for wildlife, visit: BBCKS www.buckamknep.co.uk/wilder BBZZinz



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Case Study

Chesham

Bee orchids appeared on one of the trial verges.

Photo: Jenny Pearson, courtesy of Chesham Town Council.

In 2017, Chesham Town Council began a trial on 6 sites (including verges and town council owned open spaces) to see how changing the mowing regime from regular cuts to once per year could help their local insects. The key management change was the removal of grass cuttings after the annual cut. After the success of the trial, the council decided to permanently manage these sites for wildlife and expand the trial. There are now over a dozen sites in Chesham managed for wildlife.

Chesham Town Council worked in partnership with a local group, Chesham & District Natural History Society, to assess and monitor sites.

Meadows and Pastures

Flaxton Parish Council

Mowing Flaxton Green







Bishop Burton Wildflower Meadow

Inspiration & Objective

Which the drawt water septempting control to partnerse of the hash a dimensi above a Whithware Alka advance. See a full hashes of the advance and they devoted to being it to this and maker (1) and "Theor lengte way to interact same being provider (1) forces on:

The Wildhower Weather has 3 aires

To describly plant and politicater species on a granted oliographies.

 To involve the village conversionly and promote distinguisharion as an unstrummentally convolutate village to assess.

have been every short the descript and collingers, they lead

Dunnington Parish Council

Mome Community Council Environment Galleries Maps Planning Publications Heres -</t



Coronation

Millfields Open Space



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Engage Beforehand

Resident forced to cut 'disgusting' council-owned grass verges outside home himself

Chris Williamson says he is sick and tired of feeling 'neglected' by North East Lincolnshire Council after the council-owned grass verges in the village reach a 'disgusting' state



O New Waltham residents Chris Williamson and Roger Breed, right, are angry that the grass verges are not getting cut on Janton Court, and as a result they're now having to mow them (image: Jon Corken)

Residents think this overgrown verge is full of snakes and a fire risk but a housing association says it's a wildlife haven

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The obsession with going green that's putting drivers' lives in danger: How UK's overgrown roadside verges have left motorists and pedestrians fearing for their safety as cost-cutting councils hide behind #NoMowMay and other eco-initiatives

- UK residents have voiced concerns over roadside areas becoming out of control
- · It follows a scheme encouraging councils not to mow any green spaces in May
- Have you seen any dangerous verges? Email dan.woodland@mailonline.co.uk

By DAN WOODLAND

PUBLISHED: 15:54, 16 July 2023 | UPDATED: 16:10, 16 July 2023



News > UK News

ROWING OVER MOWING I'm furious after the council left our grass verges to overgrow – I refuse to cut it myself but it looks like a tip

Tom Hussey Published: 13:25, 7 Jun 2022 | Updated: 13:25, 7 Jun 2022

Engage & Inform

Documenting the biodiversity of the Meanwood Valley



Meanwood Valley Bioblitz exhibition panels. Photo: Ellen Hunter.

East Cottingwith and Storwood Parish Council

CONTRACT OF

MARIE GALLERY -

1440

Wildlife / Wildflowers / Wetlands / Waterways

If pilo care about and love the nationi emittement then have carent to many before places to live in England than East Cattingwith for its work discently of whell's whithnesses and wetlands.

The map below, taken from the Naharal Stigland heafter on the Lower Centern Valley (LOV) shows often we are attained in the LOV and on the edge of the nature reserve liset? (the shaded greek areas).



Useful Contacts

Natural England

https://www.gou.uk/government.torgen angioni.

Natural Degised to Actionard (200) 000 2826

Lower Dersent Valley and Disporth Common National Harkow Reserves Official Rath Island chanthtave Whethalet Aporth Yorkshine 1019 678

Natural England blog relating to LDV

Inter Alware Megapatt an Like

Natural England LDV & Skipwith Common Facebook DACH



Community & Services

Resolve Issues

Cesanell

Wildflower Meadow Update (June 23)

Hume + WildFlower Matchine + Mildflower Meedler Update (Line 21)

Wildflower Meadow Update

Let nature be the teacher

BISHOP BURTON

PARISH COUNCIL

The wildflower rewattow continues to imprivi as and teach us.

When we lively answerd and see the wildflowers is the verges, it all locks to easy. What we perhaps fail to remember is ruture has been left to treate these spaces over homeneds of years, it was encituraging to hear on the Cheltesi Eltoser Show programme how shakinging it is to create a withflower and. So seeing our vhape's new wildflipeer standow hages bloom in its first year facts like a shall advanarratery.

Thank you to all the 'villagers ano surgarment in this project, either in action or kind words.

Progress

During early spring, the shader secondarial halos began to entering, including secondarias, bloebelts, and americas, which all provided a new haven of food for early politizators. We saw the established and new deficibli start to bloom but the strange weather means that many strapped before they started

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Village

History

Karth Keyword

What's On

a



Left to right - Cllr Bromley, Peter Gurney - Yorkதங்கு இத்திர்கு ரூடித்து பிழாதிலாம் Climate Action - Penny Lewis & Penny Pinn

Innovate

Leeds: Tiny forest aims to bring health and environmental benefits





The mini forest aims to mimic natural woodland but in a much smaller space





100 Fruit Trees Challenge - Apple Tree Order Form

Help us help nature by reaching our goal of planting 100 fruit trees by purchasing and planting one of your own! We've secured trees at a much reduced cost thanks to

<u>Fruit Works</u>, who are offering us an incredible bulk rate. Place your tree order below, make a donation of £10 per tree plus any additional donation to support our work of helping nature across Alwoodley. Trees can be purchased until the end of March and planted by early April.

