



# Land Use Consultation

January 2025

We are the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. We are responsible for improving and protecting the environment, growing the green economy, sustaining thriving rural communities and supporting our world-class food, farming and fishing industries.

We work closely with our 33 agencies and arm's length bodies on our ambition to make our air purer, our water cleaner, our land greener and our food more sustainable. Our mission is to restore and enhance the environment for the next generation, and to leave the environment in a better state than we found it.



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YO1 7PX

Please note, any responses sent by post must have arrived at the above address by the closing date of the consultation (25 April) to be counted. Any responses received after this date will not be analysed. To ensure your response is included in the analysis, please consider responding online via Citizen Space.

## Consultation period

This consultation will open on 31 January and close on 25 April 2025

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# Foreword

Our land is our greatest natural asset - the source of food, the bedrock of nature, the support system of the environment on which we all rely. It is the place we live, work and rest. The people who work on and look after the land, and make decisions about how land should be used, have been pivotal in this country's history and are central to its future. Because these decisions are not marginal, the use of our land underpins everything in our economy and our society.

The land can do so much at once. Growing fresh produce and rearing animals, storing carbon and creating habitats for precious wildlife, providing homes and community spaces, siting the infrastructure that supports our society - a single plot can contribute in so many ways. There are increasing opportunities and demands on our land, requiring land use to be more dynamic than ever. Across both rural and urban landscapes, we must maintain food security in a time of global uncertainty, protect communities from the impacts of a warming climate, host growing infrastructure networks and settlements, and make room for healthier natural ecosystems to reverse nature's decline.

That is why this Government is launching a national conversation about land use, to minimise trade-offs and optimise the use of our land.

At a national and local scale, we need better spatial planning. For too long, a haphazard approach has been taken to the way infrastructure is sited or homes are built. In order to grow the economy and meet the challenges of future decades, we need to use our data to make better decisions. This will also bring better lives - supporting homes to be built where there is access to water and clean air, and major infrastructure built where it least disrupts nature.

On the ground, our natural world is under threat, with England now one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. Much-loved British birds and wildlife are at risk of national extinction, whilst our rivers, lakes and seas have unacceptable levels of pollution. Some of our most treasured landscapes are in poor condition, despite the best efforts of many. Meanwhile the impacts of global warming threaten not just our land but the livelihoods that depend on it.

Farming is already going through change: taking on new models of agricultural practice, adapting food production in a changing climate, and building resilience to increased flooding or other global shocks like changing patterns of pests and disease. I know from conversations with farmers and landowners that they not only understand this need for change, but that they are actively delivering it. They know their land best, and it is right that they lead this transition with clarity about land use change so they can plan their businesses.

We as a Government must support this. That is why we have committed £5 billion to farming in the next two years alone, and alongside this are creating the right conditions and incentives to bring in private sector investment to accelerate the adoption of sustainable farming.

By publishing a Land Use Framework, we will go further by creating a toolkit to support decision making and inform discussion on how we can guarantee our long-term food security, how we can support development and how we can achieve our targets on nature and climate that deliver multiple benefits and support economic growth.

This is not going to tell people what to do with their fields or replace the planning system. What the Framework will do is reflect your feedback from this consultation, set out a direction for England's land use and recognise the challenges that land managers will need us to address so that they can deliver our shared vision.

The Land Use Framework will interact with other foundational strategies we are developing in DEFRA; the Environmental Improvement Plan, a 25-year roadmap for farming, and a food strategy. And across government, the Land Use Framework will support sustainable growth, interacting with the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan as we accelerate to clean power by 2030, and driving our ambition to build 1.5 million new homes. This is critical to the delivery of this Government's missions, and the long-term prosperity of our country.

I am consulting before publishing a Framework to ensure that this work is truly informed by what would make this toolkit most useful, what principles should guide us, and what we need to change to help deliver it. As part of this national conversation, there will be workshops across the country, bringing farmers, conservation groups and planners to the table, to put the insights of those who best understand our landscapes at the centre of our work to develop a Land Use Framework.

Only with your input can we publish a Framework in 2025 that truly speaks for England's land, those who manage it, and those who benefit from it.

# Our vision for land use in England

Land in England is changing in response to the climate and biodiversity crises, global shocks, the needs of consumers and businesses, and Government policy. In recent years, farmers have seen some of their most valuable land impacted by increasingly frequent extreme weather events. At the same time, communities have rightfully demanded change to clean up our rivers, lakes and seas.

We want to meet these challenges head on and start a public discussion on how land can deliver our missions for Growth and Clean Energy, boost food security, and meet our statutory climate and nature targets. This Government will be an active partner in the delivery of a fair land use transition which will:

- **Make space for nature recovery, water, and emissions reduction.** England's land use will need to change as we move towards 2050 to help deliver our legally binding targets under the Environment Act and Climate Change Act.
- **Support sustainable and resilient food production.** The food system needs to support farmers and landowners to invest in the long-term viability of their businesses, contribute to food security and increase their resilience to climate change.
- **Deliver new infrastructure and housing.** Decision makers at every level need information and tools to deliver sustainable development, including 1.5 million new homes new energy and water infrastructure, and the relatively small area of land use change it requires. We want to use strategic spatial planning to assess gains and losses against national and regional objectives, moving responsibility for managing land use trade-offs away from individual projects.
- **Fix the foundations for resilient long-term economic growth.** Supporting sustainable economic growth over the coming decades will mean investing in its natural capital foundations and long-term climate resilience.
- **Co-create plans for delivery.** Land use change that improves the overall productivity of land alongside wider social and environmental benefits will only happen with the right skills, data, incentives and structures in place. We want to collaborate with land managers, businesses, and communities to define what these are and our plan to deliver them.

This consultation sets out our analysis of the scale of long-term land use change required and is the start of a conversation about how and where it could be delivered. This conversation will aim to define how we can use England's land to give the best combination of benefits, and how we can support land managers and other decision makers to deliver this.



## Purpose of this consultation

Policy decisions that impact how land is used are often far too remote from the lived experience of farmers, developers, planners, and the citizens whose work shapes our places and landscapes. The Devolution White Paper set out our plan to shift power away from Whitehall and into the hands of those who know the land and their communities best. This consultation process will help define what role the Framework will play in this transition. It is not our intention to use the Framework to bind decision makers or prescribe specific land uses in specific places; we want it to inform decisions, not impose them.

A thriving natural environment and stable climate are the foundations of our economy and are essential to food security and profitable farm businesses. Changes in English land use are required to reverse the decline of our natural environment, help absorb greenhouse gases, adapt to the impacts of climate change, and increase the resilience of our food systems, infrastructure, homes and communities.

These foundations will support Government's commitment to build 1.5 million homes and the new infrastructure needed to deliver resilient and sustainable growth and clean energy<sup>1</sup>.

Advances in spatial data science, including earth observation data, mean we can now map potential long-term changes in land use more effectively. We want to use the analysis included in our accompanying annex to support discussions on how land is used, and the changes to policy needed to support land managers and communities.

A Land Use Framework will develop and support delivery of a shared vision for English land use<sup>2</sup>. This consultation document will inform the subsequent development of a Land Use Framework in 2025. **Section 1** of this consultation starts with evidence to underpin decisions on land use change<sup>3</sup>. **Section 2** sets out draft principles for decision making. **Section 3** outlines potential policy levers that could be developed as part of a Land Use Framework such as improving access to data and developing targeted land management incentives. **Section 4** describes the process of co-creation that will inform the Land Use Framework.

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<sup>1</sup> Including the actions shaped by the industrial strategy consultation: [Invest 2035: the UK's modern industrial strategy](#) (October 2024)

<sup>2</sup> Many of the policies in scope of this consultation are devolved. The territorial scope has been limited to England. The UK Government will work closely with the devolved Governments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to develop the Land Use Framework for England.

