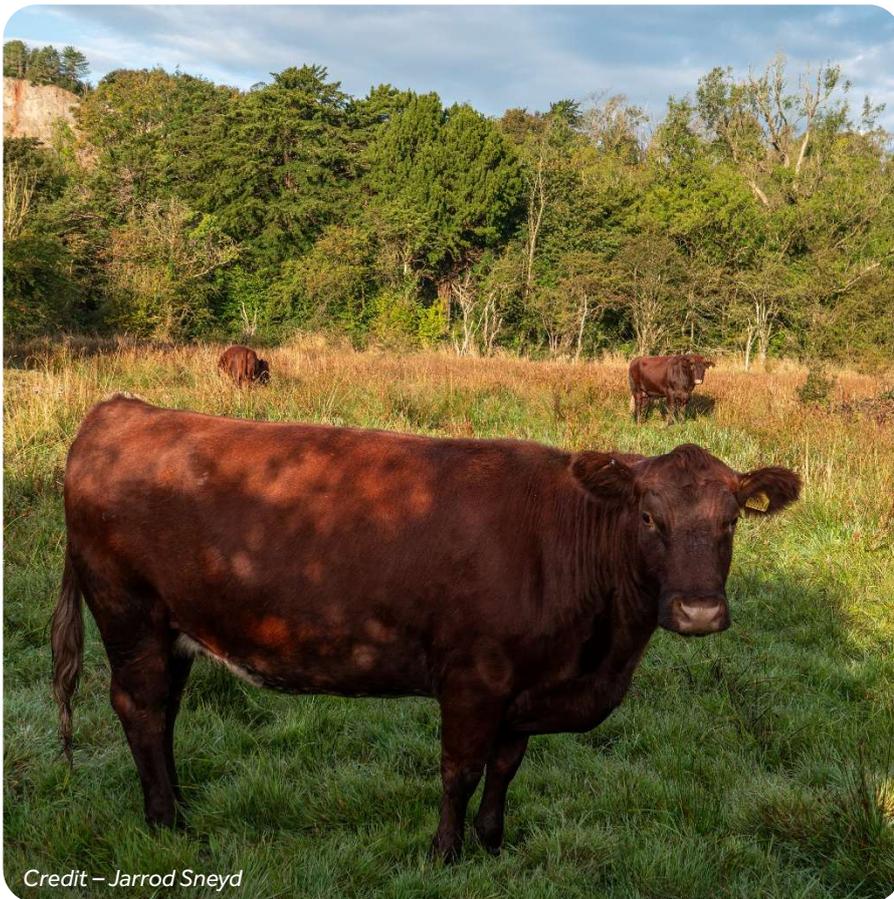


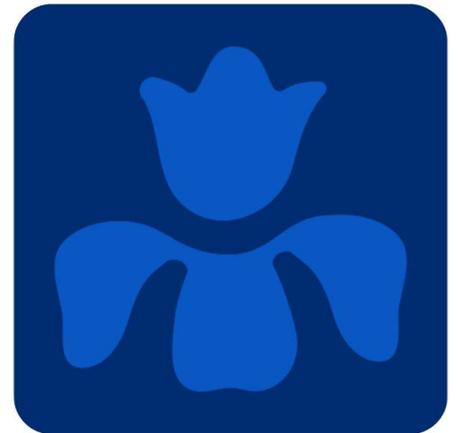


**Arnside &
Silverdale
National
Landscape**

Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme (FiPL)



Credit – Jarrod Sneyd



Key programme priorities for Arnside & Silverdale National Landscape

- Improve resilience of the landscape to climate change
- Enhance or restore priority habitats
- Improve connectivity of habitats and enhance habitat mosaics across the landscape
- Create or enhance transitional habitats e.g. woodland edge
- Take targeted action for priority species
- Restore traditional boundaries - drystone walls and hedgerows
- Plant boundary and in-field trees, particularly to ensure succession planting for parkland, veteran, and notable trees
- Conserve, enhance or restore landscape or heritage features
- Improve public access by creating permissive paths and easy access routes
- Providing more opportunities for people to explore, enjoy and understand the landscape, in particular more diverse audiences, e.g. through events, interpretation, or improving facilities
- Supporting farm businesses to become more nature-friendly and sustainable

Ideally, we are looking for projects with impact that deliver multiple benefits.

Collaborative projects and multi-year projects will be proactively encouraged.

Our Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) Officers will work with the Arnside and Silverdale National Landscape Farming and Land Management group and individual or small groups of farmers and land managers to develop projects which deliver these key priorities.

Indicative Project Examples

Example 1 – A farmer/land manager in Arnside & Silverdale National Landscape will carry out scrub management to reinstate species-rich limestone grassland, install a series of gates to improve access for people with limited mobility and plant new hedgerows and in-field trees across their land holding. This will deliver public benefits by addressing climate change and improving landscape character, wildlife habitats, and access opportunities.

