

Farming in Protected Landscapes

Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape

Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Lincolnshire
Wolds
National
Landscape

Farming in Protected
Landscape programme



The First 5 Years

Delivering FiPL on the
Lincolnshire Wolds from
2021 to 2026



Lincolnshire
Wolds
National
Landscape





The 'Farming in Protected Landscapes' Programme in the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape

Defra introduced the **Farming in Protected Landscapes** programme to run from July 2021 to March 2024.

Introduced under the *Agricultural Transition Plan (2021-24)*, it was a short-term programme to help with the move away from the funding schemes that had existed under the EU's Common Agricultural Policy and to reflect the gradual reduction in the Basic Payments Scheme and the move towards new payment rates and schemes, and support for improving the environment, animal health and welfare, and reducing carbon emissions.

Through the programme, farmers and land managers can be supported to carry out projects that support nature recovery, mitigate the impacts of climate change, provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage, or support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses. This is a programme of funding for one-off projects covering these areas of work, not an agri-environment scheme.

The success of the FiPL programme was reflected in the decision in January 2023 to extend it for another year. This was announced in the UK Government's Environmental Improvement Plan:

"In recognition of the positive feedback and outcomes delivered by FiPL, we will be extending the programme with £10m additional funding each year until March 2025.....This will enable us to continue to support the important role that protected landscapes play in delivering our commitments.

We will continue to learn from FiPL and work to ensure the best concepts of FiPL are integrated within future environmental land management schemes within Protected Landscapes."

That extension also brought the one-year opportunity to deliver the Historic Building Restoration Grant (HBRG) in 2024-25. Although hugely challenging in such a short timeframe, the completion of work on four sets of farm buildings bringing in further grants of over **£860,000** contributed significantly to the successful delivery of FiPL on the Lincolnshire Wolds that year.

Another one-year extension was announced in December 2024 to take FiPL through to March 2026. This means that the initial "short-term programme" has now been supporting farmers and land managers for 5 years.

In that time, it has helped with **96** successful farming business applications, allocating a total of **£1,435,683** of funding to projects meeting the programme's outcomes. Taking HBRG into account, the FiPL contribution to the Lincolnshire Wolds rural economy since 2021 has been **£2,230,000**.





The Farming in Protected Landscapes programme has had a positive impact in the Lincolnshire Wolds over the past five years.

The projects supported by the programme have helped farmers and land managers enhance the Wolds' environmental and economic vitality whilst also increasing access to and understanding of its rich landscape.

The diverse projects highlighted in this review provide a snapshot of the success that FiPL has demonstrated it can deliver by working closely with farmers and land managers.

I would like to thank the local programme team for the hard work and commitment that they have put into the successful delivery of over 96 projects spread throughout the Wolds over the past five years.

Richard Langton
Chair, Lincolnshire Wolds FiPL Local Assessment Panel

Climate



Climate FiPL Outcomes

Supporting the delivery of net zero through nature and nature-based solutions to help communities mitigate and adapt to climate change:

- More carbon is stored and/or sequestered
- Flood risk has been reduced
- Better understanding among farmers, land managers and the public as to what the different habitats and land uses can deliver for carbon storage and reduced carbon emissions
- The landscape is more resilient to climate change.

Well Vale – Creation of a Truffle Woodland

Truffle production has previously taken place predominantly in France and Italy, but due to climate change, England is increasingly providing optimal conditions for growing truffles. This site has been chosen due to the soil, drainage and shelter provided being optimal for truffle growth.

Successful truffle production is never guaranteed, but this project brings together top-quality inoculated stock, an ideal planting site and robust pest defences, to provide the best possible

It is hoped that within 10 years the farm will be producing several kg of top quality, Lincolnshire grown truffles. Although there are initial high establishment costs, after 5-10 years this should produce a substantial return for a few decades, becoming self-sustaining and enhance the sustainability of the wider business.



The site has been selected as the soil type, drainage, and shelter/exposure level are highly suited to truffle growing. Truffles are a crop that is particularly suited to the type of climatic change that is being seen in Lincolnshire.

As this is a commercial activity, the FiPL funding for the trees was capped at 40% of the total cost, subject to getting three quotes. As a farm business, Countryside Stewardship rates were used for the capital items connected with fencing the edge of the woodland and the access points.

What the project delivers:

The purchase and planting of trees inoculated with truffle spores which were planted at 2m spacings, giving a total of 2,500 trees. The trees are protected with 90cm guards and a stake and the plantation has been fenced to exclude deer.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: **£25,408**, at an intervention rate of **40%** of the project cost of the trees, and **100%** of the items benchmarked against Countryside Stewardship rates
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, Nature, and Place**

Chalk Stream Restoration and Natural Flood Management



This scheme is part of the wider Bain catchment and will be linking key habitat within the landscape which will allow free movement of flora and fauna.

Managing the chalk stream and creating the leaky dams allows more shelter in the aquatic habitat and better habitat for niche flora and fauna. Wetland creation and managing the chalk stream will sequester more carbon; having adjacent margins of greater flora diversity further increases this process.

The leaky dams will hold water back in times of severe rainfall preventing flash flooding and allowing time for the valuable water to infiltrate into the soil and recharge aquifers improving water stability/security/quality.

Measuring water flows and being able to quantify aquifer recharge could be upscaled to increase recharge in other water catchments.

The project builds in opportunities to have educational events to promote this work through the general public and industry partners.

What the project delivers:

- 1040 metres of chalk stream restoration implementing riffles to increase aquatic habitat while increasing oxygen levels and potential spawning opportunities
- implementation of NFM through 5 leaky dams to improve water quality with the reduction of sediment load in times of high flow
- taking accurate measurements looking at improving aquifer recharge which has a direct benefit to all from agriculture production to public drinking water, as well as increasing water flows in times of drought in spring-fed watercourses and related biodiversity benefits.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: £24,422, at an intervention rate of 80% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, Nature, People and Place**

63 projects delivering for **Climate**

- **30** projects where more carbon is stored and/or sequestered
- **21** projects giving better understanding among farmers, land managers and the public as to what different habitats and land uses can deliver for carbon storage and reduced carbon emissions
- **52** projects making the landscape more resilient to climate change



Nature FiPL Outcomes

Supporting the leading role of farmers and land managers in the delivery of the Nature Recovery Network and achieving the Government's commitment to protect 30% of land by 2020:

- There is a greater area of wildlife rich habitat
- There is greater connectivity between habitats
- Existing habitat is better managed for biodiversity
- There is an increase in biodiversity.

HIIVE Beehives at Highfield Farm

This project creates natural habitats for wild honeybee populations at Highfield Farm through the installation of 6 HIIVE tree-cavity style conservation habitats. This represents a pioneering approach to bee conservation that prioritises natural bee behaviour and population growth through minimal intervention.

The internal geometry is inspired by the cavities of living 200-300-year-old oak trees, the natural home of wild honeybee colonies. This gives bees an environment closer to what they would choose themselves in nature, creating a healthier, more self-regulating habitat.

This approach supports the natural expansion of local bee populations whilst enhancing pollination services across the farm's 640 hectares and surrounding landscape, addressing the critical decline in pollinator populations whilst supporting farm sustainability through enhanced crop pollination services, particularly for arable crops.



Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: **£24,422**, at an intervention rate of **80%** of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, Nature, People and Place**



Cotes Grange Farm Pond Restoration

Pond restoration and improvement of the surrounding edge habitat were the key features of this project.

Although small, the pond is a key feature of the farm and forms part of the chalk stream system that feeds into the wider River Bain catchment.

Silt had built up over many years leading to reduced water depth. Taken together with a rudimentary system to allow water to flow from the pond back to the chalk stream, this meant that the range of aquatic plants were no longer there.

As well as removing the silt, the pond's clay lining was restored and the outlet modified to give greater control of water flows.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: **£20,817**, at an intervention rate of **90%** of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, Nature and Place**

Drone Survey for Ash Dieback

Ash Dieback is affecting many of the woodlands in the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape and this pilot project was supported by a number of the estates. The Director of one estate called it "the greatest challenge we face with our woodland on the estate".

FiPL had previously given a grant to the Forestry Manager of Tree Generation, a local Lincolnshire Wolds company, to buy a drone and develop its use for scanning woodlands for Ash Dieback to save time in doing surveys on the ground. Areas which showed either high prevalence of the disease or trees with some resistance could then be checked by visits on the ground.

Identifying areas of ash dieback will enable woodland management plans to be developed to include these areas and develop strategies to develop resilience to the disease and climate change.

This tested the methodology for capturing imagery of trees affected by Ash Dieback and use of web-based mapping technology for recording this, trialling the use of two websites developed specifically for drone mapping. It also set a baseline survey for comparison to results for any future surveys.



What the project delivers:

- 10 days flights to capture imagery for at least 11 woodlands
- 3 days to produce reports for woodland owners
- Meeting to be held in January 2025 to discuss results and seek support, and explore future funding, for further surveys ideally on an annual basis.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: **£2,116**, at an intervention rate of 90% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, Nature, People and Place**

73 projects delivering for **Nature**

- **32,855 ha** for habitat improvement for biodiversity
- **28,464 ha** for improved habitat connectivity
- **53** projects delivering an increase in biodiversity
- **61** projects where existing habitat is better managed for nature

People



People FiPL Outcomes

Provide a natural health service that will improve the nation's public health and wellbeing through increased access to nature across all parts of society, as part of our green recovery:

- There are more opportunities for people to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- There are more opportunities for more diverse audiences to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- There is greater public engagement in land management, for example through volunteering.

Lincolnshire Wolds Farmer Cluster Group

The project was designed to build on the successes of the Lincolnshire Wolds Facilitation Fund Group by offering more targeted advice to farmer members, enabling them to utilise the training received in improved agri-environment delivery and help deliver outcomes of the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB Management Plan.

The Lincolnshire Wolds Facilitation Fund Group had received funding from Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Fund for almost 4 years. This funding came to an end in March 2022. The farmers involved agreed to continue their collaborative approach with the additional aim of using a more focused approach to align their businesses to new ways of working identified in the ATP.

Key Outcomes for the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape included:

- Support and encourage agricultural practice that protect, enhance and restore wildlife habitats across the Wolds
- Creation and expansion of areas of habitat to help secure larger, better connected and managed, and biodiversity loss is reversed
- More people and wider audiences enjoy, understand and value our natural and cultural heritage
- Nature and culture increasingly underpins the economy and supports local services
- To support innovative diversification projects that work with local communities and businesses to create, inspire and support sustainable farming and farm buildings.



What the project delivered:

The project has a combination of one-to-one and one-to-many opportunities for advice to the farmer members. This kept farmers abreast of environmental policy developments throughout the Agricultural Transition Period (ATP) to the Environmental Land Management schemes and give them clear advice on how to make their businesses more robust in an environmental context.

The project delivered one-to-one visits and reports to members over a 3-year period with the project. Further new members joined bringing the group to a total of 24 farms in the cluster by 2025.



Ashfield Farmed Environment Services managed the activities of the Cluster Group. It offers a wide range of services to farmers and other land managers across the East Midlands. Totally independent, with many years of experience, it is well placed to advise clients on most aspects of environmental legislation facing the industry.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: **£29,669**, at an average intervention rate of 90% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, Nature, People and Place**

Educational farm visits for disadvantaged children with The Country Trust

The Country Trust is a small, dynamic national education charity dedicated to bringing alive the working countryside for children least able to access it.

Since 1978 The Country Trust has been making it possible for hundreds of volunteer farmers and landowners to welcome thousands of disadvantaged young children from all backgrounds and faiths onto their farms to share their passion for food, farming and the countryside.

On a pre-visit, teachers will borrow the 'Farm in a Bag' resource that includes a video introduction and sensory activities and return it on the day of the visit, ready for other schools to use.

During a farm walk the children explore the crops Farmer Andrew grows and how they become the food we eat, including the wheat that makes our bread, oilseed rape, sugarbeet and carrots, or how crops such as miscanthus can help to produce energy.

The Country Trust organised and supported six Farm Discovery visits in 2022 and six in 2023 for children from primary schools in Greater Lincolnshire with a higher-than-average percentage of children eligible for Free School Meals. This was followed by a further twelve visits in 2024 and eight in 2025.

The success of the project led to The Country Trust also delivering five Farm Discovery visits for The Farm School at South Ormsby in 2026, with plans to also deliver visits at Highfield Farm Cadwell later in 2026.



What the project delivers:

The Country Trust's expertise in working with disadvantaged children, and their track record of working with farmers and land managers in the area, gave the opportunity for children to learn, have fun and be physically active in a beautiful landscape.

The Country Trust organises all aspects of the visit, including connecting with communities that the farmers would not otherwise be able to reach, and supporting the activities on the day. The farmer is not under any pressure to be an organiser or an educator and can focus on being the farmer and sharing his expertise.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: **£27,732**, at an intervention rate of 90% of the project costs

The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, People and Place**

54 projects delivering for People

- 52 projects with more opportunities to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- 19 projects to make the landscape more inclusive for visitors

Places



Place FiPL Outcomes

Supporting these landscapes as centres of excellence and green innovation that are flourishing places to live and work, with a strong identity and cultural heritage, and high recognition as attractive visitor attractions:

- The quality and character of the landscape is reinforced or enhanced
- Historic structures features are conserved, enhance or interpreted more effectively
- There is an increase in the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm businesses, which in turn contributes to a more thriving local economy.

Oxcombe Visitor Centre

This was a more complex project that was phased over three applications. Initially considered for the Historic Building Restoration Grant (HBRG) with a fixed intervention rate of 80% of project costs, it was felt that it was ineligible for this as the intention was to change from agricultural use to a project that would provide a focus for interpretation and information on the landscape, history and biodiversity. Parking would be provided together and an undercover picnic area. This would conserve a redundant, but attractive, farm building (c.1750) and give it a new use.

The first phase was to restore the building in line with the principles of the HBRG scheme, with building and ecological surveys to support the planning application for change of use. This work included repointing brickwork with lime mortar, insulating internal walls of the middle barn, laying self levelling compound to floor, decorating walls and fit new skirtings, fitting new metal doors and side lights to Lincolnshire arch in front of room, and bringing the electric supply to the building.



The next phase was to scope out the work required to make the Visitor Centre a place to “tell the story of people, farming and sustainability in a historic Wolds landscape” and provide a Delivery Plan with a thoroughly-researched and costed framework for the creation of an inspiring, free, visitor attraction in an environment which already draws a daily cohort of visitors.



