



**North York Moors
National Park**

S106 Woodland Creation Grant Scheme

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the length of the agreement?

25 years.

After 25 years we expect that the trees are of a size that means that they are protected by felling licence legislation. In order to secure the future of the new woodland, agreements are 'land charged' which means that they are legally attached to the land and will transfer to any new landowner.

2. Is there a minimum area for projects to be eligible for the Grant?

Yes.

1 hectare (2.5 acres) is the minimum area for any project. This can be comprised of more than one compartment within a holding as long as the overall project area is over 1 hectare.

3. How many trees per hectare?

Woodland planting: The Scheme can accommodate variable density and spacing of trees with lots of open space where that is appropriate. A typical broadleaved woodland would be planted at around 1,600 trees per hectare but often it is more appropriate to plant some areas at a lower density. Compartments may also be planted at a higher density, for example where tree guards are not used.

Low density woodland and wood pasture: Where it is suitable from a landscape and biodiversity point of view the Scheme can be used to create low density woodland and wood pasture. This can be as little as 20 large-crowned trees (e.g. oak, small-leaved lime) per hectare. Trees can be planted in stock-proof guards or enclosures, meaning that grazing can continue. Please ask for more information.

4. Can I sell the Carbon Units for the woodland?

No.

The carbon for all projects in the Scheme is accounted for already as the origin of the funding is primarily for carbon capture. This means that the carbon for the site cannot be used in any other way, including selling carbon units. Unlike other schemes there is no requirement to register with the Woodland Carbon Code.

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5. What can be funded by the Grant?

The full cost of capital works including the trees, shelters, weldmesh cages (if planting wood pasture), fencing and associated labour.

The Scheme also fully funds the maintenance of the trees to ensure good establishment. This can include weed control, bracken control, failed tree replacement and reinstating tubes that have fallen over. We also include a contribution payment in the 10th year for the removal and recycling of any plastic shelters used.

Options for establishment of woodland using natural colonisation of trees are also available.

6. How does the financial side of the Grant Scheme work?

The Scheme operates as a grant and the Authority has a signed agreement with the landowner. The landowner gets quotes for the work (as required by the National Park Authority's financial regulations) and once the selected contractor has completed the work satisfactorily the landowner pays the contractor. Then the Authority pays the full amount of the receipted invoices to the landowner.

If cash flow for the project is an issue we can offer solutions in discussion with the landowner.

7. Who organises the work?

The landowner can have as much or as little involvement as they want. The Authority will provide a detailed job specification and a list of local contractors to assist the landowner in obtaining quotations for the work. The Authority will also ensure that the work carried out meets the specification. Alternatively, the Authority can also organise all the work on behalf of the landowner and our 'in house' work team can carry out some works, especially for smaller projects.

The Authority will organise and fund any surveys required and will ensure that all permissions and consultations are carried out.

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What we initially need to know from you

1. Is the land you have in mind in another scheme, e.g. Countryside Stewardship? If so, please give details below.
2. Are there any services on/across the land? (e.g. water supplies, drainage, mains, sewage)
3. Are you eligible to reclaim VAT?
4. Do you have preferences of tree species to be included or specifically excluded on the site?
5. What are your objectives? (e.g. wildlife, shelter, reducing flood risk, timber)

6. A Site Map

Providing a map of your holding with a rough idea of the areas that you are considering is really useful so that any initial site visits are informed and we can discuss any potential issues at an early stage.

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