<sup>3</sup> Details of this evidence, its assumptions and its limitations are provided in the Analytical Annex.

The Framework will be published in 2025. It will include:

1. Principles that Government will apply to policy with land use implications.
2. A description of how policy levers will develop and adapt to support land use change.
3. A release of land use data and analysis to support public and private sector innovation in spatial decision making, and the development of tools to support land managers in practice.

The evidence base that underpins this consultation is a basis for wider reform that includes a Farming Roadmap, a Food Strategy and the review of the Environmental Improvement Plan. It also supports the Government's wider strategic planning agenda, including the Industrial Strategy, long-term housing strategy, New Towns Taskforce, National Integrated Transport Strategy, Ten Year National Infrastructure Strategy and the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan.

These land use challenges are not unique to England. With the other UK nations, we have an opportunity to learn from others and to lead by example in managing the land use challenges that are shared by every country committed to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and Convention on Biological Diversity. The Land Use Framework will play a critical role in delivery of our domestic and international commitments, including our Carbon Budgets, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, and Nationally Determined Contribution to international action on climate change.

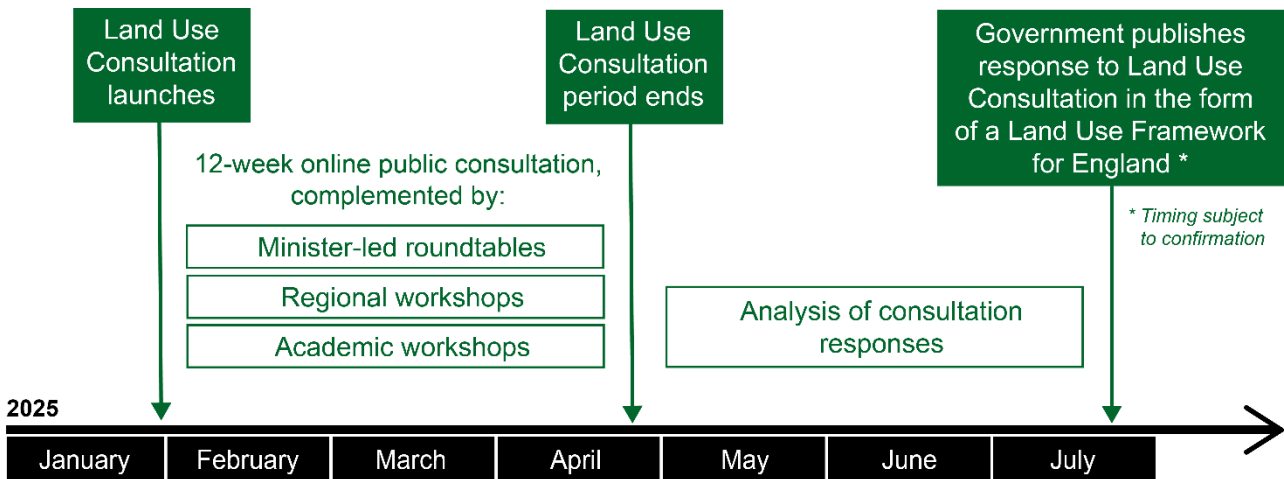


Figure 1: Timeline of key milestones and activities in the Land Use Consultation process

## A long-term view of land use change

By land area, England is still a predominantly rural and agricultural country. Of England's total land area, 85% can be classed as rural<sup>4</sup>. This land provides the critical underpinnings of our economy from food and rural housing to clean water and wildlife habitats. 67% of England's land is agricultural, made up of 38% arable land and 29% grassland<sup>5</sup>. Our natural capital generates an annual flow of benefits, including food production, of £37bn<sup>6</sup> in England alone.

Nevertheless, by population, England is largely urban: in 2020, 83% of people lived in urban areas (settlements of more than 10,000 inhabitants)<sup>7</sup>.

More detail on England's current land uses and the value they provide is set out in the Analytical Annex accompanying this consultation.

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<sup>4</sup> See the Rural-Urban Classification for Output Areas in England (2011, most recent year for which data is available):

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/610c08e4d3bf7f044024465a/RUCOA\\_leaflet\\_Jan2017.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/610c08e4d3bf7f044024465a/RUCOA_leaflet_Jan2017.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> This describes Utilised Agricultural Area as a proportion of England's total land area:

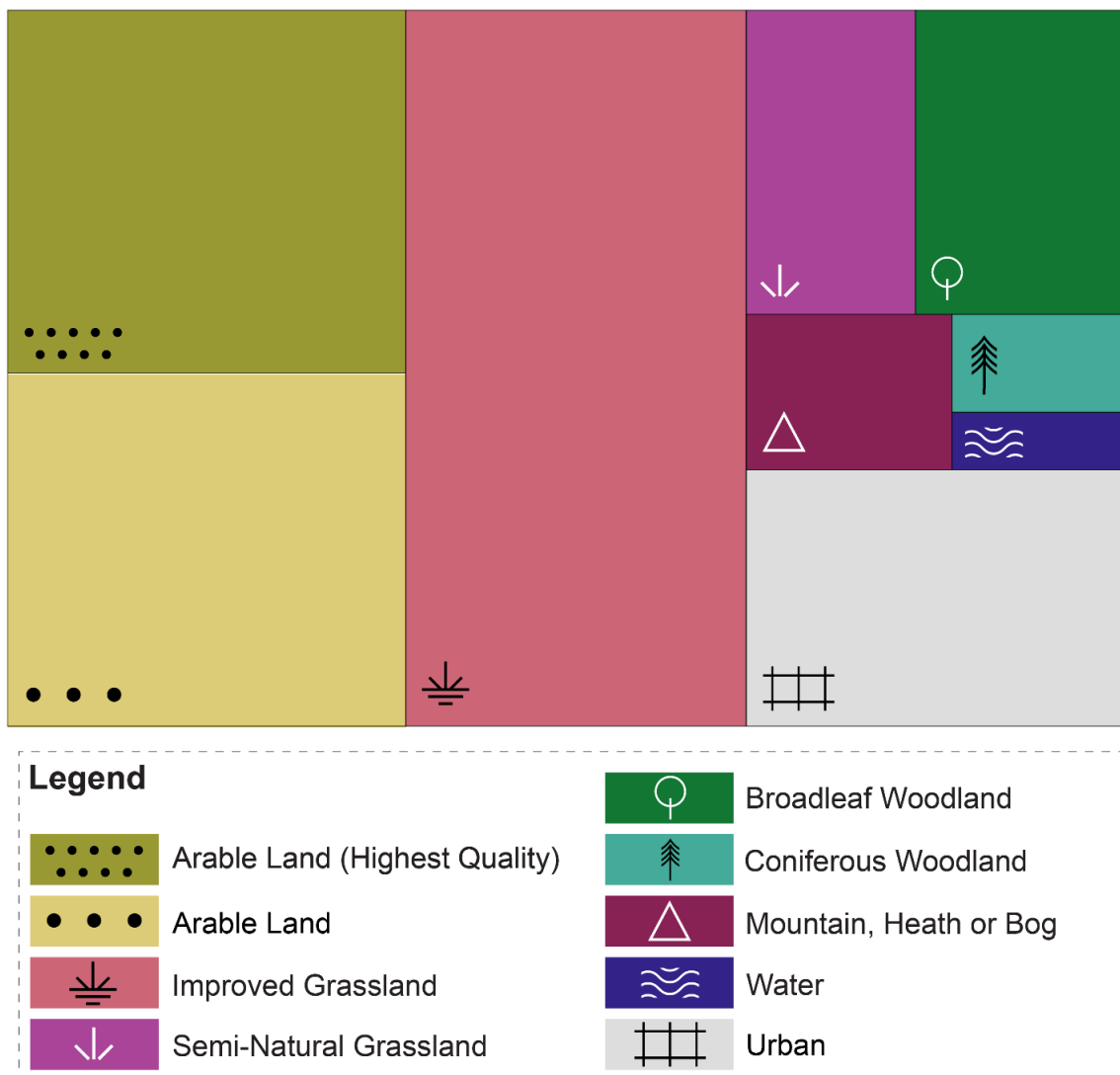
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/agricultural-land-use-in-england>.