What the project delivers:

- a new use for a redundant building
- a facility which complements the development of the Oxcombe Pottery, and the tranquil setting of the farm and church
- creating a new focus for people exploring the Lincolnshire Wolds
- uniquely combining historic and pre-historic artefacts with contemporary artwork commissions, to encapsulate the particular appeal of Oxcombe.

The third phase has been to create an accessible educational resource for all visitors to Oxcombe, creating a new focus for people exploring the Lincolnshire Wolds and building on the existing series of LWCS interpretation panels situated throughout the National Landscape.

Visitors will gain an understanding of the ways in which previous generations have lived and worked here, and of twenty-first century aspirations to protect and maintain this important resource.



The displays include:

- **Geology** – with a pigment triptych, using red chalk found at Oxcombe, created by artist Su France.
- **Pre-history** – with Mesolithic microliths and spear, replica Neolithic hand axe, similar to one found at Oxcombe by Bill Bee (now in the British Museum), Neolithic arrowheads, scrapers, flakes, replica ceramic Beaker pot (c.2000BC), created by Adam Daubney), and ceramic 'bones' created by artist Sophie Dickinson to represent human remains found in the landscape.
- **Historic** - replica ceramic Anglo-Saxon pot (c.500AD), replica Elizabethan half-groats (c.1560), to represent the hoard of 46 coins found at Oxcombe in 1818, ceramic triptych, created by artist Sophie Dickinson, map curtain (5m x 2.5m) constructed of enlarged sections of the 1906 OS 25 inch Lincolnshire map series, and WW1 metal fragments and mortar remains.
- **Contemporary** - the 'Oxcombe Farm Welcome' section will comprise largescale images of farming life, and current farm news and wildlife updates.

The Visitor Centre extends the education and tourism offer for visitors to the area, both attracting discrete visits and providing added value for people visiting Oxcombe for other reasons.

In these ways the Centre will reinforce the value and preciousness of the Wolds landscape and contribute to the ways in which Oxcombe continues to successfully diversify and provide a people-centred learning environment alongside its core agricultural business, which continues to seek sustainable solutions to changing farming practices.



Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grants awarded totalled: **£71,677**, at an intervention rate of 80% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Climate, People** and **Place**

Cadeby Farms Lime Avenue Tree-planting

The project planted 88 trees 10m outside of the existing avenue at the original spacing of 39 ft or 12m, using similar species to those planted in the 18th Century.

The trees form an important role having been planted to frame views, drawing the eye to a particular location. Many of the trees within the existing avenue are now in terminal decline with a number of trees failing over recent winters.

A mix of European lime and Small-leaved lime trees were planted using containerised stock from an established nursery specialising in larger containerised trees. The trees are supported by a single stake and rubber tie and have a biodegradable spiral to protect from damage. A wooden tree guard comprising of oak posts and larch rails on each side prevents sheep from accessing the tree. This timber has been sourced from an established sawmill within the National Landscape using oak which was felled on the property in Beesby Wood during a thinning operation.

This will keep the Lime Avenue as a landscape feature for years to come. Maybe in about 125 years there will be a planting scheme along the current original line to maintain it even further for future generations.



Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded: **£28,759**, at an intervention rate of 60% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **People and Place**

79 projects delivering for **Place**

- **53** projects reinforcing or enhancing the quality and character of the landscape
- **13** projects conserving, enhancing or interpreting historic features more effectively
- **37** projects increasing the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm businesses, contributing a more thriving local economy



Business

The FiPL themes of Climate, Nature, People and Place reflect the movement by successive Governments through Defra towards a system of agricultural support that addresses the increasing environmental and carbon reduction targets.

As an agricultural delivery mechanism, delivery of these outcomes is through farms, and these are nearly all run as businesses. With one exception (the Place outcome of 'There is an increase in the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm businesses, which in turn contributes to a more thriving local economy'), delivery of these outcomes through farm businesses is implied rather than outlined.



Because of the pivot of agricultural support to 'public money for public goods' FiPL concentrates on the environmental, landscape, heritage and biodiversity benefits. Applications which include the 'support for nature friendly sustainable farm businesses' outcome must also deliver at least one of the other FiPL outcomes so that they can be considered for funding.

It is sometimes difficult to remember that FiPL and the Historic Building Restoration Grant have brought in money to aid farm businesses because the outcomes are not specifically business-focused nor is this large-scale funding compared to agricultural support in the past.

Looking at the figures taken from the 96 projects delivered over the first 5 years of FiPL, 42 included the support for farm businesses as one of the outcomes they were seeking to achieve.

FiPL helps to support projects that are innovative and look to develop new ways of working that introduce sensible and sustainable approaches to land management.

Applications that are purely commercial have their intervention rate capped at 40% to reflect that this could give the business a competitive edge. Others that demonstrate innovation or increased sustainability can receive grants at a higher rate which in part reflects the 'income foregone' where the change is bringing in greater risk to farm incomes.

The Oxcombe Visitor Centre (pg 15 -16, Place section) is one example of innovation and diversification of a farm business which is facing the challenges of changing agricultural support and Government policy.

Applicants are not encouraged to tick any particular box, rather they should develop their applications to reflect what they wish to achieve. The 44% of applications including this outcome does show that farmers on the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape are looking at ways to meet the challenges.

FiPL has led the way with the themes of Climate, Nature, People and Place. These are now being used more within management of Protected Landscapes and the continual development of agricultural support schemes such as the Sustainable Farm initiative. It will be for those to give the direction of travel and financial help for the farming community in future years.

FiPL will continue as a 'short-term' programme and not an agri-environment scheme and will look to make a difference in supporting those who want to adopt more environmentally-friendly land management but still sustain the viability of their farms.

42 projects delivering for Business

These benefitted from a total of **£569,805** in funding from FiPL

Rind Cutter for Lincolnshire Poacher Cheese

This introduced a rind scraper machine into the cheese processing line to remove the outer layer of the cheese (the rind) prior to grating, to help meet increased demand for grated cheese from the bakery industry.

This had been a particularly inefficient, slow and laborious process, and the installation of the rind-scraping machine has replaced the manual process, freeing staff for other activities.

The process is now part of the processing line, building it into a batch process, rather than the previous ad hoc approach

Staff can now be redeployed in other parts of the cutting room process system, particularly as demand for the product grows.

Demand has grown for Lincolnshire Poacher cheese as an important ingredient in Gail's ham and cheese croissants and the dairy is now supplying 1.5 tonnes of cheese a week, having started at 400 kgs a week.

Facts on funding the project:
FiPL Grant awarded: **£7,402**, at an intervention rate of 40% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of **Nature, People and Place**



The Shop, South Elkington



The building had been used as a dog grooming parlour for a number of years. The local community supported the change of use to it being a village shop as this facility had been missing.

This project created a space in the middle of the village that is pleasant to look at and to be in, and achieves a community feel and a location for walkers, cyclists, caravanners, villagers and members of the public looking for somewhere to go for an afternoon out in the countryside.

FiPL grants covered work on renovating the inner space of the building, building the outside patio area, installing a bike rack and the play area.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grants awarded totalling: **£11,179**, at an intervention rate of 40% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of
People and Place

The project involved removing a former block-built boat house which was used on a casual basis by visitors fishing in Otby Lake and needing somewhere to stay overnight and replacing it with a building that is used for holiday accommodation.

