



Forestry England

Growing the nation's forests

Proposed new woodland near Cadney in Lincolnshire

Forestry England are planting new woodlands to expand the nation's forests

We are planning new woodland near Cadney in Lincolnshire. We would like your comments on our initial ideas. Your input will help shape our final designs.

Working with public and private landowners, we're choosing the right places for woodlands to grow and flourish, carefully planting a mix of tree species to be resilient in our changing climate.

Every new woodland will have public access so you can explore and enjoy them to support your health and wellbeing.

They will be valuable places for wildlife, often linking other woods to provide green corridors for wildlife to move and thrive across the landscape.

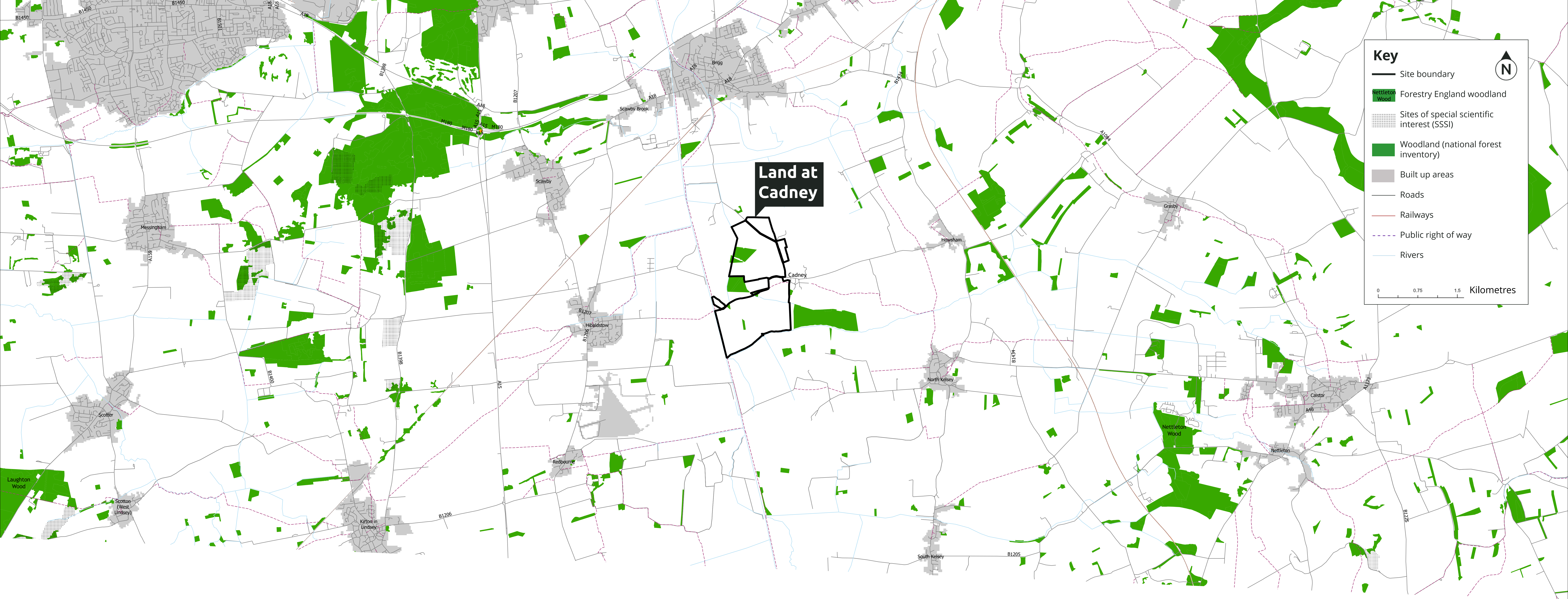
In time, each new woodland will provide sustainable timber, contributing to a green economy and they'll have wider environmental benefits including absorbing carbon, improving soil health and air quality, and water management.

Forestry England is creating these woodlands using the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Nature for Climate Fund.