Example 2 – A farmer/land manager in Arnside & Silverdale National Landscape will carry out an ecological survey and soil test for 7ha of semi-improved grassland to assess the suitability for restoration to species-rich grassland and go on to restore 3ha of the semi-improved grassland. They also restore a heritage lime kiln and drystone walls, provide a new concessionary access route, and install new signage to direct people to a local café business to support the local economy.



Arnside & Silverdale National Landscape Management Plan

Alongside delivering the FiPL Outcomes within the four Themes, all FiPL projects will be expected to demonstrate how they help deliver the Arnside & Silverdale National Landscape Management Plan 2026 - 2031. We have created a list below of the elements of the Management Plan most relevant to the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme. The full Management Plan document can be downloaded from the National Landscape website.

The Strategic Objectives each contain a series of actions intended to meet the outcomes.

Strategic Objectives

S1 Landscape & Seascape	Conserve, enhance and improve understanding of the natural beauty, landscape and seascape of Arnside & Silverdale
S2 Geodiversity	Conserve, enhance and improve understanding and appreciation of our geological heritage.
S3 Biodiversity	Secure the long-term recovery, conservation and enhancement of protected and priority habitats and species across the National Landscape, taking a Biodiversity-first management approach in all our work.
S4 Historic and Cultural Heritage	Conserve and enhance our built, cultural and social heritage and improve understanding and the public value of the areas unique historic character.
S5 Access, Enjoyment & Well-being	Communicate and interpret the special qualities of the landscape, promote the ways in which people can enjoy themselves safely and responsibly and the health and well-being benefits of doing so. Provide high quality access across the network of footpaths and bridleways and seek to remove both social and physical barriers to accessing and enjoying the countryside.
S6 Sustainable Economy, Tourism & Transport	Support the development and diversification of local services and economic activity which benefits local communities, improves the quality of tourism offered and conserves and enhances the special qualities of the landscape.
S7 Planning & Place-making	Practice a landscape-first approach to planning and development management in which all development seeks to enhance the natural beauty and special qualities of the landscape.
S8 Farming, Forestry & Rural Land Use	Support and encourage sustainable management of the landscape which conserves and enhances the special qualities and delivers a range of environmental, community and local economic benefits.

Management Plan Actions relevant to the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme

S1 Landscape & Seascape

- 1d Improve understanding and awareness of the landscape designation, its purpose and the wide range of public benefits provided by landscape. Improve recognition and understanding of the National Landscape Partnership.

- 1e Maintain the sense of tranquillity within the landscape. Explore opportunities to enhance tranquillity of the area and sense of 'peace and quiet' through appropriate project design.

- 1f Improve the quality of dark skies within the landscape, reduce the impacts of light pollution and follow the principles of lighting only where necessary. Increase awareness and appreciation of the value of dark skies to wildlife, tranquillity and people's health and well-being.

- 1g Support, encourage and deliver tangible projects and interventions to mitigate the causes and impacts of climate change across the landscape and within the area's communities and built environment.

S2 Geodiversity

- 2a Conserve and positively manage geodiversity, including both statutory (Special Areas of Conservation, Limestone Pavement Orders, SSSI) and non-statutory (Local Geological Sites) sites and also non-designated geological features and assets of interest where they occur.

S3 Biodiversity

- 3a Make tangible progress towards relevant 30by30 targets, Environmental Improvement Plan commitments and Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework (PLTOF) targets.

- 3b For designated sites, ensure 60% of SSSI have 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition by 2028 with a longer-term target of over 80% of SSSI features in favourable condition by 2042, equating to over 96 of 119 total SSSI features in the National Landscape.

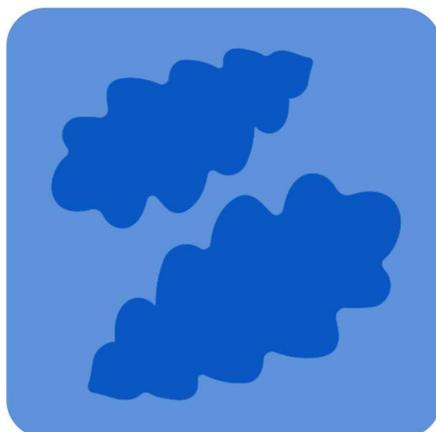
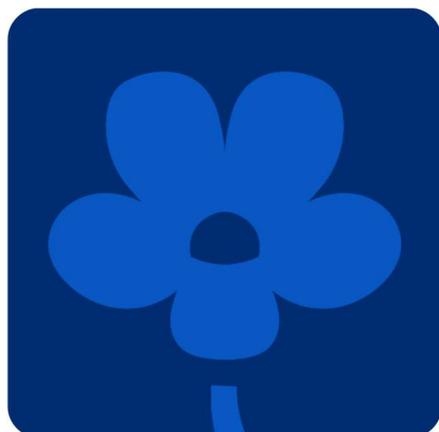
- 3c Ensure the network of Local Wildlife Sites are maintained in good ecological condition and under positive management.

