



	Woodland Creation Planning Grant (WCPG) Part of the Forestry Innovation Fund	HS2 Woodland Fund (HS2WF)	Urban Tree Challenge Fund (UTCf)	Woodland Carbon Fund (WCF)	Woodland Carbon Code (WCC)	Woodland Carbon Guarantee (WCaG) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Summary</b>	The WCPG provides funding to prepare a Woodland Creation Design Plan which is UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) compliant. Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply to the FC to support the planning of large-scale, multi-purpose, productive woodland creation.	The HS2WF provides funding for woodland creation and restoration of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS). Your land will need to be within a 25-mile zone of phase one of the HS2 route from London to the West Midlands.	The UTCf is open for two years (opened May 2019) and provides capital funding to plant and establish large and small trees in urban and peri-urban areas. The fund will provide three years of establishment payments following planting of the trees.	The WCF offers capital funding for the creation of new, productive woodland for carbon sequestration. This includes the planting of trees and costs of protection items including tree guards, fencing and gates. You can also get funding for the installation of forest roads and recreational infrastructure.	The WCC is the UK's voluntary carbon standard for woodland creation projects. If you are a landowner and can demonstrate that you meet this standard, you can sell the carbon sequestered in your woodland in the form of Woodland Carbon Units.	The WCaG is an incentive scheme which will provide long-term (30-35 years) payments for carbon sequestration to landowners in England who plant new woodlands. The WCaG will offer successful participants a guarantee that the government will buy woodland carbon units (WCUs) from WCC projects at a price set by auction and agreed between the FC and the landowner, which may be above current market rates.
<b>Can I apply year round?</b>	Yes – open year round.	Yes – open year round, but subject to quarterly application review panels.	Applications must be submitted during an application window. In year 1, the fund is open for block bids only. In year 2, the fund will be open for individual applications and, dependent on budget allocation, block bids too.	Yes – open year round.	Yes – open year round.	Details of the WCaG application process will be announced later in 2019. Registration will be open year round; however participation in the scheme will be through periodic auctions. Auction dates will be advertised online once the scheme is launched.
<b>Are there financial incentives available?</b>	You can apply for £1,000 to complete a stage 1 checklist. At stage 2, you can get £150 per hectare to produce a woodland creation design plan, minus the £1,000 offered at stage 1. You can also receive a 70% contribution towards any additional, specialist surveys that we agree need to be undertaken. Funding is capped at £30,000 per project.	You'll receive a total payment per hectare for capital items, capped at £8,500 (gross) for native woodland creation and £4,000 (net) for PAWS restoration. You'll also get two maintenance payments of £1,000 per hectare – once in year 5 and once in year 10.	The UTCf will provide up to 50% of published standard costs for planting large and small trees and their establishment costs for 3 years following planting. The remaining funding must be met through match funding, either in the form of money or labour.	There are two different funding rates you can apply for, depending on whether or not 30% or more of the land in your application is in a Priority Place for England: • If so, you can get 100% of the standard costs for planting and establishment capital items, capped at £8,500 per hectare. • If not, you can get 80% of the standard costs for planting and establishment capital items, capped at £6,800 per hectare. A one-off capital payment of £1,000 per hectare is available in year 5 following successful establishment.	A new native woodland can capture 400-500 tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> (tCO <sub>2</sub> e/ha) over 100 years, buyers have recently paid between £5 and £15/ tCO <sub>2</sub> e for carbon units captured by woodland projects verified through the Woodland Carbon Code.	The WCaG will guarantee a price for carbon that will be paid as a woodland grows, providing payments for up to 35 years after planting. The guarantee holder will also have the option to sell the WCUs on the open market. It is expected that these payments will supplement establishment and, where available, maintenance grants.
<b>Can I apply alongside other FC grant and funding schemes?<sup>2</sup></b>	If you've already applied for Countryside Stewardship or the WCF, or submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment enquiry form to plant a new woodland, you're not eligible to apply for a WCPG on that site.	You can't get an HS2WF agreement if your land is already under an Environmental Stewardship agreement or a Countryside Stewardship agreement, but you may still apply if the existing agreement is due to expire or you are planning to withdraw the land from it (financial penalties may apply - check with the relevant grant administrator).	No	Before you apply to the WCF you may want to consider using the WCPG. The WCPG provides funding to prepare a UKFS-compliant Woodland Creation Design Plan – this plan can subsequently be used to support a WCF application.	If you apply for registration with the WCC you are not excluded from applying for other FC grant and funding schemes.	The WCaG will be available alongside other FC grant and funding schemes. Participation in the WCC is a prerequisite to participation in the WCaG and its additionality tests will apply.