<sup>6</sup> 2022 value derived from the ONS publication "UK natural capital accounts 2024":

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/bulletins/uknaturalcapitalaccounts/2024>. Please refer to Section 1.2 of the Analytical Annex for more information on the value of natural capital.

<sup>7</sup> Statistical Digest of Rural England, April 2024:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/661d3b95ac3dae9a53bd3dd3/16\\_04\\_2024\\_-\\_1\\_-\\_Population.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/661d3b95ac3dae9a53bd3dd3/16_04_2024_-_1_-_Population.pdf)

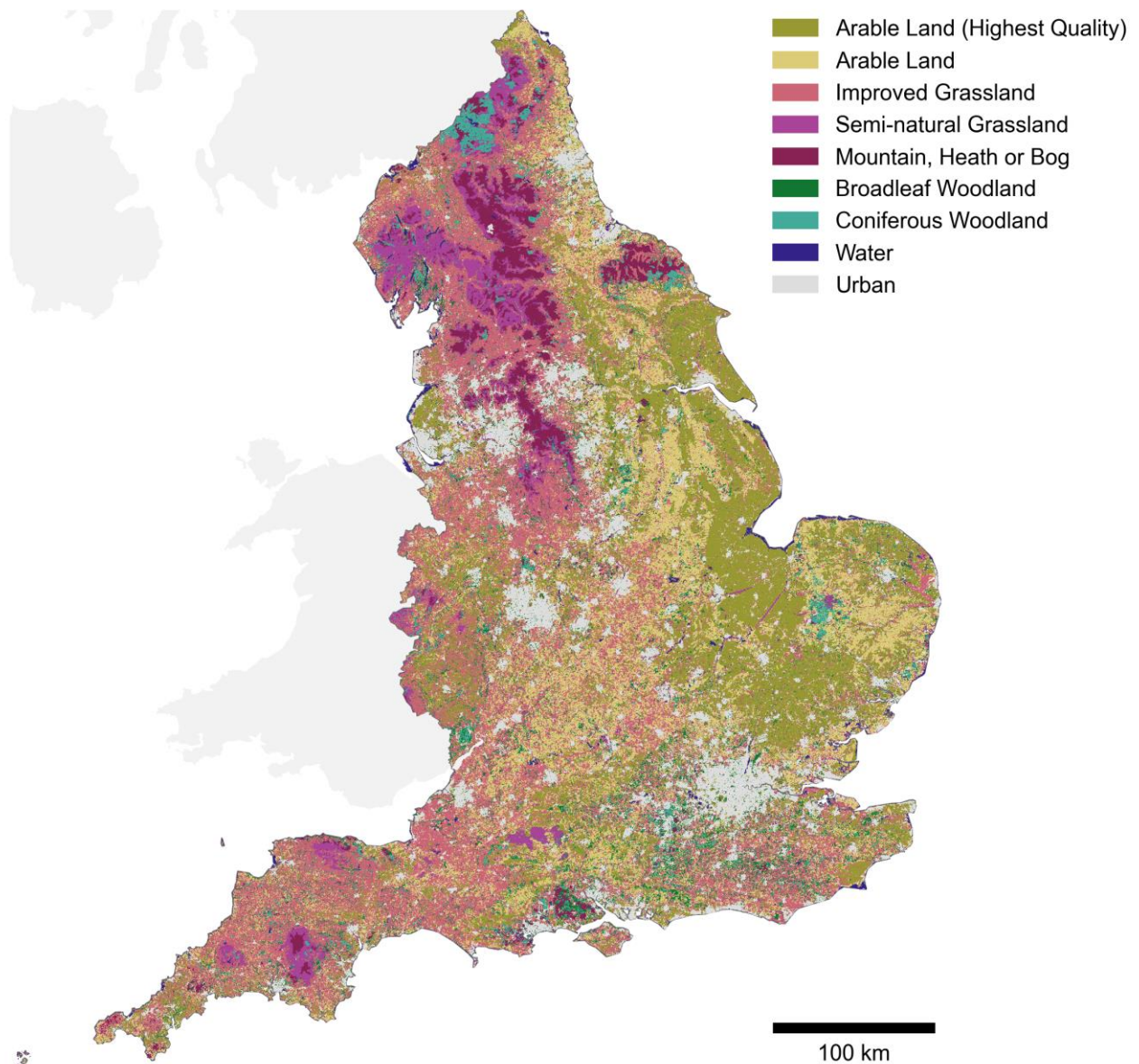


**Figure 2: Approximate proportions of England’s total land area occupied by different types of land use (derived from UKCEH spatial data, broken down by Agricultural Land Classification grade which assesses land’s capacity to produce food).**

Arable land is mainly used to produce crops for food and animal feed. Grassland is primarily used for animal grazing and silage, with improved grassland being more intensively managed for agricultural production, and having lower species diversity, than semi-natural grassland. While data is not available for England and the figure is likely to be lower, 85% of the UK’s Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA) in 2023, across both arable and grassland, was used for animal feed or animal production. A small proportion of the UK’s UAA is used for growing crops for bioenergy.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> JNCC Report No. 307, Guidance on the interpretation of the Biodiversity Broad Habitat Classification (terrestrial and freshwater types), July 2000: <https://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/0b7943ea-2eee-47a9-bd13-76d1d66d471f/JNCC-Report-307-SCAN-WEB.pdf>

Food Security Report 2024: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/united-kingdom-food-security-report-2024/>



Based upon Land Cover Map 2021 © UKCEH 2022. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright 2024, Licence number 100017572.

**Figure 3: Land in England today, showing how the use and capability of land varies widely at a range of scales, driven by complex geography and drivers of land use decisions (derived from UKCEH spatial data, broken down by Agricultural Land Classification grade which assesses land's capacity to produce food).**

## What we mean by land use change

To make space for nature, water, and emissions reduction, while also delivering new infrastructure and housing and maintaining food production, there will need to be a range of different land use changes by 2050. These changes are critical to make agriculture and food production more resilient to climate change. They are also necessary to meet our statutory Carbon Budgets under the Climate Change Act and statutory environmental targets under the Environment Act.

To provide context for the co-design of a Land Use Framework we need a consistent way of categorising these different types of land use change. For the purposes of our analysis, we used five categories<sup>9</sup> to define types of land management and land use changes. These are described below, alongside the approximate percentage of England's total agricultural land that our analysis shows may need to change as we move towards 2050. The figures below describe a dynamic picture that may change over time.

Our analysis explores how land use decisions could meet our Environment Act and Climate Targets without undermining food production<sup>10</sup> or objectives such as national security<sup>11</sup>. The land use changes described in Figures 4 and 5 therefore represent a balanced approach to meeting our range of priorities, including several types of land use change that achieve wider benefits without taking land out of food production.

The spatial analysis set out in the Analytical Annex aims to reduce trade-offs by avoiding land use change on our best agricultural land. It shows how landowners and land managers can make decisions that limit the scale of land use change and support profitability.

This analysis shows that most changes are about making land more multifunctional alongside food production, rather than taking land out of production entirely. It also illustrates that the new homes and infrastructure that are needed to deliver our Growth and Clean Energy Superpower Missions are a relatively small driver of land use change.

On the agricultural land not subject to specific land use change, we expect the majority to undertake land management changes (Category 1), such as changes to meet the Environmental Improvement Plan objective of having 60% of soils under sustainable management. Please refer to Table 3 of the Analytical Annex for detailed definitions of categories.

