

[Press release: Grants for creating woodland available all year round](#)

From today, it will be easier for landowners to access generous grants for creating new woodland, Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey has announced.

Applications are now being accepted for the latest round of the [Countryside Stewardship Woodland Creation Grant](#) – a scheme which provides up to £6,800 per hectare to help farmers, foresters and landowners tap into the environmental and financial benefits of tree planting.

In a drive to encourage more projects to come forward and give applicants longer to prepare, the funding will now be available twelve months a year – replacing a previously time-limited application window.

The extension supports the government's commitment to plant 11 million trees, which will provide habitats for wildlife, help to prevent flood risk and reduce carbon in our atmosphere.

Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey said:

By planting more trees and creating new woodlands, landowners in England can help to protect and enhance the environment now and for future generations.

I look forward to seeing as many applications as possible come forward in support of our continued drive to grow woodland cover.

Richard Greenhous, Forestry Commission director of forest services, said:

By making it easier to apply for generous grant support we are ensuring that we deliver on the Government's and the forestry sector's ambitions to plant millions more trees across the country.

We look forward to hearing from applicants who want to reap the economic, environmental and social benefits of sustainable woodland creation.

The Countryside Stewardship Woodland Creation Grant is a Defra scheme delivered by the Forestry Commission and is a capital grant, where applicants can apply for one-off payments for the trees which will be planted and associated infrastructure.

The government has made a number of improvements to the scheme, including streamlining the application process and improving guidance for landowners looking to capitalise on the environmental and economic benefits offered.

This scheme forms part of the Government's ongoing efforts to grow woodland cover, alongside the publication of our ambitious 25 Year Environment Plan, funding towards the creation of a vast Northern Forest from Liverpool to Hull, and the appointment of a Tree Champion to drive forward commitments around tree planting and conservation.

[Map: England Coast Path: plan of the Grain to Woolwich stretch](#)

See the Grain to Woolwich stretch page for more information about the work being carried out on this stretch of coast.

[National Statistics: Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment: Headline reports and technical reports 2016-2017 to 2017-2018](#)

The MENE survey provides trend data for how people use the natural environment in England.

[Guidance: Woodland creation grant: Countryside Stewardship](#)

You can apply for this grant all year round.

The grant is for a 2 year capital works programme to plant and protect young trees.

A woodland creation maintenance grant [WD1](#) of £200 per hectare for 10 years is

available through Higher Tier. You have to meet the objectives of the capital works agreement and have had your final claim approved first.

Use the manual on this page to understand:

- the eligibility requirements
- how to apply
- the payments you could receive
- the rules and conditions for the scheme

If you applied for the grant between 2 January and 16 February 2018 refer to the [previous manual](#).

Winners of the BBSRC Innovator of the Year 2018 International Impact category

Congratulations to Professor Martin Broadley (Biosciences, UoN) and Dr Louise Ander (Inorganic Geochemistry, BGS) were announced as winners of the BBSRC Innovator of the Year 2018 International Impact category for their work on GeoNutrition: spatial aspects of hidden hunger.