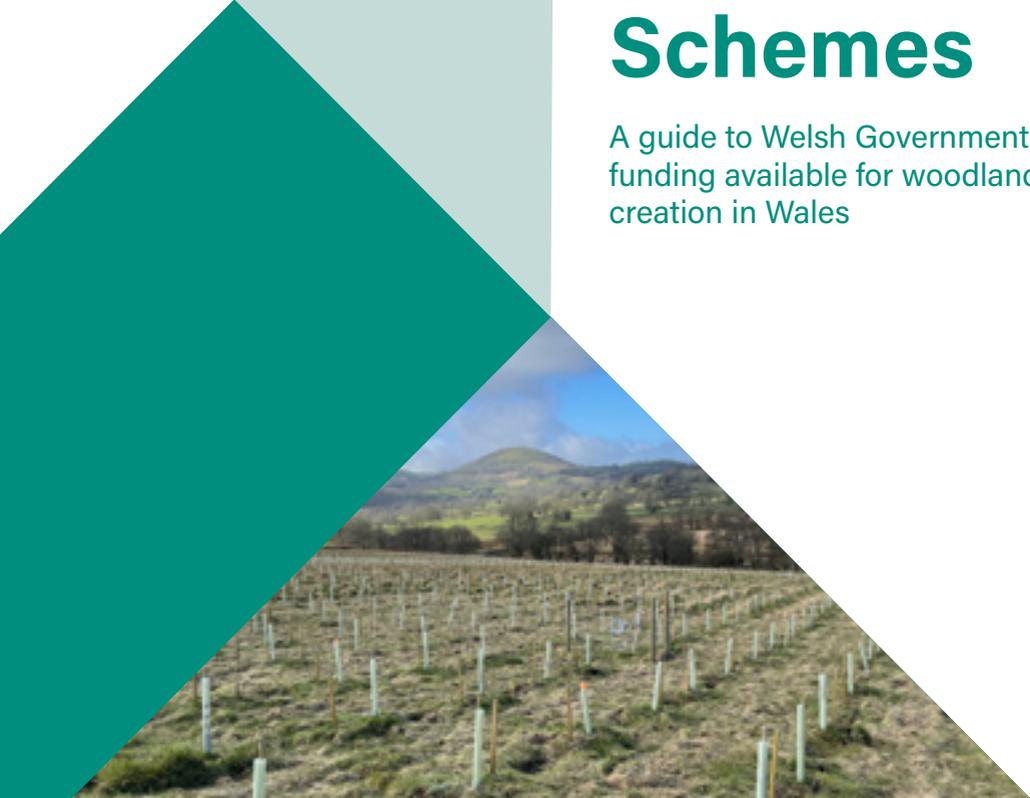




Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Woodland Creation Grant Schemes

A guide to Welsh Government  
funding available for woodland  
creation in Wales





**For more information on Welsh Government Woodland Creation Grants please see:**

**[www.gov.wales/forestry-grants](http://www.gov.wales/forestry-grants)**

Email: [polisicoedwigaeth.forestrypolicy@gov.wales](mailto:polisicoedwigaeth.forestrypolicy@gov.wales)

Woodland Creation Grants, Forestry Resources Policy, Welsh Government Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.

# Introduction

This booklet provides an overview of Welsh Government grant funding for woodland creation in Wales available to farmers, other landowners and land managers. In August 2022, we launched a new woodland creation offer comprising:

- **the Small Grants - Woodland Creation scheme** for small areas of tree planting under 2 hectares;
- **the Woodland Creation Planning scheme** which helps fund the development of a woodland creation plan by a registered woodland planner;
- **the Woodland Creation Grant** for larger schemes and those not suitable for the Small Grants scheme.

We have committed **£32m** to these schemes between 2022/2023 and 2024/2025.

The funding will also help farmers transition to the proposed Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) as trees planted now will count towards the SFS universal action for tree cover on farms.