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<sup>9</sup> Please refer to Table 3 in Section 3 of the Analytical Annex for more information on the five categories used to describe types of land management and land use change in our analysis.

<sup>10</sup> The scope of our analysis, including which targets are quantified, is described in the Analytical Annex.

<sup>11</sup> For example, we have considered the critical importance of the national security purposes of the Ministry of Defence Estate.



**Figure 4: The approximate percentages of England's total agricultural land area that our analysis shows may need to change in use or management by 2050<sup>12</sup>.**

**Category 1 – Land management change**

Changes in the way the land is farmed, without introducing new habitats or planting trees. It falls outside of the scope of land use change discussed in this document.

*Examples: Planting cover crops to reduce soil loss, or reducing fertiliser use to prevent water pollution.*

**Not in scope**

**Category 2 – Small changes maintaining the same agricultural land use**

Introducing nature within fields, in margins and / or small portions, providing environmental and climate benefits alongside food production.

*Examples: Arable field margins, riparian features such as river buffer strips.*

**1%**

(50kha)

**Category 3.1 – Changes in agricultural land use, for both food and environmental / climate benefits**

This is mainly about incorporating more trees alongside food production.

**4%**

(370kha)

**Category 3.2 – Changes in agricultural land use, mainly for environmental and climate benefits with limited food production.**

The land is being farmed mainly for other benefits than food.

*Examples: Creation / restoration of species-rich grassland habitats; responsible management of peat; planting of short rotation coppice.*

**5%**

(430kha)

**Category 4 - Change away from agricultural land, for environmental and climate benefits.**

Land use becomes non-agricultural. Land is fully dedicated to delivering environmental and climate benefits.

*Examples: Restoration and maintenance of peat-forming and peat-dependent habitats; creation of woodland; creation / restoration of coastal and lowland heathland habitats.*

**9%**

(760kha)

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<sup>12</sup> See Table 3 in the Analytical Annex for a description of the changes to land management (category 1) which are not summarised here.

The Government is committed to maintaining food production. Our assessment is that, based on historical trends of productivity improvement, and supported by new and emerging innovations, the impact of these land use changes on domestic food production will be offset by productivity improvements<sup>13</sup>. We expect that recent trends of increased productivity from agricultural land will continue. Working in partnership, Government will put in place a policy environment to support those changes.

The scale of land use change required to deliver 1.5 million new homes is relatively small: around 30 thousand hectares (0.2%) by the end of the Parliament<sup>14</sup> and around 150 thousand hectares (1.1%) if housebuilding were continued at the same rate to 2050<sup>15</sup>. The Land Use Framework will be informed by the additional spatial analysis and public consultation required to determine suitable locations for new homes and infrastructure.

Delivering new infrastructure will also require changes to English land use. These are also relatively small overall; the land area taken by all key utilities across England in 2022, including solar and wind farms, power stations, water works, gas works, and refuse disposal places, covered just 0.2% of land<sup>16</sup>. We can build the homes and infrastructure we need while meeting our wider objectives such as food security and environmental targets to 2050. Though small in comparison to wider land uses, the cumulative footprint of infrastructure and housing delivery in the longer term justifies reducing trade-offs between land uses today. This includes continuing to reflect the agricultural potential of land in spatial planning.

Figure 5 shows how the changes outlined in Figure 4 and delivering new homes may change total land uses in England from today, through 2035 to 2050. The Analytical Annex provides more details of the assumptions and uncertainties reflected in this analysis. We will continue to refine this analysis as we improve the underpinning data and hear feedback through this consultation and wider engagement. Our intention is not for any analysis to prescribe changes, only for it to support understanding of how different changes at local and regional levels can add up to outcomes such as food production and nature restoration at the national level.

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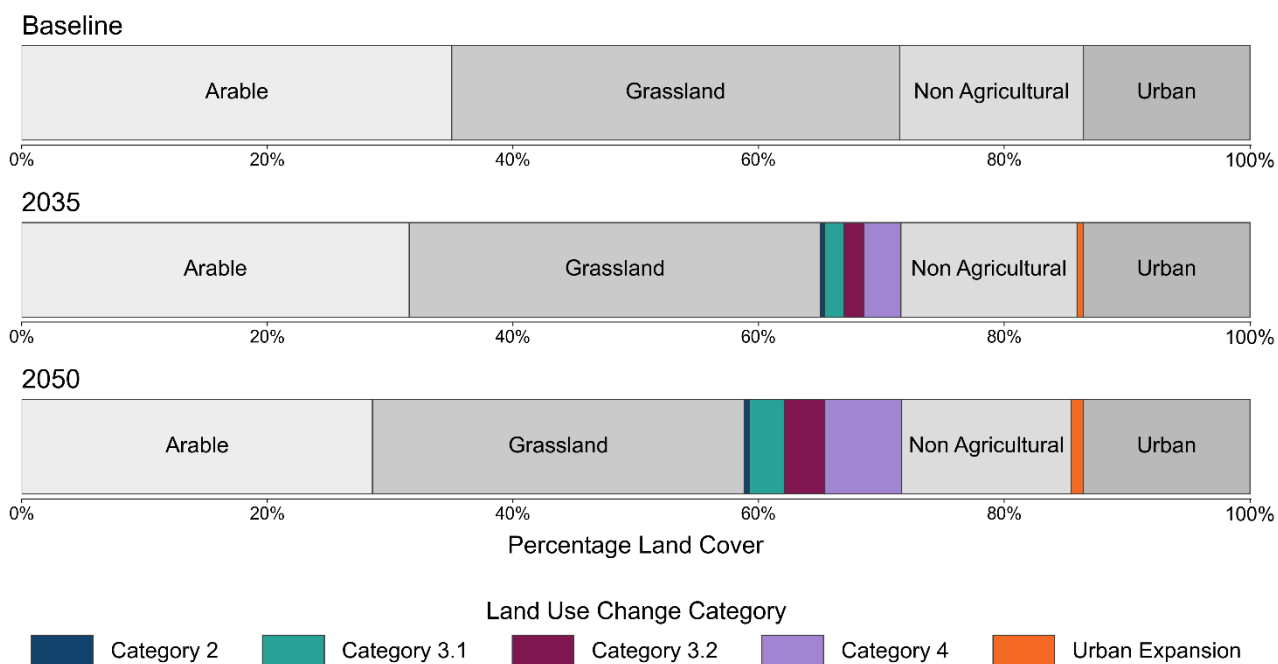
<sup>13</sup> See Section 4.5 of the Analytical Annex for more detail on productivity trends.

<sup>14</sup> This estimate assumes the same split of new homes between new build completions, conversions and change of use as for recent years. Details of this calculation and more information on the demand for land for infrastructure, housing and other development are available in section 2.2 of the Analytical Annex.

<sup>15</sup> This figure is based on the expected growth in households to 2050 as a proportion of the existing urban land area and should be understood as an order of magnitude rather than a precise calculation.

<sup>16</sup> 2022 figures: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/land-use-in-england-2022>





**Figure 5: Estimated type and extent of land use changes needed to 2035 and 2050. Categories of land use change are defined in Figure 4 and the Analytical Annex<sup>17</sup>.**

**QUESTION 1: To what extent do you agree or disagree with our assessment of the scale and type of land use change needed, as set out in this consultation and the Analytical Annex?**

**[Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree / I don't know]**

**Please explain your response, including your views on the potential scale of change and the type of change needed, including any specific types of change.**

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<sup>17</sup> Note that the baseline differs slightly from the official statistics. Please refer to Section 3.2 of the Analytical Annex for assumptions and uncertainties.

## Principles: Taking a spatial approach

The opportunities to produce food, make space for nature, water, and emissions reduction, and deliver new infrastructure and housing, are different in every part of England. For example, suitable locations for clean power generation are restricted by the capacity of the electricity grid and should take account of the potential of land for food production.