Scan the QR code to find out more:

forestryengland.uk



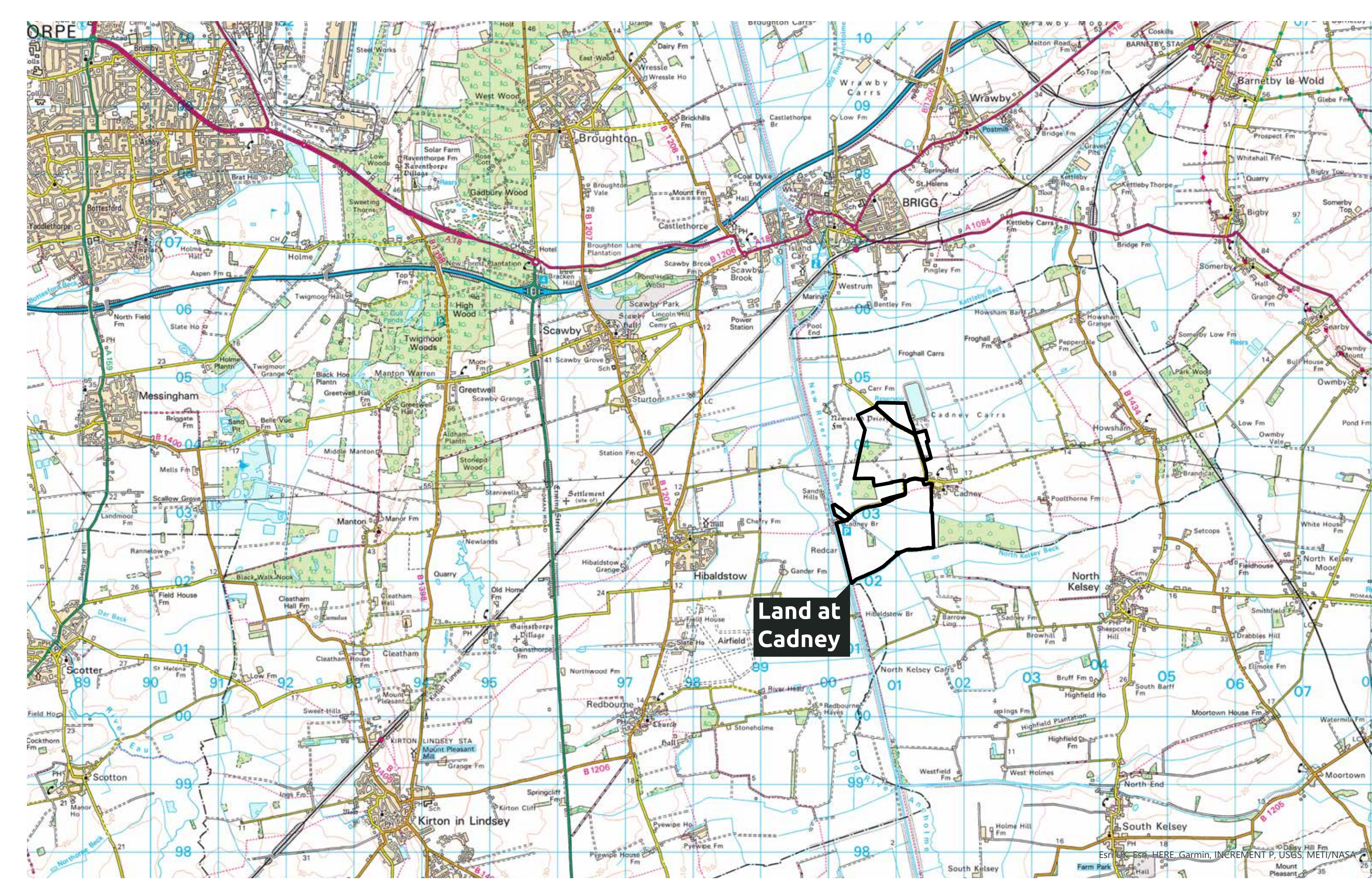


Site location & landscape context

The proposed new woodland at Cadney in Lincolnshire is within Natural England’s National Character Area (NCA) 44 Central Lincolnshire Vale. The area is a predominantly broad, low-lying, very gently undulating vale. Lincolnshire is currently the least wooded county in the East Midlands and within this NCA 8% of the area is woodland. A small amount of woodland exists on the central and northern clay soils, with more on the Coversands and Fen Edge Gravels. Land is used mostly as arable farmland with pasture on the heavier clays and around villages. In general, there is a regular pattern of medium to large-sized arable fields with hawthorn-dominant hedgerows enclosing most fields and with few hedgerow trees. On the flat land of the Ancholme Valley, large fields tend to be divided by ditches and dykes and seasonal waterlogging is a feature on the loamy clay soils.

It is a landscape crossed by many streams flowing from the Wolds towards the heavily modified courses of the main rivers: the straight course of the canalised River Ancholme flows north into the Humber. A deeply rural, tranquil landscape with sparsely distributed small settlements and isolated farmsteads linked by an extensive but sparse network of minor roads, tracks and public rights of way, with few major roads. (Natural England, 2013)

The proposed new woodland at Cadney is approximately 7 miles from land Forestry England manage at Nettleton Wood to the east, and 16 miles from Laughton Wood to the west of Cadney.





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The existing site at Cadney

Within the site, former landuse consists of arable farmland, with woodland blocks and hedgerows breaking up the long views within the site and wider landscape. Key landscape features include a block of mature, mixed woodland, providing variety of colour and height within the landscape and the bunded feature of Cadney Reservoir, which sits above the flatter ground of the farmland. Cadney Bridge (Grade II listed) on the River Ancholme provides interest as a destination, crossing and vantage point. The river is a distinctive feature, cutting a straight line through the setting, with public access following the eastern banks, often elevated due to the bunded riverbanks.

1: Wide view south over site from Brigg Road field access point. 2: Wide view north from middle of site. 3: Wide view south and west from public footpath near Cadney village. 4: View southeast across site and River Ancholme from Cadney bridge public footpath. 5: View northeast across site towards Cadney.