Trees and woodlands planted now will help us create a Wales that is resilient to climate change and rich in plants and wildlife, alongside supporting the sustainable production of food, green jobs and a strong rural economy.

The three schemes are summarised in this booklet and more detailed technical information is available online at **[www.gov.wales/forestry-grants](http://www.gov.wales/forestry-grants)**

# The Benefits of Woodland Creation

Sustainably grown and well-managed mixed woodlands can provide many economic and environmental benefits, whether planted on a large commercial or small farm scale, supporting a diverse and resilient farm business.



Income stream from timber for construction



Provide shelter for livestock in cold, wet weather and shade in our increasingly hot summers



Contribute to reducing your carbon footprint



Improve air and water quality



Reduce the risk of flooding



Deliver biodiversity benefits



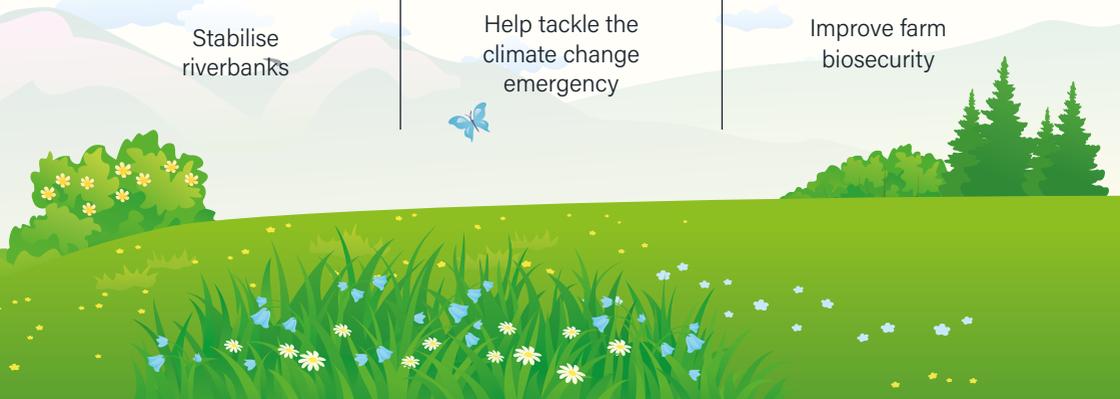
Stabilise riverbanks



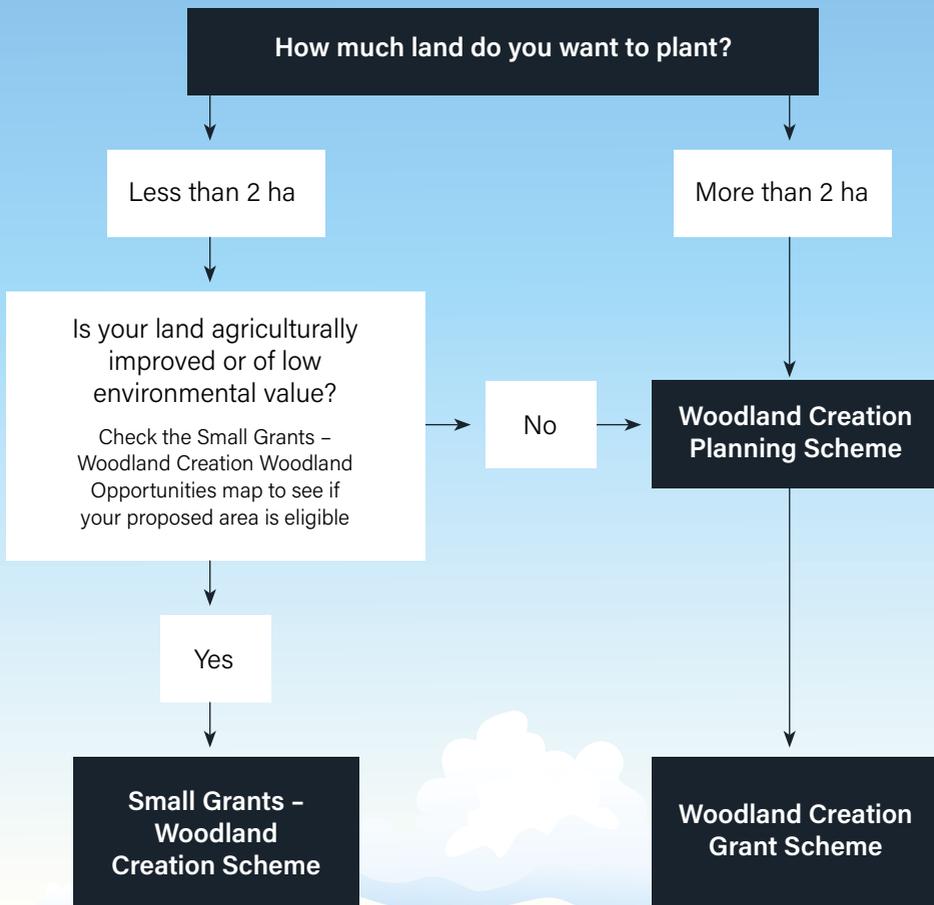
Help tackle the climate change emergency