<b>Minimum area</b>	10 hectares or more, with: • potential to benefit the forestry sector in the long-term through production of timber or other wood products.	1 hectare (if connecting or expanding existing ancient woodland or ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW)). 5 hectares (for standalone woodland). Applications of any type must be no larger than 25 hectares.	There isn't a minimum area size to apply, but individual applications will be required to meet a minimum value threshold <sup>3</sup> . For applications including large trees the minimum value will be £5,000. For applications with only small trees, the minimum value will be £1,150.	10 hectares or more, with: • potential to benefit the forestry sector in the long-term through production of timber or other wood products.	There's no minimum size for the WCC and there's a streamlined process for small woods which are less than 5 hectares.	The WCaG does not have specific minimum area thresholds. The minimum area of a successful WCaG project will therefore be the area threshold of any associated establishment grant scheme.
<b>Minimum woodland block size</b>	At least one contiguous block of woodland of at least 10 hectares, with any additional blocks being at least 5 hectares. If your total application is for less than 15 hectares in total, it must be a single, standalone, contiguous woodland block.	0.1 hectare (if connecting or expanding existing ancient woodland or ASNW). 5 hectares (for standalone woodland).	Due to the thresholds within the UTCf the FC do not accept blocks of planting larger than 0.5 hectares (for example, a block of 5,000 trees at 1m x 1m spacing).	At least one contiguous block of woodland of at least 10 hectares, with any additional blocks being at least 5 hectares. If your total application is for less than 15 hectares in total, it must be a single, standalone, contiguous woodland block.	None	The WCaG does not have specific minimum area thresholds. The minimum woodland block size of a successful WCaG project will therefore be the threshold of any associated establishment grant scheme.
<b>Applicant and Land Registration with the RPA</b>	No	No	No	No	No	The WCaG does not have any specific RPA applicant or land registration requirements. Registration requirements will be those of any associated establishment or maintenance grant scheme.
<b>Basic Payment Scheme eligibility (land manager and land must be registered with RPA)</b>	N/A	Yes	This is dealt with on a case by case basis if applicable.	Yes	No	BPS eligibility will be dependent on the eligibility of any associated establishment or maintenance grant.
<b>Does it include support for leaky woody dams?</b>	No	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	N/A
<b>Where can I find out more?</b>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-creation-planning-grant">www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-creation-planning-grant</a>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/hs2-woodland-fund">www.gov.uk/guidance/hs2-woodland-fund</a>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/urban-tree-challenge-fund">www.gov.uk/guidance/urban-tree-challenge-fund</a>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-carbon-fund">www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-carbon-fund</a>	<a href="http://www.woodlandcarboncode.org.uk">www.woodlandcarboncode.org.uk</a>	FC grant information can be found at: <a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-woodland-overview">www.gov.uk/guidance/create-woodland-overview</a>

<sup>1</sup>Detailed arrangements of the WCaG are subject to final agreement and will be made available online when the guarantee opens.  
<sup>2</sup>Please note you cannot switch from one grant that pays for woodland establishment to another. E.g. you can't withdraw from a CS agreement to apply for the HS2WF or vice versa.  
<sup>3</sup>Minimum value subject to change.





	Woodland Management Planning Grant (WMPG)	Woodland Creation Grant (WCG)	Woodland Creation Maintenance Payment (WD1)	Woodland Tree Health	Woodland Improvement (WD2 and capital items)
<b>Summary</b>	The WMPG is a one-off payment to create a 10 year Woodland Management Plan which is UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) compliant. You have two years from the agreement start date to write your plan and secure approval from the FC. Once your plan is approved you can claim the grant payment. You must make your claim within two years and three months of the agreement start date.	The WCG provides payment to supply, plant, weed and protect young trees. You have two years from the agreement start date to complete the work. You must make your claim within two years and three months of the agreement start date.	This grant is for those who have planted a woodland with a WCG. It is a separate multi-year grant to maintain the newly created woodland for 10 years. You will be invited to apply in the late spring if you have made your final claim under your WCG agreement before the end of March.	There are two elements within this grant: • Restoration provides support for restocking woodland after felling due to a tree health issue. • Improvement provides support for the removal of diseased trees and infected rhododendron.	This grant is to improve the biodiversity of woodland and/or make it more resilient to climate change. Applications for Woodland Improvement are made under the Higher Tier, using the Woodland Improvement option (WD2) and/or capital items, including Woodland Infrastructure (FY2).
<b>Can I apply year round?</b>	Yes – open year round.	Yes – you can apply at any time but you should expect it to take at least five months for your application to be processed.	No – you will be informed of the deadline in your application pack.	Yes – open year round.	No - applications are made during the Higher Tier submission window. Check the link below for opening dates which are announced each year.