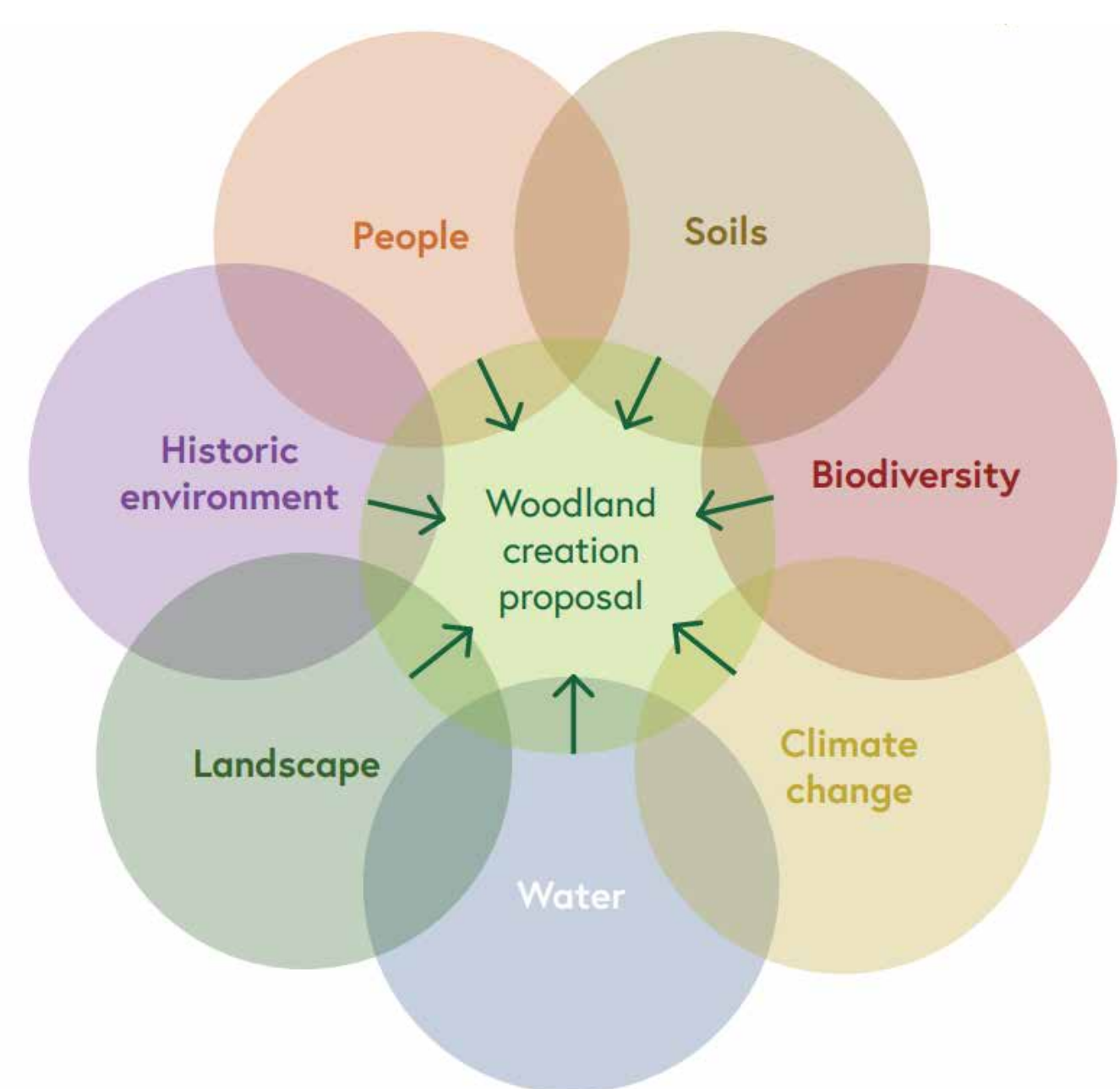


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How the new woodland at Cadney could look

We are designing the new woodland to benefit people, wildlife and the wider landscape (natural capital approach). Our design meets the UK Forestry Standard, which takes into account the following elements (Forestry Commission, 2021):



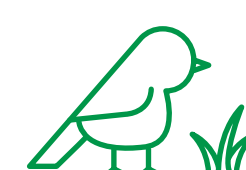
Detailed desktop surveys, site surveys and analysis will inform our design. This includes:

- Local environment record review
- Preliminary ecological appraisal
- Wintering bird survey
- Great Crested Newt survey
- Peat survey
- Historic environment records review
- Landscape and visual appraisal
- Soil mapping
- Ecological site classification
- Utilities searches
- Responses to initial consultation

Objectives for the new woodland



Future forest resources and resilience: plant a mix of trees for a lasting supply of sustainable timber.



Thriving habitats for wildlife: increase connectivity between woodlands in the landscape, creating a mosaic of habitats including areas of wet woodland to enhance biodiversity.



Public access for health and wellbeing: create low-key public recreation opportunities with new green space for people to walk in the woodland.



Benefits for the wider landscape: capture carbon, supporting net zero emissions targets.



Include research trials: to test which less common broadleaved tree species might be suitable for a future supply of sustainable timber.