This is now being used on a regular basis and has added a further option to the Otby Farm offer to visitors to the Lincolnshire Wolds.

The FiPL grant was for 40% of the overall cost of the project but was specifically for replacement of the external staircase, the log burner in the living room, fitting out the kitchen and installation of bird and bat boxes.

Facts on funding the project:

FiPL Grant awarded : **£50,000**, at an intervention rate of 40% of the project costs
The project delivers for the FiPL themes of
Climate, Nature, People and Place

The Boat House at Otby Lake



Lincolnshire Wolds FiPL Annual Reviews



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



**Lincolnshire
Wolds**
National
Landscape

Farming in Protected Landscape programme

Annual Reviews for the FiPL programme on the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape have been published for the financial years 2022-23 to 2025-26.

These give a detailed list of the projects that have been allocated FiPL funding, at what intervention rate and which of the FiPL themes that the projects deliver against.

Those lists are shown again on the next pages.

Farmland at Belchford

Farming in Protected Landscapes

Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Farming in Protected
Landscape programme

Landscapes
for life
.org.uk

LINCOLNSHIRE
WOLDS
One of the
AONB Family

Annual Review 2022/23

The **Farming in Protected Landscapes** (FiPL) Programme runs until **March 2025**. Funding for one-off projects which deliver on the themes of **Climate, Nature, People** and **Place** gives farmers and land managers opportunities to:

- Carry out projects that support nature recovery
- Adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage
- Support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses



Fordington Wood, Well Vale

This year, FiPL has supported 14 projects in the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB

9 projects delivering for **Climate**

- 2 projects where more carbon is stored and/or sequestered
- 2 projects giving better understanding among farmers, land managers and the public as to what different habitats and land uses can deliver for carbon storage and reduced carbon emissions
- 8 projects making the landscape more resilient to climate change

12 projects delivering for **Nature**

- 8,945 ha for habitat improvement for biodiversity
- 8,945 ha for improved habitat connectivity
- 8 projects delivering an increase in biodiversity
- 12 projects where existing habitat is better managed for nature

6 projects delivering for **People**

- 6 projects with more opportunities to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- 1 project to make the landscape more inclusive for visitors

8 projects delivering for **Place**

- 8 projects reinforcing or enhancing the quality and character of the landscape
- 5 projects increasing the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm businesses, contributing a more thriving local economy

No	Project	Climate	Nature	People	Place
1	Lincolnshire Wolds Farm Cluster Group ● Funding allocated: £13,232 ● Intervention rate: 80% ● Project Ongoing				
2	Wold Newton Farm Partnership Disability Access Project ● Funding allocated: £47,181 ● Intervention rate: 100% ● Project Ongoing				
3	Cash and Companion Crop Harvesting (Knife Blockers) ● Funding allocated: £4,450 ● Intervention rate: 100% ● Project Ongoing				
4	Educational Farm Visits for Disadvantaged Children ● Funding allocated: £9,645 ● Intervention rate: 100% ● Project Ongoing				
5	Enhancing Natural Capital on Hill and Fields Smallholding ● Funding allocated: £8,778 ● Intervention rate: 80% ● Project Ongoing				
6	Lincs Wolds Farmers FiPL Group (Hedgerow Project) ● Funding allocated: £37,150 ● Intervention rate: 80% ● Project Ongoing				
7	Langton Natural Flood Management (NFM) Stage I - Report ● Funding allocated: £2,565 ● Intervention rate: 90% ● Project Ongoing				
8	Flintwood Farm Rare Breeds Housing Facility ● Funding allocated: £33,900 ● Intervention rate: 50% ● Project Ongoing				
9	Chalk Spring Farm Pond Creation and Archaeological Works ● Funding allocated: £7,835 ● Intervention rate: 90% ● Project Ongoing				
10	Cotes Grange Farm Pond Restoration ● Funding allocated: £20,817 ● Intervention rate: 90% ● Project Ongoing				
11	Haugham Pastures Pond Restoration ● Funding allocated: £46,050 ● Intervention rate: 80% ● Project Ongoing				
12	Boat House at Otby Lake ● Funding allocated: £50,000 ● Intervention rate: 40% ● Project Ongoing				
13	Langton NFM Stage II - Implementation ● Funding allocated: £13,210 ● Intervention rate: 90% ● Project Ongoing				
14	Skendleby Holme Farm Pond Creation ● Funding allocated: £4,305 ● Intervention rate: 100% ● Project Ongoing				

Case Studies



Farm Cluster Group Meeting, Cuxwold Grange

Lincolnshire Wolds Farm Cluster Group

The project has a combination of one-to-one and one-to-many opportunities for advice to the farmer members. This will keep farmers abreast of environmental policy developments throughout the Agricultural Transition Plan to the Environmental Land Management Scheme and give them clear advice on how to make their businesses more robust in an environmental context.

The project will deliver 18 one-to-one visits and reports to members over a 2-year period. A further 6 will be available to the anticipated new members of the group in 2023.



School Visit, Claxby Grange

Educational Visits at Claxby Grange

The FiPL Grant awarded over the two years of the project delivery is supporting the Country Trust Farm Discovery Co-ordinator and the cost of hiring transport for 12 Farm Discovery visits in 2022 and 2023 for children from primary schools in disadvantaged areas of Greater Lincolnshire.

After a successful first year, the 7 Farm Discovery visits in 2023 were quickly taken up with schools booking to bring 180 pupils to learn more about how farmers produce the food that we eat.

Chalk Spring Farm Pond Creation

As part of wider aspiration for the farm, this project will create a range of natural wetland habitats which will increase biodiversity, mitigate climate change and support agricultural practice that enhances wildlife. FiPL has funded the design work including excavation of test holes, design drawings, methodology and approximate costs for implementation.

During the course of digging the test holes, a skeleton was uncovered so the project has been granted a variation to cover exhumation and archaeological testing of the remains.



Gaumer Hill, Scamblesby

Wold Newton Disability Access

2 all-terrain vehicles can be booked by any individual or groups. Users will be supported to explore the farm using maps, a vehicle tracker, and familiarisation to use the vehicle effectively. Replacement of existing gates allows access to pass freely around a mixture of public rights of way, permissive routes and project-specific trails around field margins.

The project delivers facilities for people with limited mobility to enjoy the land and natural beauty of the Wold Newton area in ways that enhance their lives, health and aspirations.



Wold Newton Mobility Scooters (WNFP)

FiPL Programme Funding Extended



"In recognition of the positive feedback and outcomes delivered by FiPL, we will be extending the programme with £10m additional funding each year until March 2025.....This will enable us to continue to support the important role that protected landscapes play in delivering our commitments.....We will continue to learn from FiPL and work to ensure the best concepts of FiPL are integrated within future environmental land management schemes within Protected Landscapes."