<b>Are there financial incentives available?</b>	The payment rate for the WMPG is based on the area of woodland: 3 – 50 hectares: flat rate of £1,000 51 – 100 hectares: £20 per hectare Over 100 hectares: £2,000 + £10 per additional hectares over 100 hectares	The WCG is capped at an average £6,800 per hectare for capital items covering both planting and tree protection. You can receive £461.39 for each small leaky woody dam (RP32), and £764.42 for each large leaky woody dam (RP33).	WD1 offers an annual payment of £200 per hectare each year for 10 years.	To restock native tree species on an ancient woodland site the payment is capped at an average of £3,500 per hectare (£1,750 per hectare for non-native species), whilst on other sites it's £2,750 per hectare for native species (£2,250 per hectare for non-native species). To fell diseased trees you can receive between £260 and £1,680 per hectare, and between £2,800 and £4,400 per hectare for rhododendron control.	The WD2 option pays £100 per hectare for 5 years. You can also receive 40% of actual costs for capital item woodland infrastructure (item FY2). You can receive £461.39 for each small leaky woody dam (RP32), and £764.42 for each large leaky woody dam (RP33).
<b>Is this Higher Tier, Mid Tier or a capital item?*</b>	Capital only	Capital only	Higher Tier	Capital only	Higher Tier
<b>Can I apply alongside other FC and CS grant and funding schemes?</b>	Yes - but to apply for the Countryside Stewardship Woodland Improvement Grant (part of Higher Tier) your Woodland Management Plan must be approved.	Yes – you can apply for WCPG before applying. If you have applied for WCPG you must have the WCPG Stage 1 checklist approved before applying for the WCG.	Yes - this grant is only available if you have completed the work under a CS WCG agreement and meet eligibility requirements.	Yes – a Woodland Management Plan is strongly recommended and the woodland can already be subject to other grants.	Yes - an existing FC approved Woodland Management Plan is a pre-requisite.
<b>Minimum area</b>	3 hectares	3 hectares (1 hectare if planting for water objectives)	3 hectares (1 hectare if planting for water objectives)	0.25 hectares	3 hectares if woodland-only 1 hectare if woodland is a Site of Special Scientific Interest 0.5 ha of woodland within an application that also includes agri-environment land (a 'mixed' application) Capital only must have a value of £500
<b>Minimum woodland block size</b>	0.5 hectares	0.5 hectares (0.1 hectare if planting for water objectives)	0.5 hectares (0.1 hectare if planting for water objectives)	0.1 hectares	0.5 hectares
<b>Applicant and Land Registration with the RPA</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes (land should be registered anyway because of the preceding WCG)	Yes	Yes
<b>Basic Payment Scheme eligibility (land manager and land must be registered with RPA)</b>	No	Yes – only while the grant agreement is in place and where the land can be claimed under BPS as RD01.	Yes – only while the grant agreement is in place and where the land can be claimed under BPS as RD01.	Yes – only while the grant agreement is in place and where the land can be claimed under BPS as RD01.	No
<b>Does it include support for leaky woody dams (RP32 and RP33)?</b>	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
<b>Does it include support for woodland infrastructure (FY2)?</b>	No	Yes – your application will need to explain why vehicle access is needed for the maintenance of the woodland.	No	No	An existing FC approved Woodland Management Plan must identify that poor vehicle access to the woodland is preventing the movement of forest products.
<b>Where can I find out more?</b>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-management-plan-grant-countryside-stewardship">www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-management-plan-grant-countryside-stewardship</a>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-creation-grant-countryside-stewardship">www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-creation-grant-countryside-stewardship</a>	See chapter 8 within the WCG manual: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/738689/cs-woodland-creation-manual.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/738689/cs-woodland-creation-manual.pdf</a>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-tree-health-grant-countryside-stewardship">www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-tree-health-grant-countryside-stewardship</a>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/woodland-improvement-wd2">www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/woodland-improvement-wd2</a>

\* There are three main elements within Countryside Stewardship:  
 • Mid Tier: multi-year agreements for environmental improvements in the wider countryside, that include multi-year options and capital items;  
 • Higher Tier: multi-year agreements for environmentally significant sites, commons and woodlands where more complex management requires support from Natural England or the Forestry Commission, that include multi-year options and capital items; and  
 • Capital-only grants: a range of grants specific to outcomes for hedgerows and boundaries, developing implementation plans, feasibility studies, woodland management plans, woodland creation (establishment), and tree health – normally 2 year agreements.