Types of woodland we could plant



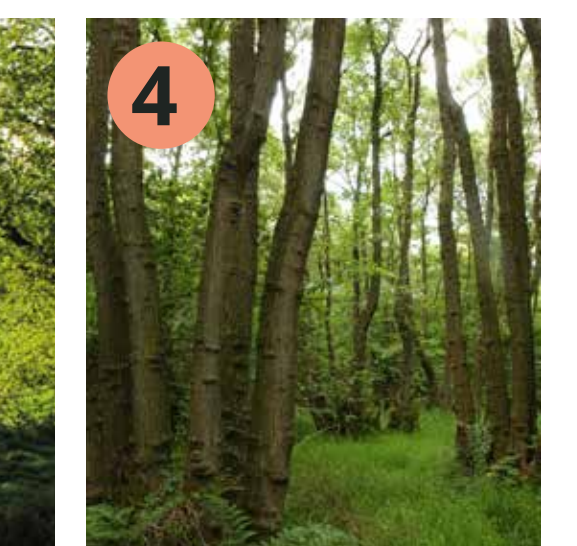
1 **Oriental spruce** with Scots pine, hornbeam



2 **European larch**, with Norway maple



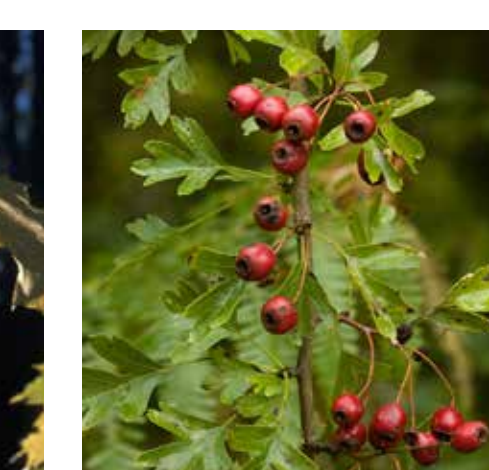
3 **Low density wood pasture**, sweet chestnut, large leaved lime, hawthorn



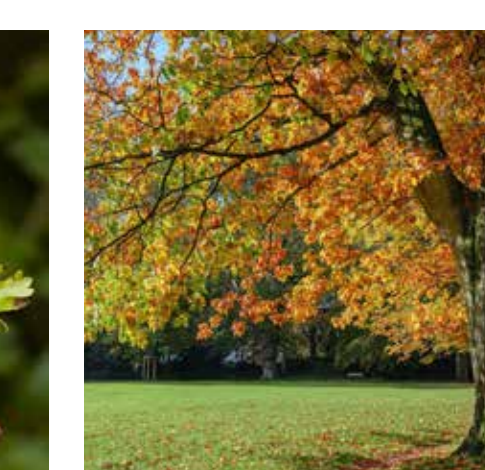
4 **Alder**, willow, aspen, black poplar



Norway maple



Hawthorn



Red oak



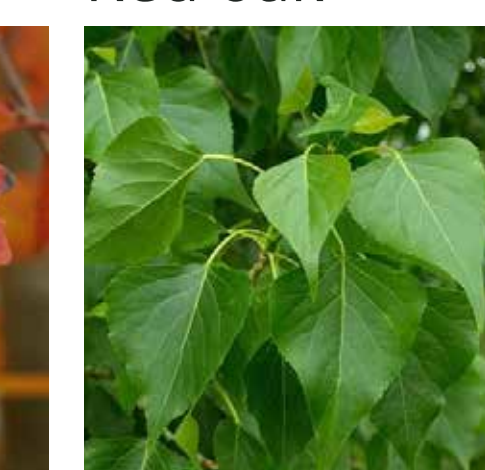
Large leaved lime



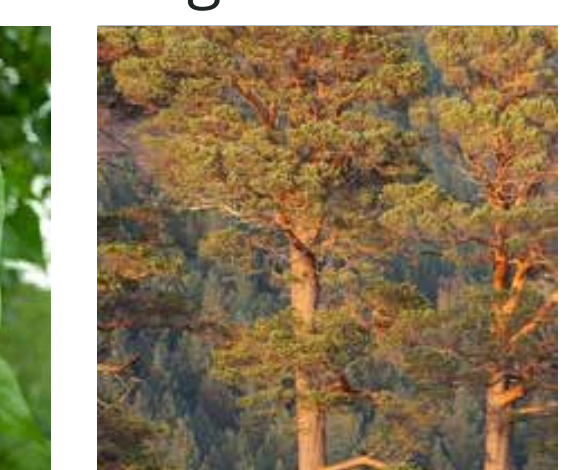
Sweet chestnut



Aspen



Black poplar



Scots pine



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River Ancholme
Public footpath