Environmental Improvement Plan, p254 (January 2023)

Contact details:

Steve Scoffin
Farming in Protected Landscape Project Office

Contact details: Email: steve.scoffin@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01522 555787 Mobile: 07585 204328

For further information: www.lincswolds.org.uk/our-work/farming-in-protected-landscapes

Our **Local Assessment Panel** makes decisions on the allocation of funding to projects. It has met 5 times in the second year of the programme. The Panel includes representatives from:

- National Farmers Union
- Country Land and Business Association
- Local Farmers in the Lincolnshire Wolds
- Natural England
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service
- Lincoln University
- Rural Payments Agency
- Anglian Water
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- Environmental Consultant

They have supported our work with a range of partners:

- **25** successful farming business applications, including **2** farm businesses that have not previously engaged with the Protected Landscape
- Assisted a further **13** farming businesses through the funding of a cluster group

£324,646 of funding has been committed to projects under the programme's first two years.

Sarah Weller (FiPL Business Support) and Steve Scoffin (FiPL Project Officer)



Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

Navigation Warehouse - Riverhead Road - Louth - Lincolnshire LN11 0DA

Telephone: **01522 555780** Website: www.lincswolds.org.uk

Email: aonb@lincswolds.org.uk [@LincsWoldsAONB](https://twitter.com/LincsWoldsAONB) [@LincsWoldsAONB](https://www.facebook.com/LincsWoldsAONB)

Working in partnership to protect and enhance the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a nationally protected landscape. Hosted by Lincolnshire County Council, and jointly funded with DEFRA, East Lindsey District Council, West Lindsey District Council and North East Lincolnshire Council

Photo Credits: Steve Scoffin/LWCS unless otherwise stated

Bully Hill Round Barrows, Tathwell



Lincolnshire
Wolds
National
Landscape

Farming in Protected Landscapes

Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Farming in Protected
Landscape programme

Annual Review 2023/24

The Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) Programme provides funding for one-off projects which deliver on the themes of Climate, Nature, People and Place giving farmers and land managers opportunities to:

- Carry out projects that support nature recovery
- Adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage
- Support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses

With FiPL having been **extended to run until March 2025**, there is still funding available for projects that deliver against the FiPL themes. The extension has given additional funding that is around £500,000 to be allocated for projects. Each application is capped at a maximum of £50,000 although multiple applications can be made where appropriate.

This year, FiPL has supported 16 projects in the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB.
This includes the 2nd year of 3 multi-year projects

12 projects delivering for **Climate**



- 6 projects where more carbon is stored and/or sequestered
- 3 projects giving better understanding among farmers, land managers and the public as to what different habitats and land uses can deliver for carbon storage and reduced carbon emissions
- 10 projects making the landscape more resilient to climate change

13 projects delivering for **Nature**



- 10,005 ha for habitat improvement for biodiversity
- 9,052 ha for improved habitat connectivity
- 12 projects delivering an increase in biodiversity
- 11 projects where existing habitat is better managed for nature

10 projects delivering for **People**



- 8 projects with more opportunities to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- 2 projects to make the landscape more inclusive for visitors

15 projects delivering for **Place**



- 11 projects reinforcing or enhancing the quality and character of the landscape
- 9 projects increasing the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm businesses, contributing a more thriving local economy

No	Project	Climate	Nature	People	Place
1	Lincolnshire Wolds Farm Cluster Group (Yr 2) - Funding allocated: £4,178 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project ongoing				
2	Educational Farm Visits for Disadvantaged Children (Yr 2) - Funding allocated: £3,380 - Intervention rate: 100% - Project ongoing				
3	Enhancing Natural Capital on Hill and Fields Smallholding - Funding allocated: £8,778 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project complete				
4	The Shop - creating a village community and rural service at South Elkington - Funding allocated: £11,179 - Intervention rate: 40% - Project ongoing				
5	Chalk Spring Farm Pond Creation Stage II - Funding allocated: £45,391 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project ongoing				
6	Flintwood Farm Pond - Funding allocated: £33,247 - Intervention rate: 50% - Project ongoing				
7	Langton (DAD Farm) Wood Pasture Year 1 - Funding allocated: £2921 - Intervention rate: 100% - Project ongoing				
8	Binbrook Hill Farm Pond - Funding allocated: £1,860 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project ongoing				
9	Burgh on Bain Pond Restoration - Funding allocated: £9,248 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project complete				
10	Control of American Mink in the AONB and Coastal Plain Year 1 - Funding allocated: £17,950 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project ongoing				
11	Lincs Wolds Farmers FiPL Group II - Natural Flood Management (NFM) and Chalk Stream - Funding allocated: £24,422 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project ongoing				
12	Langton (Spilsby) Wood Pasture Year 1 - Funding allocated: £7,529 - Intervention rate: 100% - Project ongoing				
13	Lincoln Lane Farmhouse, Sixhills – Viability Appraisal - Funding allocated: £47,500 - Intervention rate: 95% - Project ongoing				

14	Glebe Farm Benniworth Pond Restoration Stage I - Funding allocated: £2,400 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project complete				
15	Boat House at Otby Lake - Funding allocated: £50,000 - Intervention rate: 40% - Project ongoing				
16	Country Trust Educational Visits to Claxby Farm Stage II (Year 1) - Funding allocated: £1,964 - Intervention rate: 100% - Project ongoing				
17	Stockwith Mill Natural Flood Management - Funding allocated: £28,272 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project ongoing				
18	Regenerative Farming – Improving Soil Biology using Indigenous Micro-organisms - Funding allocated: £8,025 - Intervention rate: 80% - Project complete				
19	Cultivate Success Through Mentoring - Funding allocated: £11,250 - Intervention rate: 100% - Project complete				

Case Studies

The Shop: creating a village community and rural service

Re-establishing a Village Shop in the heart of South Elkington village reflected the need and desire for a shop shown when 68% of questionnaires sent out in the village were returned with a positive response. FiPL grants totalling £11,179 have provided 40% of the funding for the development of this facility for the village and beyond, supporting fitting out the interior, creation of a patio area and facilities for children.



Wood Pasture Creation at Langton

This field is a fairly prominent former arable field on the hillside leading away from the village of Langton. It was reverted to grassland by a previous tenant with its consequent ecology being relatively un-diverse. It also lacks any shelter for grazing animals and therefore provides a less resilient grazing resource when faced with weather extremes caused by climate change. Creating wood pasture will increase biodiversity, improve climate resilience and enhance the overall landscape.

FiPL funding for this and another area of wood pasture creation covering over 19 hectares will total (in line with Countryside Stewardship funding levels) £20,900 over two years for this project and covers the planting of the trees and protection from grazing animals in the early years of their establishment.

FiPL Programme Farmers Meeting, Belchford



Nearly 50 farmers, agents and officers from national agencies, local government and NGOs gathered for the meeting arranged by the Lincolnshire Wolds FiPL Local Assessment Panel (LAP) on Tuesday 7th November 2023 at Belchford Village Hall.

On a cold morning, they were welcomed with a hot drink and a bacon roll before sessions that highlighted the current situation with agricultural grants schemes and green finance and then sustainable farming systems.

Feedback after the event included:

"Many thanks for a great meeting; the best I had been to for a long time. All good speakers, a copy of any slides you are able to share would be appreciated."

"Thank you so much for yesterday – it was very informative with some excellent speakers and good discussion with coffee/lunch etc. I know others had a good morning too."