Improve farm biosecurity



# Which scheme is right for you?



# Small Grants – Woodland Creation scheme

**The Small Grants – Woodland Creation scheme** has been developed as a streamlined process for farmers, other landowners and land managers wishing to plant less than 2 hectares of trees on land which is:

- ✓ Agriculturally improved, or
- ✓ Of low environmental value

This is land shown as an area of low sensitivity on the Woodland Opportunities Map (WOM). Have a look at the Small Grants – Woodland Creation map to see if you are eligible for this scheme.

<https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/small-grants-woodland-creation/>

## Key features include:



No loss of Basic Payment Scheme (BPS)



Straightforward online application process



Fencing at a rate of £5.56/metre



A UKFS compliant Woodland Creation Plan generated



12 years of maintenance and premium payments



Supporting technical guidance to help understand what to plant where

## Funding covers:



Tree planting



Fencing and gates



Establishment costs for tree planting



12 years maintenance costs to ensure trees establish



12 years premium payments to compensate for loss of agricultural income

Planting could be for: ✓ shelterwoods ✓ alongside watercourses  
 ✓ in field corners/small fields ✓ stock shelter,  
 ✓ biodiversity ✓ wood-fuel

There will be several windows available throughout the year.

For more information please visit: [www.gov.wales/small-grants-woodland-creation](http://www.gov.wales/small-grants-woodland-creation)

### Small Grants - Woodland Creation payment rates

Woodland Category	Trees/ Ha	Payment/ Ha	Additional Capital Works	Payment
Wet Woodland and Streamside	1100	£2,100	Fencing	£5.56 / m
Native Biodiversity	1100	£2,100	Timber Bridle Gate and Posts	£151.44 each
Wet Woodland and Streamside	1600	£3,000	Timber Kissing Gate and Posts	£181.00 each
Native Biodiversity	1600	£3,000		
Wood fuel (productive)	2500	£3,600		
Shelterwood (productive)	2500	£3,600		
Red Squirrel	1600	£3,000		
Red Squirrel	2500	£3,600		
Native Shelterwood	1600	£4,500		

12 Year Annual Area Payment	Payment /Ha
Maintenance	£60
Premium	£350

# Woodland Creation Planning Scheme

The Woodland Creation Planning Scheme provides funding to access the professional skills of a registered woodland planner, to help develop a plan which works for the applicant and makes productive use of the area to be planted.

**The scheme provides grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 for:**

- Professional advice from a Registered Woodland Planner
- Development of a woodland creation plan which is UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) compliant, verified by NRW and valid for 5 years
- Additional surveys, for example, for priority habitats or bird surveys

**A Woodland Creation Plan will:**

- Deliver your objectives for the area of planting
- Help you create well designed woodlands
- Provide a streamlined process if an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is needed
- Enable you to apply to grants schemes such as the Woodland Creation Grant and The Woodland Investment Grant (TWIG)

Applications can be made at any time in the year.