Climate change impacts such as sea levels rising and extreme weather are changing where wildlife, trees, livestock and crops can thrive, and the land that is suitable for construction of housing, energy and transport infrastructure. Even with our ambitious emissions reduction plans, these climate impacts will increase over the next 20 years because the impacts of past emissions are locked in.

We have developed principles to support strategic spatial planning and the targeting of land use incentives. The purpose of these principles is to transform how Government makes policy and the information we provide to decision makers. For the principles to be meaningful they need to be integrated into decision making processes and supported by data, decision support tools and resources. That is why we are seeking your views on the principles themselves and how they could be applied.

1. **Co-design:** Support for participation and leadership at the local and regional scale to develop and align spatial strategies and assess the fairness of changes in land use.
2. **Multifunctional land:** Enable multiple benefits on land, targeted according to opportunity, societal needs (such as the health benefits of co-locating new homes and nature), and environmental pressures (such as reducing pollution).
3. **Playing to the strengths of the land**<sup>18</sup>: Support and spatially target land use change to locations where benefits are greater and trade-offs are lower. Give priority to land uses that are more scarce or spatially sensitive (for example grid capacity places restrictions on new renewable generation sites or protecting land that is best suited for food production).
4. **Decisions fit for the long-term:** Take a long-term view of changing land suitability, prioritising resilience (including to the impacts of climate change). This could include planning for new homes that are resilient to climate impacts, such as flooding and overheating.
5. **Responsive by design:** Land use policy, including spatial prioritisation and targeting, needs to be responsive to new data, opportunities and pressures.

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<sup>18</sup> Please refer to Section 4 of the Analytical Annex for background evidence to support taking a spatial approach

These principles will be updated after reviewing consultation responses, and applied to future policy on land use, for example, as part of the Food Strategy, Farming Roadmap, Industrial Strategy, long-term housing strategy, National Integrated Transport Strategy, Ten Year National Infrastructure Strategy, the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan, a revised Carbon Budget Delivery Plan, and the review of the Environmental Improvement Plan.

**QUESTION 2: Do you agree or disagree with the land use principles proposed?**

**[Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree / I don't know]**

**Please provide any reasons for your response including any changes you believe should be made.**

**QUESTION 3: Beyond Government departments in England, which other decision makers do you think would benefit from applying these principles?**

- **Combined and local authorities (including local planning authorities)**
- **Landowners and land managers (including environmental and heritage groups)**
- **Others (please specify)**

# Making the best use of land

This Land Use Consultation takes a long-term view of English land use. We know that to achieve this vision we will need to radically improve the access that landowners, land managers and communities have to the resources needed to support long-term and spatial decision making. There are practical delivery challenges and opportunities faced by communities, businesses, developers, landowners and farmers today. This section aims to address these, drawing on our engagement and analysis, as well as insights from a range of previous publications on land use<sup>19</sup>. It proposes policy changes to address land use challenges under four themes: aligned incentives, joined-up decisions, accessible and high-quality data, and skills.

These proposals and questions are not intended to be comprehensive, and instead provide the starting point for an open process of policy co-creation.

## 1. Aligned incentives

### Context

Most English land is in private ownership and land ownership in England is highly concentrated. Land management incentives and influences include public payments (for example, to farmers for environmental benefits), cultural and social influences, market signals from the wider food system and economy, private nature markets, guidance and advice, regulation, and tax reliefs. Investors, farmers and other businesses want certainty about how Government will act to align incentives and shape emerging markets to support the food, environment, infrastructure, economic and climate outcomes that the nation needs.

An increasing number of land managers are seeing that Environmental Land Management actions can support their businesses in adapting to more sustainable farming practices, changes in consumer demand, and changing weather conditions driven by climate change. Our Environmental Land Management schemes have helped farmers increase adoption of these. Alongside of which there is growing recognition that a much greater role for private nature markets<sup>20</sup> will be required to support businesses towards more sustainable models. Emerging nature markets are already offering additional incentives and Government has a role to play in shaping these emerging markets, including with clear standards, to enable them to scale up rapidly.

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<sup>19</sup> These include recent reports by the Royal Society and British Academy, the House of Lords Land Use in England Inquiry, and the Land Use for Net Zero, Nature and People Hub.

<sup>20</sup> Nature markets enable private investment in nature through creating units or credits that can be bought and sold. They allow businesses to invest with farmers and other land and coastal managers to enhance the ability of land, freshwater and marine habitats to provide carbon, biodiversity, clean water and other benefits.

## Policy levers and enablers

### Incentivising changes for long-term food security

The impacts of climate change and nature loss, from extreme weather events to declines in pollinator populations, are a significant risk to food production. We must reduce these risks, as well as supporting our food and farming system to become more resilient. Farming businesses that are able to plan and invest for the long term are the backbone of a resilient farming system and our food security. Farmers are rightfully asking for greater clarity on what is needed from the land. Being transparent on the level of change needed will provide those businesses with more information around which they can plan.

Farmers and land managers are already changing land use and management practices to adapt to more frequent and severe droughts and floods. These decisions are made at the farm level but need the right frameworks, incentives and conditions from Government and the wider food chain. Incentives will need to reflect the mix of land ownership structures, including tenancies, in farming and the wider food chain.

Incentives will also need to reflect the extent to which the benefits of land use change apply to those making the changes, or the wider public. Many land use and management changes for public benefits bring about costs to those managing the land. We want to work with the sector to develop a long-term sustainable plan for how these costs will be met. To achieve the right incentives and conditions, we will work in partnership with farmers to co-create our long-term Farming Roadmap.

Government will put the right incentives in place to support appropriate land use change. The design of these will need to consider the important role of domestic food production in our food security. Alongside land use change, agricultural yields will need to increase on some land. We will also need to ensure that the agricultural potential of land is fully considered in land use decisions taken outside the farming system so that less of our high-quality farmland is taken out of production. A broad range of approaches will be explored in our long-term Farming Roadmap, including proposals to help achieve increased agricultural yields, approaches to increase the uptake of regenerative agriculture<sup>21</sup> and multifunctional land uses and farming practices.

We are also developing, in partnership with the food sector, a Food Strategy which will bring together all aspects of the food system around four pillars of health, growth, environmental sustainability, and food security. This approach will ensure, alongside land use change, that

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<sup>21</sup> The term “regenerative agriculture” currently does not have a comprehensively described scientific definition, but it is widely acknowledged that regenerative agriculture proceeds from a foundation of promoting soil health. Source: Pettorelli et al. (2024) Prioritising Land Use in the Midst of a Climate and Nature Emergency - Ten Key Messages for Scientists, Civil Society, and Policy Makers. A report from the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and the British Ecological Society (BES), London, UK

we achieve improved health outcomes, robust food security, growth in the food system, and a thriving natural environment.

**QUESTION 4: What are the policies, incentives and other changes that are needed to support decision makers in the agricultural sector to deliver this scale of land use change, while considering the importance of food production?**

In the next few decades, global land use will come under increasing pressure. Agricultural production will need to keep pace with the growing demand for food whilst reducing emissions. There are also new pressures such as demand for land for the production of feedstocks for biofuels and other forms of renewable energy.

The nature of global agricultural markets, where changing relative prices can incentivise processors and consumers to substitute one product for another, and farmers to switch land between different crops, means that land use decisions in different countries are interconnected through international trade. For example, if one country takes policy actions that either reduce domestic agricultural production or increase the consumption of agricultural products, then its agricultural imports will increase or exports decrease such that its net agricultural trade position will weaken. This will tend to encourage an expansion in agricultural production in other countries, possibly with significant negative environmental impacts.

The principles are intended to transform policy and incentives for land use change in England, protecting land with the greatest long-term potential for food production. This will help to reduce the risk of displacing food production and any associated environmental impacts abroad. Targeting land use incentives to the right locations will help achieve this and deliver better value for public spending by achieving greater benefits from the land use or management changes that are paid for.