The presentations can be found at www.lincswolds.org.uk/our-work/lincolnshire-wolds-fi-pl-farmers-event

Our **Local Assessment Panel** makes decisions on the allocation of funding to projects. It has met **6** times in the second year of the programme. The Panel includes representatives from:

- National Farmers Union
- Country Land and Business Association
- Local Farmers in the Lincolnshire Wolds
- Natural England
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service
- Lincoln University
- Rural Payments Agency
- Anglian Water
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- Environmental Consultant

They have supported our work with a range of partners:

- **34** successful farming business applications, including **2** farm businesses that have not previously engaged with the Protected Landscape
- Assisted a further **13** farming businesses through the funding of a cluster group

£655,672 of funding has been committed to projects under the programme's first three years.



Sarah Weller (FiPL Business Support) and Steve Scoffin (FiPL Project Officer)

Contact details:

Steve Scoffin
Farming in Protected Landscapes Project Officer

Contact details: Email: steve.scoffin@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Telephone: **01522 555787** Mobile: **07585 204328**

For further information: www.lincswolds.org.uk/our-work/farming-in-protected-landscapes

Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

Navigation Warehouse - Riverhead Road - Louth - Lincolnshire LN11 0DA

Telephone: **01522 555780** Website: www.lincswolds.org.uk

Email: aonb@lincswolds.org.uk [@LincsWoldsNL](https://twitter.com/LincsWoldsNL) [@LincsWoldsNL](https://facebook.com/LincsWoldsNL)

Working in partnership to protect and enhance the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a nationally protected landscape. Hosted by Lincolnshire County Council, and jointly funded with DEFRA, East Lindsey District Council, West Lindsey District Council and North East Lincolnshire Council

Photo Credits: Steve Scoffin/LWCS unless otherwise stated

Farmland at Tetford

Farming in Protected Landscapes

Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape

Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Lincolnshire
Wolds
National
Landscape

Farming in Protected
Landscape programme

Annual Review 2024/25

The **Farming in Protected Landscapes** (FiPL) Programme provides funding for one-off projects which deliver on the themes of **Climate, Nature, People** and **Place** gives farmers and land managers opportunities

- Carry out projects that support nature recovery
- Adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage
- Support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses

FiPL has been **extended to run until March 2026**. Funding is available for projects that deliver against the 4 FiPL themes and which need to be completed and grant claimed by the 23rd March 2026. There is funding of around £300,000 to be allocated for projects. Each application is capped at a maximum of £50,000 although multiple applications can be made where appropriate.

This year, FiPL has supported 40 projects in the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape. This includes 5 multi-year projects

26 projects delivering for Climate



- 15 projects where more carbon is stored and/or sequestered
- 7 projects giving better understanding among farmers, land managers and the public as to what different habitats and land uses can deliver for carbon storage and reduced carbon emissions
- 21 projects making the landscape more resilient to climate change

30 projects delivering for Nature



- 13,116 ha for habitat improvement for biodiversity
- 9,732 ha for improved habitat connectivity
- 20 projects delivering an increase in biodiversity
- 25 projects where existing habitat is better managed for nature

18 projects delivering for People



- 18 projects with more opportunities to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- 7 project to make the landscape more inclusive for visitors

36 projects delivering for Place



- 22 projects reinforcing or enhancing the quality and character of the landscape
- 6 projects conserving, enhancing or interpreting historic features more effectively
- 9 projects increasing the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm businesses, contributing a more thriving local economy

No	Project	Climate	Nature	People	Place
	Langton (DAD Farm) Wood Pasture (Year 2) Funding allocated: £2,921 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Langton (Spilsby) Wood Pasture (Year 2) Funding allocated: £7,528 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Control of American Mink (Year 2) Funding allocated: £26,400 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Country Trust Educational Visits to Claxby Farm (Year 2) Funding allocated: £13,718 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Cultivate Success Through Mentoring(Year 2) Funding allocated: £46,800 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Lincolnshire Wolds Farmer Cluster Group II Funding allocated: £10,723 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Benniworth Haven Historic Parkland Restoration Phase I Funding allocated: £50,000 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Habitat creation and pond maintenance at Petterhills Funding allocated: £28,512 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Well Vale Truffle Orchard Funding allocated: £25,408 Intervention rate: 60%				
	Well Vale Deer Management Funding allocated: £8,428 Intervention rate: 60%				
	Gunnerby Farm Regenerative Farming Equipment Funding allocated: £9,342 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Lincolnshire Poacher Cheese Rind Scraper Funding allocated: £7,402 Intervention rate: 40%				
	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Red Hill Fencing Funding allocated: £2,395 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Oxcombe Coach House Visitor Facility Funding allocated: £48,960 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Drone for Ash Dieback Survey Funding allocated: £1,122 Intervention rate: 40%				
	Burgh on Bain Pond Restoration Phase II Funding allocated: £4,760 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Wildlife Tower Welton le Marsh Funding allocated: £7,075 Intervention rate: 50%				
	Benniworth Haven Historic Parkland Restoration Phase II Funding allocated: £3,696 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Tathwell Grange Landscape Regeneration Plan Funding allocated: £14,000 Intervention rate: 50%				
	Hainton Park and Lady Walk Treeplanting Funding allocated: £2,244 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Regenerative Farming - Purchase of Electric Sieve and Auger Funding allocated: £9,788 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Ash Dieback Drone Survey Funding allocated: £4,992 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Somersby Deer Larder and Meat Processing Unit Funding allocated: £8,520 Intervention rate: 40%				
	Langton Game Fridge Funding allocated: £1,530 Intervention rate: 80%				

Ivy House Cottage Bag Enderby – Timber Survey and Scaffolding Funding allocated: £7,528 Intervention rate: 75%				
Waithe Beck Alder Removal Funding allocated: £4,120 Intervention rate: 80%				
Ivy House Cottage Bag Enderby – Structural Engineer Survey Funding allocated: £4,912 Intervention rate: 75%				
Gunnerby Farm Flow Form Funding allocated: £1,560 Intervention rate: 80%				
Langton Ponds Enhancement Funding allocated: £2,200 Intervention rate: 80%				
Benniworth Haven Historic Parkland Restoration Phase III Funding allocated: £91,688 (2 applications) Intervention rate: 80%				
Donington on Bain Horticulture Group Composting Toilet Funding allocated: £990 Intervention rate: 90%				
Ivy House Cottage Bag Enderby - Level 4 Heritage Survey Funding allocated: £4,508 Intervention rate: 70%				
Goulceby House Tree Wraps Funding allocated: £2,168 Intervention rate: 100%				
Claxby Grange KiddiSynk Portable Handwashing Stations Funding allocated: £1,098 Intervention rate: 90%				
Regenerative Farming - Soil Testing Equipment Funding allocated: £1,530 Intervention rate: 50%				
Deer Management Infrastructure Maltby and Jenny Woods Funding allocated: £2,467 Intervention rate: 80%				
Thermal Imaging Drone to Capture Deer Number Data Funding allocated: £7,300 Intervention rate: 50%				

Historic Building Restoration Grant

For the 2024/25 financial year, Defra included the delivery of the Historic Building Restoration Grant (HBRG) as part of the offer available through FiPL. All work had to be completed within the financial year including initial expressions of interest, the completed applications and delivery of the projects on the ground.

For work on historic buildings this is an incredibly tight timetable, and the FiPL team was very fortunate in being able to use the services of Scorer Hawkins Architects Ltd, the conservation architects firm based in Skendleby, to help in preparing the applications and in overseeing the implementation of work on the buildings by builders who specialise in such work.

