

## **Introduction**

**C1** This appendix lists the main schemes and grants currently available for landscape improvement and conservation work in the countryside on agricultural land. It includes schemes operated by the Countryside Commission, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Forestry Authority, English Nature, and English Heritage.

## **Countryside Commission**

### *Countryside Stewardship*

**C2** Countryside Stewardship is a pilot scheme run by the Countryside Commission which aims to show that conservation and public enjoyment of the countryside can be combined with commercial farming and land management through a national system of incentives and agreements. The scheme targets seven classic English landscapes and their wildlife habitats, and seeks to improve opportunities for public enjoyment and appreciation. Countryside Stewardship applies to suitable land within these landscapes. The seven landscapes targeted are: chalk and limestone grassland; lowland heath; waterside landscapes; coastal land; uplands; historic landscapes; and old meadow and pasture.

**C3** The Scheme is voluntary and contains a range of measures to meet the challenges of managing and re-creating the targeted landscapes. Those managing suitable land are invited to select a combination of these measures and propose a 10-year agreement to the Countryside Commission. The Scheme is based on the following principles:

- it is open to anyone who is responsible for managing suitable land and is able to enter a 10-year agreement. This includes farmers, estate owners, voluntary bodies, local authorities;
- participants receive annual payments for 10 years plus standard costs for associated capital works;
- the Scheme is discretionary and all applications will be considered on their merits.

### *Landscape Conservation Grants*

**C4** The Countryside Commission offers landscape conservation grants towards the management and creation of features in the landscape. Eligible work includes the amenity planting of trees and small woods under 0.25 hectares, the management of small woods or existing trees and the conservation of other important landscape features such as hedgerows, ponds, stone walls and green lanes. Grants usually vary from 25-50% of the total costs of each operation. In every case, the work should be of benefit to the landscape and should contribute to the public enjoyment of the countryside. For schemes other than tree planting and the management of small woodlands and existing trees, the Commission will give priority to conservation work which forms part of proposals for an overall farm conservation scheme.

### *Hedgerow Incentive Scheme*

**C5** The scheme targets the restoration and management of hedgerows whose conservation value is declining because of lack of appropriate management. The Scheme has the following key principles:

- the Scheme is discretionary and targets hedgerows in England that are: long-established; of high wildlife value; hedges in degraded landscapes; or hedges of particular amenity value;
- it is open to any land managers responsible for the management of eligible hedgerows and able to enter into a ten-year agreement. This includes farmers, estate owners, voluntary bodies and local authorities;
- incentives are available for a wide range of restoration and management programmes with payments phased over the period of the plan. Eligible operations will include laying and coppicing but not the costs of annual maintenance carried out as part of normal farming operations; and
- the Scheme is closely co-ordinated with the MAFF Farm and Conservation Grant Scheme and places emphasis on a whole farm approach to hedgerow management.

## Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods

### *Farm and Conservation Grant Scheme*

C6 Under the Farm and Conservation Grant Scheme (F&CGS), MAFF gives grants to eligible farmers towards capital expenditure. The scheme allows grants to be paid towards work which has an environmental value. Eligible works include traditional field boundaries, shelter belts, enclosure of woodlands, heather management and the repair of traditional buildings used for agricultural purposes. Grants are also available for other works, sometimes at a higher rate, with an Improvement Plan. In principle, all established agricultural and horticultural businesses are eligible for conservation grants, although tighter eligibility restrictions apply to the wider range of grants, only available through an Improvement Plan. The Improvement Plan is a programme of investments to improve or maintain farm income. Grants range from 15% towards the cost of replacement drainage (not available on heathland and moorland), fencing, etc, to 40% for amenity tree planting, heather management, bracken control, hedgerows or hedgebanks.

### *Farm Woodland Premium Scheme*

C7 The Farm Woodland Premium Scheme aims to encourage farmers to plant new woodland on land currently in productive agriculture, particularly small broadleaved woodlands that improve both the landscape and wildlife habitats. The Scheme came into operation in April 1992 and follows on from the Farm Woodland Scheme. Under the Scheme, farmers are eligible to receive annual payments for 15 years for mainly broadleaved woodlands and 10 years for mainly coniferous woodlands. These payments are in addition to the full range of establishment grants, including the Better Land Supplement, payable by the Forestry Authority under the Woodland Grant Scheme.

## Forestry Authority

### *Woodland Grant Scheme*

C8 The Woodland Grant Scheme was introduced in April 1988 as a successor to both the Forestry Grant Scheme and the Broadleaved Woodland Grant Scheme to encourage the continued expansion of private forestry. The Scheme is wide-ranging in order to encourage multiple benefit forestry. Establishment grants are for

creating new woodlands and for restocking existing woodlands after felling or windblow, either by planting or by natural regeneration. The grants are related to the total areas approved for planting or regeneration in each separate block or wood and are paid in three instalments. For new planting and restocking, these are 70% on completion of planting, with 20% and 10% at five yearly intervals thereafter. For natural regeneration these are 50% on completion of the approved work to encourage regeneration with 30% on adequate stocking being achieved and 20% five years thereafter. Supplements for planting which takes place on arable or improved grassland and a Community Woodland Supplement to encourage the creation of new woodlands close to towns and cities which will be of value for informal public recreation, are also available.