For more information please visit: [www.gov.wales/woodland-creation-plan-scheme](http://www.gov.wales/woodland-creation-plan-scheme)

'A Woodland Planner can help  
you achieve your goals.'



# Woodland Creation Grant

For farmers, landowners and land managers interested in creating larger areas of woodland, or who are not eligible to apply for the Small Grants – Woodland Creation Scheme, the Woodland Creation Grant will be the correct route.

## Key features include:



5 woodland creation categories including a new woodland creation option of 1,110 trees/ha for native biodiversity



No loss of Basic Payment Scheme (BPS)



Fencing at a rate of £5.56/metre



12 years of maintenance and premium payments

## Funding covers:



Tree planting



Establishment costs for tree planting



Fencing and gates



12 years maintenance costs to ensure trees establish



12 years premium payments to compensate for loss of agricultural income

**Before applying for the Woodland Creation Grant you must have an approved woodland creation plan in place.** The application process then allows you to select areas to plant from your approved plan, with a total minimum area of 0.25ha which can be comprised of individual 0.1ha blocks.

There will be several windows available throughout the year.

For more information please visit: [www.gov.wales/woodland-creation-grant](http://www.gov.wales/woodland-creation-grant)

## Woodland Creation Grant payment rates

Woodland Category	Trees/Ha	Payment/Ha
Agroforestry	80	£1,600
Native Biodiversity	1100	£2,100
Native Biodiversity	1600	£3,000
Enhanced Mixture	2500	£3,600
Native Carbon	2500	£4,500

Additional Capital Works	Payment	12 Year Annual Area Payment	Payment /Ha
Fencing	£5.56 / m	Maintenance (Agroforestry for 5 years)	£60
Standard gate (Metal)	£52.00 each	Premium (not Agroforestry)	£350
Standard gate (Softwood)	£150.00 each		
Standard gate (Hardwood)	£236.00 each		
Timber Bridle Gate and Posts	£151.44 each		
Timber Kissing Gate and Posts	£181.00 each		

# Grant funding examples

## Planting a 1.5ha wood fuel woodland

<b>Initial planting</b>	<b>£5,400</b>
<b>12 Years Maintenance</b> (annual payment: £90)	<b>£1,080</b>
<b>12 Years Premium payments</b> (annual payment: £525)	<b>£6,300</b>
<b>Fencing**</b>	<b>£2,713</b>
<b>Total Grant Payment</b> (over 12 years)	<b>£15,493</b>

(funding from Small Grants – Woodland Creation scheme)

## Planting a 5ha native carbon woodland

<b>Woodland Creation Plan</b>	<b>£1,000*</b>
<b>Initial planting</b>	<b>£22,500</b>
<b>12 Years Maintenance</b> (annual payment: £300)	<b>£3,600</b>
<b>12 Years Premium payments</b> (annual payment: £1,750)	<b>£21,000</b>
<b>Fencing**</b>	<b>£4,959</b>
<b>Total Grant Payment</b> (over 12 years)	<b>£53,059</b>

(funding from Woodland Creation Planning and Woodland Creation Grant schemes)

## Planting a 10ha enhanced mixed woodland

<b>Woodland Creation Plan</b>	<b>£1,000*</b>
<b>Initial planting</b>	<b>£36,000</b>
<b>12 Years Maintenance</b> (annual payment: £600)	<b>£7,200</b>
<b>12 Years Premium payments</b> (annual payment: £3,500)	<b>£42,000</b>
<b>Fencing**</b>	<b>£7,027</b>
<b>Total Grant Payment</b> (over 12 years)	<b>£93,227</b>

(funding from Woodland Creation Planning and Woodland Creation Grant schemes)

\*the cost of surveys which can be claimed are not included in this example

\*\*assumes fencing square block of woodland, funding for gates is also available but not shown in this example