Prioritising where changes should take place does, however, raise important questions of fairness. The more we prioritise food production by spatially targeting incentives, the more that changes may become concentrated in less agriculturally productive landscapes. While this could bring new economic opportunities to these rural communities, over the next 25 years we are likely to see wider social changes as well. We want to assess where these long-term changes are likely to be most significant so that we can co-create a fair and managed transition, and support people to take advantage of emerging opportunities. Our proposed approach to spatial prioritisation of outcomes and the spatial targeting of financial incentives for land use change will be set out in the Farming Roadmap and will take responses to this consultation into account.

**QUESTION 5: How could Government support more land managers to implement multifunctional land uses that deliver a wider range of benefits, such as agroforestry systems with trees within pasture or arable fields?**

**QUESTION 6: What should the Government consider in identifying suitable locations for spatially targeted incentives?**

**QUESTION 7: What approach(es) could most effectively support land managers and the agricultural sector to steer land use changes to where they can deliver greater potential benefits and lower trade-offs?**

**QUESTION 8: In addition to promoting multifunctional land uses and spatially targeting land use change incentives, what more could be done by Government or others to reduce the risk that we displace more food production and environmental impacts abroad? Please give details for your answer.**

**Monitoring land use change or production on agricultural land**

**Accounting for displaced food production impacts in project appraisals**

**Protecting the best agricultural land from permanent land use changes**

**Other (please specify)**

### **Increasing private investment into nature-based solutions**

The scale of action needed to deliver our climate and nature objectives means that more private investment in land use change will be needed. We know that healthy ecosystems provide many private as well as public benefits, and the private sector can contribute to protecting and improving natural capital assets.

In addition to existing mechanisms such as Biodiversity Net Gain, the Woodland Carbon Code and the Peatland Code, there is an opportunity to explore additional action that can drive innovation, efficiency, and private investment into nature. We are already taking action. The Planning and Infrastructure Bill will legislate for a Nature Restoration Fund to streamline certain environmental obligations on development and fund strategic nature recovery measures. The Terms of Reference for the independent commission on the water sector regulatory system set out that it will consider how to enable greater use of nature-based solutions in the context of strategic planning for water, where these represent good value for money. We will publish a call for evidence on further opportunities to increase private investment into nature from economic sectors who impact upon or benefit from our shared natural capital.

**QUESTION 9: What should Government consider in increasing private investment towards appropriate land use changes?**

## **Making space for nature**

The Government is committed to effectively conserving and managing 30% of the UK's land by 2030 (30by30) to support delivery of the Environment Act biodiversity targets<sup>22</sup>, including those to halt and reverse declines in species abundance. While significant areas of England have potential to meet the 30by30 criteria, driving forward progress on 30by30 requires further action to ensure more land is under effective, long-term management for nature (see section 2 of the Analytical Annex). We are developing a delivery strategy to accelerate progress towards 30by30 both inside and outside Protected Landscapes, and will publish it later this year.

Our Protected Landscapes (National Parks and National Landscapes) cover nearly a quarter of England's land area and include half of our priority habitats and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). They are also working landscapes reflecting generations of farming systems. Protected Landscapes are key to our biodiversity commitments and this Government has committed to make them greener, wilder and more accessible while recognising their culture and heritage. We are developing a package of measures to ensure they are able to deliver the objectives for nature, water, rural housing and climate in the Land Use Framework.

**QUESTION 10: What changes are needed to accelerate 30by30 delivery, including by enabling Protected Landscapes to contribute more? Please provide any specific suggestions.**

- **Strengthened Protected Landscapes legislation (around governance and regulations or duties on key actors) with a greater focus on nature**
- **Tools: such as greater alignment of existing Defra schemes with the 30by30 criteria<sup>23</sup>**
- **Resources: such as funding or guidance for those managing Protected Landscapes for nature**
- **Other (please specify)**

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<sup>22</sup> Our legally binding Environment Act targets, which include halting the decline in species abundance by 2030, and restoring or creating more than 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat by 2042. See Annex 1 for more details.

<sup>23</sup> 30by30 on land in England: confirmed criteria and next steps:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criteria-for-30by30-on-land-in-england/30by30-on-land-in-england-confirmed-criteria-and-next-steps>



## **Bringing nature closer to communities**

The Government will deliver 1.5 million new homes in the right places, supporting our towns and cities to grow. These new homes need to be near to businesses, employment opportunities, and connected to nature and critical infrastructure.

Adapting to climate change and making room for nature will require efforts to introduce connected networks of green infrastructure into our villages, towns and cities. And there is evidence that exposure to green space is associated with improved well-being and health outcomes. New developments are incorporating green infrastructure such as sustainable drainage, and many citizens are choosing to plant trees, grow food or make room for wildlife in their gardens. Areas of public land not suitable for housing or other development<sup>24</sup>, recreational land<sup>25</sup>, and areas of the green belt could go further in following these examples and deliver a greater range of benefits like providing shade, connecting green spaces and reducing flood risk.

This would be guided by the Green Infrastructure Framework and might mean remediating derelict brownfield sites for development, reducing areas of impermeable paving, or adding features like orchards or habitats to existing parks and green spaces. The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>26</sup> has introduced golden rules for major development on released green belt land which require the provision of new, or improvements to existing, green spaces that are accessible to the public.

### **QUESTION 11: What approaches could cost-effectively support nature and food production in urban landscapes and on land managed for recreation?**

The Government recognises the importance of increasing responsible access to the outdoors for people's health and wellbeing and is working to ensure this is safe and appropriate. Part of this includes our manifesto commitments to create nine new national river walks and three new national forests in England, expanding access to the great outdoors.

We intend to support access to green and blue spaces in urban and rural environments, and green routes for active travel to and through these spaces. We will make further announcements on plans to develop policy on access to nature in due course.

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<sup>24</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/planning-overhaul-to-reach-15-million-new-homes>

<sup>25</sup> Such as sports fields, golf courses, shoots, horse paddocks and racecourses

<sup>26</sup> See paragraphs 156c and 157 [National Planning Policy Framework - GOV.UK](#)

## **Empowering local people to bring community spaces back into community ownership**

Community spaces have a significant role to play in developing social networks, encouraging community participation, and promoting civic pride. The Assets of Community Value scheme in England currently provides communities with a route to nominate any building or land which furthers the social wellbeing and interest of the community. Communities then have a right to bid on these assets if their owner puts them up for sale.

Through the English Devolution Bill, we will introduce a strong new 'right to buy' for valued community assets, such as empty shops, pubs and community spaces. Community Right to Buy will help local people acquire valued community spaces if they come up for sale, keeping these assets in the hands of the community. More details will be announced in due course.

## **2. Joined-up decisions on land use change**

### **Context**

The Town and Country Planning System and the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) planning regimes include the key legislative and policy frameworks that steer the associated land use change from housing, transport, energy generation, and other infrastructure. Improving the data and coordination between environmental planning and development planning will help developers and planners to minimise negative impacts on natural capital. There is, however, little formal guidance, information, or structure to support land managers' decisions on competing land use demands outside the planning system.

Feedback from land managers and developers suggests that their businesses need a more joined-up, strategic approach to land use strategy and planning at a local level, linked to regional and national priorities. This is necessary to avoid siloed land use decision-making and to mitigate the risk of unintended consequences or unanticipated costs. For example, more connected strategies could help guide development decisions towards less biodiverse sites that result in quicker development, and proposals or incentives for nature restoration to land with less potential to produce food.