Four sets of buildings have benefitted from HBRG funding. These are at Lambcroft Farm near Kelstern (see picture), Bingham's Farm near Binbrook, Claxby Grange Farm and White House Farm, Somersby. The Defra grant was set at a fixed rate of 80% of the project costs identified for this work, together with a smaller amount to help in paying for professional costs. In total just over £860,000 was allocated for work on these four sets of buildings.

This was very much a case of seizing the opportunity presented by the availability of HBRG funding and the four sets of buildings have now been restored as landscape features representative of the vernacular architecture of the Lincolnshire Wolds for some years to come. The success of the project is a great credit to the work of architects, structural engineers, ecologists, builders and the farmers and landowners involved.



Case Studies

Alder clearance on Waithe Beck

Removal of 500 metres of alder trees on the eastern bank of Waithe Beck to help with restoration of the river bank and improve the chalk stream and associated habitats. A FiPL grant of £3,408 provide 80% of the funding for this important habitat.

Waithe Beck Alder Removal



Ivy House Cottage, Bag Enderby

Grants totalling just over £15,300 at up to 75% of the costs have been given for specialist surveys for the structural integrity, timber components and producing detailed 'forensic' drawings of the building as part of the restoration of this Grade II listed Thatch Cottage.

Ivy House Cottage



Our **Local Assessment Panel** makes decisions on the allocation of funding to projects. It has met 7 times in the fourth year of the programme. The Panel includes representatives from:

- National Farmers Union
- Country Land and Business Association
- Local Farmers in the Lincolnshire Wolds
- Natural England
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service
- Lincoln University
- Rural Payments Agency
- Anglian Water
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- Environmental Consultant

They have supported our work with a range of partners:

- **71** successful farming business applications, including **2** farm businesses that have not previously engaged with the Protected Landscape
- Assisted a further **20** farming businesses through the funding of a cluster group

£1,147,767 of funding has been committed to projects under the programme's first four years.

Sarah Weller (FiPL Business Support) and Steve Scoffin (FiPL Project Officer)



Contact details:

Steve Scoffin

Farming in Protected Landscape Project Office

Contact details: Email: steve.scoffin@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01522 555787 Mobile: 07585 204328

For further information: www.lincswolds.org.uk/our-work/farming-in-protected-landscape-grant

Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

Navigation Warehouse - Riverhead Road - Louth - Lincolnshire LN11 0DA

Telephone: **01522 555780** Website: www.lincswolds.org.uk

Email: aonb@lincswolds.org.uk [X](#) @LincsWoldsNL [f](#) @LincsWoldsNL

Working in partnership to protect and enhance the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape, a nationally protected landscape. Hosted by Lincolnshire County Council, and jointly funded with DEFRA, East Lindsey District Council, West Lindsey District Council and North East Lincolnshire Council

Photo Credits: Steve Scoffin/LWCS unless otherwise stated



River Bain at Biscathorpe

Farming in Protected Landscapes

Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape



Lincolnshire
Wolds
National
Landscape

Farming in Protected
Landscape programme

Annual Review 2025/26

The **Farming in Protected Landscapes** (FiPL) Programme provides funding for one-off projects which deliver on the themes of **Climate, Nature, People** and **Place** gives farmers and land managers opportunities

- Carry out projects that support nature recovery
- Adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage
- Support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses

FiPL was extended to run until March 2026. Funding was available for projects that delivered against the 4 FiPL themes and which needed to be completed, and grant claimed, by the end of March 2026.

Around £300,000 was available to be allocated for projects. Each application is capped at a maximum of £50,000 although multiple applications can be made where appropriate.

This year, FiPL has supported 24 projects in the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape. This includes 5 multi-year projects

15 projects delivering for Climate



- **6** projects where more carbon is stored and/or sequestered
- **8** projects giving better understanding among farmers, land managers and the public as to what different habitats and land uses can deliver for carbon storage and reduced carbon emissions
- **12** projects making the landscape more resilient to climate change

16 projects delivering for Nature



- **789.55 ha** for habitat improvement for biodiversity
- **735.66 ha** for improved habitat connectivity
- **12** projects delivering an increase in biodiversity
- **12** projects where existing habitat is better managed for nature

18 projects delivering for People



- **18** projects with more opportunities to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape
- **7** projects to make the landscape more inclusive for visitors

18 projects delivering for Place



- **12** projects reinforcing or enhancing the quality and character of the landscape
- **7** projects conserving, enhancing or interpreting historic features more effectively
- **9** projects increasing the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm businesses, contributing a more thriving local economy

No	Project	Climate	Nature	People	Place
	Ivy House Cottage, Bag Enderby - Scaffolding Funding allocated: £4,862 Intervention rate: 34%				
	Control of American Mink (Stage II) Funding allocated: £21,000 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Langton (DAD Farm) Wood Pasture (Year 3) Funding allocated: £2,921 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Langton (Spilsby) Wood Pasture (Year 3) Funding allocated: £7,528 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Country Trust Educational Visits to Claxby Farm (Year 3) Funding allocated: £7,759 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Oxcombe Landscape Design Map Funding allocated: £2,075 Intervention rate: 50%				
	Glebe Farm, Benniworth Pond Restoration (Stage II) Funding allocated: £10,723 Intervention rate: 80%				
	LCSP pH Testing of Chalk Stream Reaches across the NL Funding allocated: £20,434 Intervention rate: 90%				
	Oxcombe Coach House Delivery Plan (Stage I) Funding allocated: £3,400 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Cadeby Farms Parkland Tree-planting Funding allocated: £14,659 Intervention rate: 60%				
	Cadeby Farms Lime Avenue Tree-planting Funding allocated: £28,759 Intervention rate: 60%				
	Cadeby Farms Parkland Pond De-silting Funding allocated: £22,236 Intervention rate: 60%				
	Cadeby Farms Parkland Repair of Dams Funding allocated: £36,777 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Tathwell Home Farm Wood Pasture Grazing Infrastructure Funding allocated: £21,702 Intervention rate: 100%				
	The Farm School – Barn Works at Wood Farm, South Ormsby Funding allocated: £2,609 Intervention rate: 40%				
	Country Trust Educational Visits to Wood Farm, South Ormsby Funding allocated: £6,922 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Oxcombe Coach House Delivery Plan (Stage II) Funding allocated: £19,317 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Replacing Footpath Stiles with Gates, Somersby Funding allocated: £979 Intervention rate: 100%				
	Scamblesby Chalk Stream Project (Stage II) Funding allocated: £13,940 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Highfield Farm, HIIVE Bee Conservation Habitat Creation Funding allocated: £2,116 Intervention rate: 90%				
	Highfield Farm, Composting toilets and Handwashing Units Funding allocated: £4,407 Intervention rate: 90%				
	LCSP Water Vole Citizen Science Survey Project Funding allocated: £4,762 Intervention rate: 80%				
	LWT Red Hill Chalk Grassland Management Machinery Funding allocated: £14,232 Intervention rate: 80%				
	Oxcombe Benches and Seats Funding allocated: £2,968 Intervention rate: 80%				

Case Studies

Cadeby Farms Lime Avenue Tree-planting

The project planted 88 trees 10m outside of the existing avenue at the original spacing of 39 ft or 12m, using similar species to those planted in the 18th Century.