C9 Management grants are also available. These are intended as a contribution to the net cost of management operations necessary to maintain and improve woodlands and forests. Standard management grants are payable for agreed operations in conifer woodland aged 11 to 20 years and in broadleaved woodland aged 11 to 40 years. Special management grants are payable for agreed operations which are designed to enhance the special character of woodlands of special environmental value. Woodlands of special environmental value may be of any age from 11 years upwards.

## English Nature

### *Project Grants*

C10 English Nature provides grant aid under Section 134 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. The terms of the Act are wide-ranging and enable English Nature to give a grant to "any person.....doing anything which, in their opinion, is conducive to nature conservation or fostering the understanding of nature conservation". Grants are aimed primarily at:

- safeguarding land of particular importance for wildlife or geology and providing for its improved management;
- securing greater public access to and enjoyment of land which is significant either for its wildlife or for its geological features.

C11 Within these broad themes, English Nature runs several specifically targeted grant schemes. While most grants are given to conservation organisations, private landowners can be assisted

to a limited degree, mainly for nature conservation work on land noted as an SSSI.

## **English Heritage**

### *Ancient Monument Grants*

**C12** Ancient Monuments encompass many types of archaeological sites, from the earthwork or buried remains of prehistoric and medieval settlements to buildings such as castles, dwellings and the early and pioneering remains of the Industrial Revolution. By their nature, ancient monuments are fragile and can be easily damaged by modern agriculture, even when they are buried beneath a ploughed field or covered by vegetation. Grants can be given to owners of ancient

monuments for major repairs or management works, but not for routine maintenance. The standard rate of grant is between 40 and 50%. Additionally, English Heritage offer management agreements to occupiers of monuments on farmland, and these usually include small grants. The amount paid is based on the monument's size, but capital costs can also be met. Assistance with the costs of interpreting historic sites in the countryside to the visiting public through farm survey grants is also given.

### *Historic Building Grants*

**C13** English Heritage give grants for repairs to historic buildings which they judge to be of outstanding national interest. This usually means buildings listed Grade I or sometimes Grade II.

## APPENDIX D: SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND REFERENCES

### Sources of information

#### Maps

1:50,000 Leeds MD boundary	DTP M1-A1 link road proposals
1:50,000 Leeds City Council Wards	DTP A6120 Seacroft and Cross Gates Bypass proposals
1:50,000 Leeds City Council Parishes	LUC. (1989). Leeds Waterways Strategy
1:50,000 Special Landscape Areas	LUC. (1987) Tong-Cockersdale Management Project Review : Ten Years On
1:50,000 Areas of search for landfill	WYAS. (1988). The Aerial Time Machine (1988)
1:50,000 Agricultural Land Classification	WYEAS. (1982). Woodlands of the Leeds District
1:50,000 Solid/drift geology maps	WYEAS. (1987). Leeds MD Urban Survey
1:50,000 Areas of nature conservation interest	NCC. (1988). Inventory of Ancient Woodlands
1:50,000 Selected major land holdings	Countryside Commission. (1993). Landscape Assessment Guidance CCP423. Countryside Commission
1:25,000 Leeds MD sheets	Countryside Commission - Countryside Stewardship files for sites in the Leeds District
1:20,000 Leeds MD map book and composite plan	
1:10,000 Leeds MD map book and composite plan	
1:10,000 Tree Preservation Orders	
1:10,000 Phase 1 habitat survey maps	

#### Books

#### Documents/Reports

LCC Revised Draft UDP	Alderman Press. (1990). The Village Atlas - the growth of North and West Yorkshire 1840-1910. The Village Press.
LCC Draft Leeds Countryside Strategy	Beresford, M.W. (1967). Leeds and its Region. British Association for the Advancement of Science
LCC Forest of Leeds	Heap A & Brears P. (1993). Leeds Describ'd - eyewitness accounts of Leeds 1534 - 1905. Breedon Books
LCC Lower Aire Valley EIS	Leeds City Libraries. (1989). Leeds in Maps
LCC Nature Conservation Strategy	Pevsner, N. (1967). The buildings of England-Yorkshire West Riding, 2nd edition. Penguin
LCC Draft Policy N48 Areas of Search for Waste Disposal Sites - Why have a Policy...	Raistrick, A. (1979) West Riding of Yorkshire. Publisher not known
NRA. (1993). River Aire Catchment Management Plan.	Sheeran, G. (1986). Good house built of stone - the houses and people of Leeds/Bradford 1600-1800. Allanwood Books
NRA. (1993). The River Aire - Conservation within the Catchment	South and West Yorkshire Federations of Women's Institutes (1991) The South and West Yorkshire Village Book. Countryside Books
NRA Fact File info.	

Tourism/promotion brochures on areas of interest

Unwin, R. (1987) *Wetherby - the history of a Yorkshire Market Town*. Leeds University Press

Versey, H.C. (1948). *Geology and scenery of the countryside around Leeds*. Thomas Murby

Yorkshire Naturalists Trust, (1971). *The Naturalists Yorkshire*. Dalesman Paperbacks

Key:

LCC	Leeds City Council
LUC	Land Use Consultants
NRA	National Rivers Authority
DTP	Department of Transport
NCC	Nature Conservancy Council
WYAS	West Yorkshire Archaeology Service
WYEAS	West Yorkshire Ecological Advisory Service

**References quoted in the report**

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Engels, Friedrich. (1844). *The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844*. (1892 ed.)

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