### **Policy levers and enablers**

#### **Strategic spatial planning for development and infrastructure**

Optimising how we use England's land will be essential to delivering the Government's Growth mission and the Clean Energy Superpower mission (including the accelerating to net zero pillar). By strengthening housing targets and allowing development on poor quality land, we will deliver 1.5 million homes over this Parliament and ensure enough houses are

built for the needs of the population over the coming decades. The Government has set out that it will introduce a universal system of strategic planning throughout England in the forms of Spatial Development Strategies (SDS). These SDSs will be produced during this Parliament by combined authorities and partnerships of county councils and unitary authorities for areas where there is no devolved authority. SDSs will set the overarching spatial strategy for local plans.

We need to build new homes and clean energy, water infrastructure and transport infrastructure at scale and at pace. Both new and existing homes and infrastructure will need landscapes that reduce their climate change risks, for example by making more space for water upstream and reducing the impact of floods. Ensuring that plans for delivery consider wider land use outcomes and identifying priority areas for growth will be essential for a pro-growth, pro-infrastructure planning system.

The largest expansion of the power grid since the creation of the National Grid, to connect homes and businesses to new sources of clean energy, is a small but important additional source of demand on land. Delivering 1.5 million homes and the next generation of new towns, supported by enhanced transport and civic infrastructure, will also place demands on land. These will be relatively small overall, but with high and often concentrated impacts.

To align the rapid deployment of energy infrastructure with wider land use objectives, the UK, Scottish and Welsh Governments have jointly commissioned the National Energy System Operator to create a Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP). Throughout its development, the SSEP will consider wider demands on land and sea, including food production, transport, water supply, nature recovery and fisheries. Outputs of the Land Use Framework, including the principles and analysis underpinning it, will support development of the SSEP. This will ensure that the land with the greatest long-term potential for food production is better protected.

Development and wider land uses are intrinsically linked to the water catchments they impact and depend upon. The Government's Independent Commission on the Water Sector Regulatory System will make recommendations to ensure there is a strategic spatial planning approach to the management of water across sectors of the economy, tackling pollution and managing pressures on the water environment and supply at a catchment, regional and national scale.

**QUESTION 12: How can Government ensure that development and infrastructure spatial plans take advantage of potential co-benefits and manage trade-offs?**

Understanding how spatial choices impact infrastructural considerations will be key to delivering on all Government missions. Different land uses have varying transport implications, as trip generation and travel patterns will change based on the activity in a particular place, requiring different levels of transport infrastructure. We are committed to delivering a transport system that works better for people across the country and enables growth and access to opportunities. Key to this is adopting a vision-led approach to identifying transport solutions that is better integrated into land use considerations and establishes well-designed, sustainable and popular places.

**QUESTION 13: How can local authorities and Government better take account of land use opportunities in transport planning?**

**Connecting plans and strategies**

We want there to be greater local and regional democratic accountability over land-use decision making, including spatial strategies for land at local and regional scales. This includes strengthening connections between national, regional and local plans for land.

We have heard that the range of locally led, land-related plans and strategies has sometimes led to a siloed or confusing picture of land use change. There are opportunities in joining them up and presenting land managers with a more consistent and structured view of what the greatest opportunities for their land are likely to be.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs<sup>27</sup>) are being developed across the country to prioritise actions and areas for environmental enhancements. LNRSs will also enable Local Plans to better reflect the needs of nature recovery by helping Local Planning Authorities determine which areas should be mapped and safeguarded. To help connect plans at different scales, Government will collate relevant data generated through LNRSs and our biodiversity targets monitoring programme, share it with local leaders, and use it in the evaluation and development of national policy.

**QUESTION 14: How can Government support closer coordination across plans and strategies for different sectors and outcomes at the local and regional level?**

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<sup>27</sup> Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) are a new system of spatial strategies for nature recovery, currently in preparation across the country. The first LNRSs were published in 2024 with the remainder during 2025. It is required by law that LNRSs will be periodically reviewed and updated, taking stock of what has been delivered over the period so that priorities and actions can be updated as needed. The Land Use Framework will inform and assist this process after the first LNRSs are published.

## **Planning for climate resilient land use change**

Even with our ambitious targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it will still be necessary to adapt to climate change. Long-term, chronic impacts, such as average temperature change and sea level rise, and short-term acute impacts, like heatwaves, flooding and drought, will increasingly affect our communities, infrastructure, health, food security, water quality and nature.

To manage these impacts, we will need to adapt the way we currently manage land. That includes actions such as supporting wildlife to move to more suitable climates, helping farmers and growers to diversify the crops they grow and the farming methods they use, re-naturalising our water bodies and making space for water, and making spatial and long-term decisions about where and how we build homes and infrastructure that reduce risks from flooding.

Understanding climate adaptation plans of owners, managers and developers of land and infrastructure will enable us to support resilient land use change and support delivery of our National Adaptation Programme. We are therefore considering whether the Climate Change Act's Adaptation Reporting Power (ARP)<sup>28</sup> could be used to invite or require more organisations and major landowners to report in this process.

**QUESTION 15: Would including additional major landowners and land managers in the Adaptation Reporting Power process (see above) support adaptation knowledge sharing? Please give any reasons or alternative suggestions**

**[Yes / No / I don't know]**

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<sup>28</sup> For details, see Chapter 8 of *The Third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting*, available at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64ba74102059dc00125d27a7/The\\_Third\\_National\\_Adaptation\\_Programme.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64ba74102059dc00125d27a7/The_Third_National_Adaptation_Programme.pdf)

**QUESTION 16:** Below is a list of activities the Government could implement to support landowners, land managers, and communities to understand and prepare for the impacts of climate change. Please select the activities you think should be prioritised and give any reasons for your answer, or specific approaches you would like to see.

- **Providing better information on local climate impacts to inform local decision making and strategies** (for example, translating UK Climate Projections<sup>29</sup> into what these mean in terms of on-the-ground impacts on farming, buildings, communities and nature)
- **Providing improved tools and guidance for turning climate information into tangible actions** (for example, how to produce an adaptation plan for different sectors)
- **Developing and sharing clearer objectives and resilience standards** (for example, a clear picture and standards of good practice for each sector under a 2°C climate scenario<sup>30</sup>)
- **Supporting the right actions in the right places in a changing climate** (for example, prioritising incentives for sustainable land uses where they will be most resilient to climate change)
- **Other (please specify)**

### 3. Accessible and high-quality data

#### Context

There is a wealth of data available on the natural capital of England's land, but it is sometimes inaccessible or unsuitable for practical use. Research into land's potential for different purposes can rarely be applied at the field or site level.

Consistent sharing and use of non-sensitive data and evidence is a key priority to support effective land use decisions. This will mean:

- improving the quality of data used at the field, site or street scale,
- making it more accessible, and
- enabling the tools required to better integrate it into decision making.

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<sup>29</sup> Met Office UK Climate Projections: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/approach/collaboration/ukcp>

<sup>30</sup> The climate changes we will experience if there is 2°C of global average temperature increase above pre-industrial baselines by 2100.

## **Policy levers and enablers**

### **Improving land use data**

The geospatial data that exists for England is spread across a wide range of classifications, standards, metrics, and data languages. The Department for Science, Technology and Innovation's Land Use Data Improvement Project is a project with Ordnance Survey to assess spatial data for cross-cutting strategic land use policy priorities and test ways to improve interoperability for spatial data. Defra's Natural Capital and Ecosystem Assessment (NCEA) programme is improving access to high quality, interoperable data by conducting a comprehensive baseline survey of England's natural capital assets. This will be available under Open Government Licence<sup>31</sup>. We want to understand the key opportunities, from users of this data and those working with spatial data in the private sector, to make data more accessible to decision makers.