The 100 fruit trees Challenge

Small Steps Towards a Greener Future

Will you be part of our new challenge to add 100 fruit trees to Alwoodley to create garden Orchards? Fruit works in Leeds can offer us 100 trees! Sales are now open and we will be able to arrange collection from Alwoodley. We can provide planting advice and even plant the trees for those who need assistance. Each new tree owner will receive a certificate.

Slow The Flow

SOV.UK

Home > Environment > River maintenance, flooding and coastal erosion

Guidance

Natural flood management programme

Apply now for funding: increase flood resilience with Natural Flood Management

From: Environment Agency and Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Published 22 September 2023

Ellerker Parish

a village community in the East Riding of Yorkshire



West Wolds Slow the Flow

Please find below the latest Newsletter and Map







Todmorden Town Council

Natural Flood Management Grants

by Admin TC | Jun 14, 2021 | Mayoral News



YouTube Video









Gardens for Nature







Serving the people of Long Ashton & Leigh Woods

Every Garden Counts

Saving wildlife & biodiversity Long Ashton & Leigh Woods style

When reports of plummeting wildlife populations hit the headlines, Long Ashton Parish Council declared a Biodiversity Emergency in our community. Now the Government has set a national target to increase space for nature by 30% and nationally, gardeners, landowners, farmers and councils are turning words into action. For Long Ashton & Leigh Woods, this is an exciting challenge.

The hope is that as many people as possible within the parish will embrace the concept of increasing their capacity to help wildlife. To start the ball rolling, the Parish Council has developed an initiative called Biodiversity: Every Garden Counts. Making gardens wildlife-thendly isn't a new concept but has gathered



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Hedgehog Awareness Week 1st May—7th May 2022

Aston Clinton Parish Council are helping protect Hedgehogs native to the UK by handing out FREE Hedgehog Highways. Please pop in to our office in Aston Clinton Park to collect yours. Fitting is simple just make sure your fence has a hole and attach to help let Hedgehogs move freely between fences.





PIENT



Firstly, the Swift Box Project aims to address the decline of the Swift population, (which has fallen by 60% since 1995) by installing Swift next boxes within the parish.

The initial stages of the project were funded by the Parish Council and involved installing nest boxes on residents' houses. 20 boxes have been installed this year and

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Amersham Town Council

Bees & Pollinators!

🋗 May 31, 2022



Wildflowers Across Our Town





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Home / The Bug Hotel Receives A New Living Roof!

The Bug Hotel Receives A New Living Roof!

may 18, 2022





Town council scheme sees vibrant murals painted on internet cabinets (Image: Amersham Town Council)

Celebrate Your Nature



Telephone 07928 163 662 D E-Mail: dwikiBitthersdaleparishcouncil.gov.uk



Home Wilege Info + The Partsh Council + Wilege Calendar Local Directory News Contact

Wild About Lothersdale



Carrieds: Paul Whiles - antidoutrosen og terrore (while Gray - grantester oct org







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Hunston Wildlife Day



Friday 19th July 2019 9am - 1pm



Hunston Village Hall and Playing Fiel PO20 LAW

Join your local wildlife charity for a celebration of local wildlife!

- Get involved and have fun!
- Species surveys
- Guided nature walks (9 30am and 12pm)
- Hear updates on the local conservation work of the FLOW (Fixing and Linking Our Wetlands) project.

Tea, coffee, cake and other refreshments available!

Find out more about volunteering

This is the perfect opportunity to come and chat with us about how you can get involved with protecting and impriving your local countryside. No time commitments or special skills meeded, only enthusiasmi We need volunteers for:

- Practical habitat management work
- Wildlife surveys
- Helping with events
- Antwork or photography
- · Fundraising, admin, accounting and more!

This event is free but we selectric donations on the day. Dogs welcome on the playing field but not on the nature select. Hence do not leave your dog unattended in a car whole attending a nature walk.



For more into please email helio@mwhg.org.uk

Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunitie	
- M2	Funding - Search all grants - Slow the Flow Caldentale Climate Action Roadshow - Project Slow the Flow Calderdale Climate Action Roadshow - Project E8,500 Slow the Flow Calderdale Climate Action Roadshow 16 December, 2021 the funds to organise a roadshow on natural flood Duration: 3 April, 2022-30 August,
FUND FUND	Calder Valloy. The roadshow will tour Calderdale tspots providing an exhibition and events pro- and educate locals about how sustainable urban e-based solutions such as tree-planting rain gar- ling can make the areas more flood resilient.
	KSHIRE DALES Jational Park
Press release £25 million for projects using nature to increase flood resilience	Market by the same and works with the transfer of the same and the sa
the nation's flood resilience We want to me tree. So we're	e trees for schools and communities site sure everybody in the UK has the chance to plant a giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools inities. Tegether, well get millions more trees in the
Rebecca Pow MP Published 22 September 2023 Home > Environment > Food and farming > Farming and food grants and payment > Countryside stewardship	a Sural grants and payments and payments and the second se
Collection Countryside Stewardship: get fundin to protect and improve the land you manage	And Type and Taxana Analysis (and taxana Analysis)

ABOUT

JOB5

CYME

Summary

- Make most of new Duties
- Make links with partners
- Utilise local support
- Manage to enhance wildlife
- Engage and inform
- Celebrate your wild places





Mike Deegan

Helping Local Communities & Organisations Grow

Tel: 07970 425502 michael@mikedeeganconsulting.co.uk