Open space with
small broadleaved
trees and shrubs
planted at low
density next to
public footpath along
River Ancholme
embankment

Mixed broadleaved
woodland

Wet woodland planting
in areas of seasonally
waterlogged ground

Open space retained to
centre of site in area of
seasonally wet ground

Small broadleaved
trees and shrubs
on edges to soften
the appearance of
woodland in the
landscape with
mixed broadleaved
woodland beyond

Existing broadleaved
woodland

Grass tracks
connecting to existing
public footpaths to
create loop walks

Cadney Sook Drain

Wide spaced wood
pasture tree planting
with broadleaved
woodland beyond

Cadney

Artist's impression location:
Cadney bridge public footpath

Mixed conifer
woodland planting to
centre of site

Forestry operational
access &
potential
public access
points

Open space
next to
neighbouring
properties in
Cadney

Bridge Lane

Public
footpath

Artist's impression location:
Cadney public footpath

River Ancholme
Public footpath

Mixed conifer
woodland planting to
centre of site

Wildlife corridors
are created where
open space is left
for pipelines and
powerlines

Mixed broadleaved
and conifer
woodland planting
to tie into existing
woodland within and
next to the site

Small broadleaved
trees and shrubs
on edges to soften
the appearance of
woodland in the
landscape with
mixed woodland
beyond

Forest Research
broadleaved tree
planting trials

River Ancholme
Public footpath

Brigg Road

Forestry
operational
access points

Cadney Reservoir

NORTH

How the new woodland could look

Our initial designs include proposals to:

- Plant coniferous and broadleaved trees together, with shrub species along some edges. This will add variety, colour and texture in the landscape.
- Create circular grass routes for woodland management and for public access, which will connect to existing rights of way leading to surrounding woodland and settlements - Cadney, Hibaldstow and Brigg.
- Create wildlife corridors by leaving open space next to hedgerows, ditches, pipelines and adding some shrub planting at the edges of woodland for wildlife to thrive.
- Include a mix of open space, native shrubs and trees at low density to keep some open views from nearby properties. This will also make the area look interesting throughout the year.

Artist's impressions:

Cadney bridge public footpath
how it looks now



Cadney public footpath
how it looks now



How it could look
5 years after planting



How it could look
5 years after planting



How it could look
in 25 years



How it could look
in 25 years

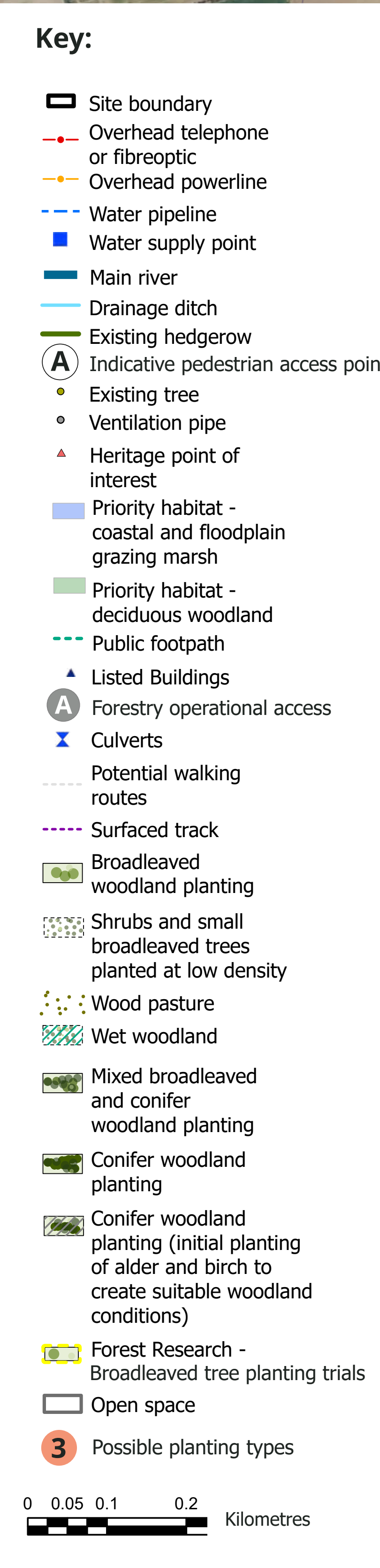




Open space with small broadleaved trees and shrubs planted at low density next to public footpath along River Ancholme embankment

Wide spaced
wood pasture
tree planting
with broadleaved
woodland beyond

Wet woodland
planting in areas
of seasonally
waterlogged
ground



Your views are important to us, let us know what you think about proposals for new woodland near Cadney



Forestry England

A new woodland at Cadney - our response to key themes from early engagement

We invited local people to share their initial views about our plans to create a new woodland on land near Cadney in Lincolnshire. Here are our responses to the key themes and questions people raised:

Users of the new woodland and public access

The new woodland at Cadney will be open to the public and provide a quiet space for local people to enjoy. Once the new woodland is established, we will dedicate it under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act so people can explore the site.

Pedestrians will be able to visit the new woodland via the existing Public Right of Way from the village, and existing entrances off Bridge Lane. These, and a network of new unsurfaced grass routes will give access for woodland maintenance and for people to explore the new woodland. There are no plans to include new surfaced trails, cycling or horse-riding specific infrastructure.

Visitors will be welcome to walk their dogs in the new woodland, but we have no plans to fence around the whole woodland. We expect all dog owners to be responsible and to keep their pets under control in all the forests and woodland we care for, following signs and our Forest Dog Code.

Parking and traffic

The woodland will be open to the public and can be easily visited on foot on the existing public footpaths and local lanes from the surrounding area. We have no plans to include visitor or other recreational facilities and therefore our proposal does not include public parking. We want to avoid a significant increase to car traffic on local roads.

To manage the woodland, we need road access for our forestry vehicles. We plan to use 8 existing entrances off Brigg Road and Bridge Lane, using new or upgraded stone tracks. We will include barriers at some of these entrances to prevent unauthorised vehicle access and reduce the risk of antisocial behaviour.

Design, landscape and views

The new mixed woodland will enrich the landscape by boosting biodiversity and enhancing the natural environment. We have done surveys to tell us more about the plants, wildlife and the presence of peat at Cadney. These surveys, along with a landscape and visual appraisal, have guided our draft designs.

Our designs carefully consider the views around and into the site, especially from the existing Public Rights of Way. The western edge of the woodland, closest to the River Ancholme, has open spaces and wider spaced shrubs and small broadleaf trees to create a natural and attractive woodland edge. In the area closest to Cadney, we have retained the historic enclosure with an open space buffer and low-density planting beyond, as advised by heritage experts. The design includes new grass routes, open spaces and established hedgerows. These will create diverse habitats for wildlife and connectivity beyond the woodland, benefiting biodiversity such as butterflies and birds.

We have thought carefully about how close the new woodland will be to our new neighbours and will keep open space next to properties in Cadney, with widely spaced trees beyond (possibly managed as wood pasture) and groups of shrubs at the edges of the woodland. Planting native broadleaf trees on the edges and an area of wood pasture, will support a wide range of wildlife including various species of birds, mammals, insects and fungi all of which thrive in the diverse environment created by these trees.

The trees we will plant

We are using years of experience and the latest scientific evidence to choose the right trees to plant in the new woodland. Our surveys help us to choose the trees most suitable for the site now and as the climate changes. Our professional foresters carefully choose what trees to plant and where to plant them. They understand the local soil, how quickly the trees will grow, and the important habitats, species and geographical features nearby. We also consider tree pests and diseases and future climate conditions to keep woods as healthy as possible.