**QUESTION 17: What changes to how Government's spatial data is presented or shared could increase its value in decision making and make it more accessible?**

- **Updating existing Government tools, apps, portals or websites**
- **Changes to support use through private sector tools, apps or websites**
- **Bringing data from different sectors together into common portals or maps**
- **Increasing consistency across spatial and land datasets**
- **More explanation or support for using existing tools, apps or websites**
- **Greater use of geospatial indicators such as Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRNs) and INSPIRE IDs to allow data to be more easily displayed on a map**
- **Other (please specify)**

**QUESTION 18: What improvements could be made to how spatial data is captured, managed, or used to support land use decisions in the following sectors? Please give any reasons for your answer or specific suggestions.**

- **Development and planning: such as environmental survey data**
- **Farming: such as supply chain data and carbon or nature baseline measurements**
- **Environment and forestry: such as local and volunteer-collected environmental records**
- **Recreation and access: such as accessible land and route data**
- **Government-published land and agricultural statistics**

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<sup>31</sup> <https://defraenvironment.blog.gov.uk/2024/03/28/mapping-our-natural-assets-the-natural-capital-and-ecosystem-assessment-programme/>

## **Land use data's interaction with other datasets**

Interactions between different datasets can also generate new insights for decision makers. Our ability to combine a broad range of datasets and apply the latest advances in spatial data science and analysis is critical to the Ten Year National Energy Plan, Strategic Spatial Energy Plan, and the delivery of our target for new homes. Government is developing a Connectivity Tool combining transport and land use data to generate a national measure of connectivity for any location in England and Wales. This Connectivity score measures people's ability to get where they want to go – using walking, cycling and public transport to reach jobs, shops and essential services. It also allows users to input new public transport routes and gauge the effect these would have on an area's connectivity.

## **Understanding land's capability**

For food production to be properly valued in land use decisions, we need to know where the land with the greatest potential for food production is. The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system provides a valuable tool for assessing the suitability of land for agricultural use, particularly in development planning decisions. However, the ALC maps are outdated, not at a scale suitable for the assessment of individual fields or sites and not suited to changing land suitability as a result of climate change. To ensure that the ALC system supports effective land use planning decisions, Government is considering:

- Updating the ALC system, including the underlying data and methodologies, to ensure that land quality data is accurate and comprehensive.
- Enhancing the availability and accessibility of ALC data, including through improved mapping and databases.
- Improving guidance on ALC surveys and the use of ALC grades in local planning policies.

**QUESTION 19: What improvements are needed to the quality, availability and accessibility of ALC data to support effective land use decisions?**

## **Reducing data costs where it benefits the public or economy**

The public sector holds and maintains many authoritative datasets. Some of the data produced is freely available, and some incurs a cost to users. For example:

- HM Land Registry keeps the definitive record of land ownership in England and Wales but charges fees for access to certain information.
- Ordnance Survey provide vital data sources to inform land use decisions and guide recreational users, but some data sets incur a cost to commercial users above a certain transactional threshold.



We want to move towards a system where data is more widely accessible for the public benefit, whilst considering these organisations' current operational and funding models.

For HM Land Registry, we want to do this by making more data free to access, with plans to change the structure of their fees. This includes reviewing whether they are aligned with the Government's strategic ambitions, how they can be made less complex and fairer for customers, and lower barriers to accessing data. These proposals will explore options to increase transparency of land and property data to support innovation and enable citizen participation in co-design of land use policy.

**QUESTION 20: Which sources of spatial data should Government consider making free or easier to access, including via open licensing, to increase their potential benefit?**

## 4. The right skills in the right places

### Context

A fair land use transition that underpins long-term economic growth cannot be delivered without a secure, skilled workforce. We have heard through workshops across England that communities in the regions with significant potential economic opportunities through land use change often lack access to the skills and resources that would be needed to deliver it. This risks missing opportunities for economic growth, addressing regional inequalities and delivering nature recovery and climate change policies.

### Policy levers and enablers

#### Supporting land managers with new skills for changing land uses

Land management encompasses a wide range of skills, from farming and ecology to helicopter piloting for peat restoration projects. Defra will engage with skills organisations, including Skills England, to ensure a common understanding of the scale and pace of change required.

Defra will continue to work in partnerships with established industry providers to upskill and certify farming advice. A new professional body, The Institute for Agriculture and Horticulture (TIAH), is reducing fragmentation in the existing learning landscape, driving greater skills uptake.

Consistency will also be needed across the farming advice sector over land use change and productivity. We want to enable the alignment of farm plans with local and national priorities and will consider how to achieve this through trusted advisors, guidance and services.

**QUESTION 21: What gaps in land management capacity or skills do you anticipate as part of the land use transition? Please include any suggestions to address these gaps.**

- **Development and planning**
- **Farming**
- **Environment and forestry**
- **Recreation and access**
- **Other (please specify)**

### **Accelerating sharing of best practice and evidence**

Defra is working alongside the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB), research institutes and the new UK Agri-Tech Centre to accelerate adoption of new technologies and land management practices by sharing knowledge and best practice.

The two-way knowledge transfer between the research community and practitioners is invaluable, for example in the development of best practice around regenerative farming in a local context. There is, however, a perception that the skills, resources and evidence base are lagging behind the findings of innovative farmers and land managers. There is, therefore, an opportunity to ensure that all farmers and land managers can benefit from the skills, resources, innovation and technology best practice provided through academia, industry leaders and Government.

**QUESTION 22: How could the sharing of best practice in innovative land use practices and management be improved?**

### **Sharing lessons from nature restoration and climate adaptation practice**

One way in which we will look to test, trial or seek feedback on practical approaches is through convening a new group of major public, private and third sector landowners in England. This group, working with Defra, will support delivery of the terrestrial Environment Act targets and related nature recovery, such as 30by30, through action on their estates<sup>32</sup>. One of the roles of this group will be to consider how reporting on climate mitigation and adaptation can help share good practice.

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<sup>32</sup> This will include producing land management plans for their estates; piloting and testing approaches to land use management, change, or investment; reporting and sharing best practice on progress; and will include support and like-minded action from Defra and wider government departments.

# Co-creation and engagement on a Land Use Framework: next steps

This consultation and the Land Use Framework that will follow will be the start of a conversation about how we use land. This section describes how the Government will support this conversation with those delivering, or affected by, land use change, including communities, businesses, developers, landowners and farmers.

## Our plan for policy co-creation

We want to understand what our proposed principles mean for your area, and how we can improve them. We also want to involve you in developing the policy levers that will enable a fair land use transition.

We will do that by running workshops in six different regions in England. The workshops will run during the 12 weeks of consultation, in February and March. We will also run Minister-led roundtables with key stakeholder groups. The insights and feedback we gather through these events will feed into both the Land Use Framework and the farming system roadmap.

The Land Use Framework to be published in 2025 will take account of the combined contributions from the online consultation, workshops and roundtables. We want to continue the conversation even after the Land Use Framework is published and are considering options for how the Framework could be reviewed or updated over time. This would allow new information such as progress against targets, updated analysis and new agricultural innovation into account. In Scotland, a Land Use Strategy is produced every five years.

**QUESTION 23: Should a Land Use Framework for England be updated periodically, and if so, how frequently should this occur?**

- **Yes, every 5 years**
- **Yes, every 3 years**
- **Yes, another frequency or approach. Please provide details.**
- **No**
- **I don't know**

## **Making Government effective in policy co-creation**

For this process to be meaningful, we know that Government will need to speak with one voice on land use and clarify how its different policy objectives interact spatially. Implementing the principles in this consultation (page 18) would support this, but broader changes to how the Government coordinates land-related policies across departments may also be required. Government will consider how best to co-ordinate and provide:

- A strategic oversight function to ensure the right information and policy is in place to enable delivery against a long-term land use vision;
- A cross-governmental spatial analysis function to produce evidence-based advice on strategic implications across different demands on land;
- Processes to embed land use considerations in strategic Government decisions;
- Open policy-making processes in collaboration with research organisations.

**QUESTION 24: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed areas above? Please include comments or suggestions with your answer.**

**[Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree / I don't know]**