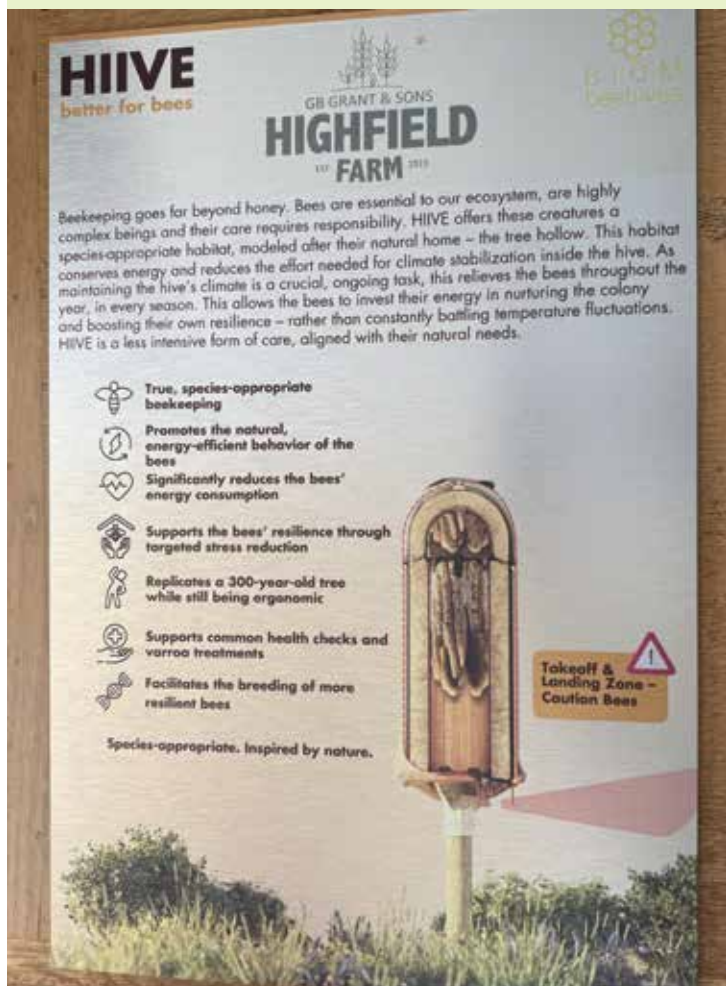
The trees form an important role having been planted to frame views, drawing the eye to a particular location. Many of the trees within the existing avenue are now in terminal decline with a number of trees failing over recent winters.

A mix of European lime and Small-leaved lime trees were planted using containerised stock from an established nursery specialising in larger containerised trees. The trees are supported by a single stake and rubber tie and have a biodegradable spiral to protect from damage. A wooden tree guard comprising of oak posts and larch rails on each side prevents sheep from accessing the tree. This timber has been sourced from an established sawmill within the National Landscape using oak which was felled on the property in Beesby Wood during a thinning operation.

This will keep the Lime Avenue as a landscape feature for years to come. Maybe in about 125 years there will be a planting scheme along the current original line to maintain it even further for future generations.



Cadeby Farms Lime Avenue Tree-planting (Tree Generation)



HIIVE Beehives at Highfield Farm

This project creates natural habitats for wild honeybee populations at Highfield Farm through the installation of 6 HIIVE tree-cavity style conservation habitats. This represents a pioneering approach to bee conservation that prioritises natural bee behaviour and population growth through minimal intervention.

The internal geometry is inspired by the cavities of living 200-300 year old oak trees, the natural home of wild honeybee colonies. This gives bees an environment closer to what they would choose themselves in nature, creating a healthier, more self-regulating habitat.

This approach supports the natural expansion of local bee populations whilst enhancing pollination services across the farm's 640 hectares and surrounding landscape, addressing the critical decline in pollinator populations whilst supporting farm sustainability through enhanced crop pollination services, particularly for arable crops. Enhanced pollination also improves seed quality and oil content, directly impacting farm productivity and sustainability.



FiPL Extended until March 2029

In her address to the Oxford Farming Conference in January 2026, The Rt Hon Emma Reynolds MP (Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) said:

"....we also heard how much farmers value our Farming in Protected Landscapes programme. Today I'm pleased to announce we're extending the programme for another three years – with £30 million pounds in funding next year.

The programme has partnership at its core. It brings farmers, protected landscape organisations and communities together to deliver change at a scale no single holding could achieve alone.

This extension means more farmers can deliver or wildlife, climate and their communities in England's National Parks and National Landscapes - productive farms at the heart of thriving rural areas."

Our **Local Assessment Panel** makes decisions on the allocation of funding to projects. It has met **7** times in the fifth year of the programme.

The Panel includes representatives from:

- National Farmers Union
- Country Land and Business Association
- Local Farmers in the Lincolnshire Wolds
- Natural England
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service
- Lincoln University
- Anglian Water
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- Environmental Consultant

They have supported our work with a range of partners:

- **96** successful farming business applications, including **4** farm businesses that have not previously engaged with the Protected Landscape
- Assisted a further **20** farming businesses through the funding of a cluster group

£1,435,683 of funding has been committed to projects under the programme's first five years.

Sarah Weller (FiPL Business Support) and Steve Scoffin (FiPL Project Officer)



Contact details:

Steve Scoffin
Farming in Protected Landscape Project Officer

For further information:
www.lincswolds.org.uk/our-work/farming-in-protected-landscape-grant

Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

Navigation Warehouse - Riverhead Road - Louth - Lincolnshire LN11 0DA

Telephone: **01522 555780** Website: www.lincswolds.org.uk

Email: aonb@lincswolds.org.uk X @LincsWoldsNL Facebook @LincsWoldsNL

Working in partnership to protect and enhance the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape, a nationally protected landscape. Hosted by Lincolnshire County Council, and jointly funded with DEFRA, East Lindsey District Council, West Lindsey District Council and North East Lincolnshire Council

Photo Credits: Steve Scoffin/LWCS unless otherwise stated

Lincolnshire Wolds FiPL Local Assessment Panel

Our **Local Assessment Panel** makes decisions on the allocation of funding to projects. It has met **29** times in the five years of the programme. The Panel includes representatives from:

- National Farmers Union
- Country Land and Business Association
- Local Farmers in the Lincolnshire Wolds
- Natural England
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service
- Lincoln University
- Anglian Water
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- Environmental Consultant

They have supported our work with a range of partners:

- **96** successful farming business applications, including **4** farm businesses that have not previously engaged with the Protected Landscape
- Assisted a further **20** farming businesses through the funding of a cluster group

£1,435,683 of funding has been committed to projects under the programme's first five years.



Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

Navigation Warehouse - Riverhead Road - Louth - Lincolnshire LN11 0DA

Telephone: **01522 555780** Website: **www.lincswolds.org.uk**

Email: **aonb@lincswolds.org.uk** **[X](#)** @LincsWoldsNL **[f](#)** @LincsWoldsNL

Working in partnership to protect and enhance the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape, a nationally protected landscape. Hosted by Lincolnshire County Council, and jointly funded with DEFRA, East Lindsey District Council, West Lindsey District Council and North East Lincolnshire Council

Photo Credits: Steve Scoffin/LWCS unless otherwise stated