The species will be a mix of broadleaf and conifer, often planted together in mixtures, with groups of shrub species along edges to increase the variety and provide seasonal colour and texture. Species have been chosen to produce a future source of sustainable timber. This supply of homegrown wood products will support the wider British timber and forestry industry, helping to reduce the demand for imports from other countries.

Species at Cadney might include Oriental spruce, Scots and Macedonian pine, black poplar, oak, sweet chestnut, downy birch, common alder and hornbeam. Shrubs could include alder buckthorn, spindle, dogwood and blackthorn, Guelder rose, and rowan.

Establishing and managing the new woodland

We aim to plant the new woodland in winter 25/26. Maintenance during the first five years is especially important to ensure the woodland's long-term success. The woodland will be managed by the Forestry England team and our contractors.

Longer term, Forestry England will develop a Forest Plan to make sure that future timber production is sustainable. As part of our ongoing management of the woodland, we will begin to remove some trees after about 20-25 years - this will provide a sustainable supply of timber and help the woodland to thrive for many years to come.

Protecting the new woodland from deer

The UK is home to six species of deer. As their natural predators (bears, lynx and wolves) are no longer present in the UK, our wildlife management team have to manage the deer populations. Without predators or management, deer populations become unnaturally large, and their browsing can damage or kill young trees and wildlife habitats, reducing the resilience of the new woodland to the effects of climate change and lowering the carbon captured from the atmosphere.

We will use deer fencing to protect larger blocks of new planting and tree tubes in smaller areas. Rabbit and deer fencing will protect young trees from browsing, while tree tubes will safeguard smaller, widely spaced areas. After the woodland has become established, deer fencing and tree tubes will be removed and recycled where possible. This usually happens after approximately 10 years.

Forestry England is part of the Deer Initiative¹, a partnership that promotes sustainable deer management in England and Wales. Our highly skilled wildlife management team will safely and humanely control deer populations in our woodlands, working to the highest standards. More information about how Forestry England manage deer can be found on our website².

Why are you planting agricultural land?

Lincolnshire is currently the least wooded county in the East Midlands. The new woodlands will capture carbon, restore and connect habitats, enhance biodiversity, supply sustainable homegrown timber and wonderful places for people to enjoy.

The site has been individually and carefully assessed so it is suitable for woodland creation and in keeping with the local landscape. Forestry England understands concerns around food security³ and keeping the best land in agricultural production. Our woodland creation programme seeks to avoid the most productive land (grades 1 & 2). The land at Cadney is graded at 3. Forestry England's role is to manage and expand the nation's forests to ensure they are healthy and sustainable and benefit wildlife, people and the economy.

Timber is a crucial material for the UK's green economy helping a move away from higher-emission materials like steel, concrete, aluminium and bricks. It is renewable, sustainable, and has a lower carbon footprint, making it essential for environmentally friendly construction and manufacturing practices. Currently the UK imports over 80% of its timber⁴.

References:

1 <http://www.thedeerinitiative.co.uk/>

2 <https://www.forestryengland.uk/article/managing-deer-the-nations-forests>

3 United Kingdom Food Security Report 2021: Theme 2: UK Food Supply Sources - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

4 Forestry Facts and Figures 2024 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)



Forestry England

Your views are important to us - let us know what you think

Responding to this consultation

We encourage you to submit your response online. You can view our plans and submit your views by completing the online feedback form at:

- bit.ly/consultCAW
- If you are unable to do this, you can respond via email at woodland.creation@forestryengland.uk

All views should be received by 11.59pm on Sunday
25th May 2025

What's next ?

- Review of consultation feedback
- Further design work to refine our proposals
- Application to the Forestry Commission for permission to create the new woodland
- Planting (Winter 2025/26)

**Scan the QR code
to find out more:**

forestryengland.uk