- 3d Ensure all areas of priority habitat are in favourable management. Periodically review and request updates to the local extent of the Natural England Priority Habitats Inventory (PHI)

- 3e Raise awareness of the importance of wildlife as part of the landscape character and natural and cultural heritage of the area. Support and encourage opportunities for people to engage with nature through education, interpretation, themed events and activities. Support publication of relevant Natural History reports, leaflets and guides such as the BCCIC Atlas and Guides.

S3 Biodiversity (continued)

- 3f Reduce anthropogenic impacts on habitats and species; seek to significantly reduce recreational disturbance pressure on both breeding and wintering birds. Identify key sites and explore opportunities for improved signage, public engagement and interpretation, on-site access management and provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGs) where required. Ensure that the approaches to recreational disturbance mitigation in the landscape are consistent and compatible with the recreational disturbance mitigation approach utilised elsewhere within Morecambe Bay.
-
- 3h Raise awareness of the importance of monitoring Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) in the landscape and support actions to control INNS where they present a risk to protected sites, priority habitats and priority species. INNS of most relevant concern include New Zealand Pygmyweed, *Cotoneaster* spp, *Buddleia* spp, Himalayan Balsam and Chinese Mitten Crab.
-
- 3i Support legacy work of previous projects to reintroduce protected species to the landscape such as Hazel Dormouse. Explore project opportunities for future reintroductions and recolonisation of appropriate species within the landscape.
-
- 3j Take targeted action for key priority species included with the Arnside & Silverdale Nature Recovery Plan and any other rare or notable species where they occur within the landscape. Ensure that management requirements for priority species are accounted for in relevant Nature Reserve and associated Land Management plans
-
- 3k Maintain/improve quality and extent of high value saline influenced habitats. Create a further 6ha of priority saline-influenced habitat behind existing coastal flood protection using regulated tidal exchange, managed realignment processes or similar.
-
- 3l Significantly reduce grazing pressure on grazed saltmarsh. Seek a shift change in management from heavily sheep grazed marshes to ungrazed or (very) lightly cattle/pony grazed marshes.
-
- 3m Seek to progress projects included within Shoreline Management Plans and the Nature Recovery Plan to re-naturalise the 'hard' coast and mitigate climate change.
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- 3n Manage for a more flexible and dynamic coast. Increase successional dynamism of saltmarsh habitats. Seek interventions to promote accretion and early stage 'pioneer' marsh and shingle habitats.
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- 3o Restore Hydrology and wet features on saltmarshes to reverse damage caused by historic drainage and increase resilience to climate change impacts.



S3 Biodiversity (continued)

- 3p Maintain/improve quality and extent of high value native woodland, ancient woodland and historic parkland within the landscape.
-
- 3q Maintain condition of notable Veteran/Ancient trees present in the landscape and increase identification, monitoring and protection of individual Veteran/Ancient trees. Where veterans/ancient tree condition poses a risk to safety, manage decline through sensitive tree surgery and remedial works in preference to felling. If felling is necessary, ensure suitable replanting takes places, ideally of trees with local progeny.
-
- 3r Create 134ha of associated woodland habitats to increase overall extent including coppice, scrub, wood pasture, hedgerows and compatible mosaic habitats. Focus on creating/enhancing ecologically coherent buffers, corridors and islands as part of a wider woodland network.
-
- 3s Maintain and improve woodland connectivity for both woodland species and associated limestone grassland species through the creation of 183ha of open space, rides and glades within existing woodland.
-
- 3t Support restocking and recovery following the impact of Ash die-back to improve woodland structure and increase species diversity and resilience to climate change.
-
- 3u Prevent inappropriate afforestation. Refuse planting on incompatible priority habitats, especially new sites for non-natives and/or commercial timber crops. Reduce total area of non-native and/or plantation forestry and replace with appropriate priority woodland/scrub and mosaic habitats.
-
- 3v Maintain/improve quality and extent of high value limestone grassland, meadows, pavements and limestone open mosaic habitats within the landscape.
-
- 3w Create/restore 74ha of priority species rich grassland and increase overall extent of species rich limestone grassland and associated limestone scrub and open pavement habitats. Focus on creating/enhancing ecologically coherent buffers, corridors and islands as part of a wider limestone grassland and mosaic network.
-
- 3x Maintain and improve connectivity for both woodland species and associated limestone grassland species through creation of 183ha rides and glades within adjacent/associated woodland and scrub areas.
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- 3y Encourage extensive conservation grazing management using native breeds of sheep and cattle.
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- 3z Maintain/improve quality and extent of high value freshwater wetlands, notably the complex of reedbed, fen and open water forming part of RSPB Leighton Moss and Morecambe Bay Nature Reserve and Gaitbarrows NNR.
-
- 3aa Create 54ha of priority wetland habitats to increase the overall extent of high value freshwater and water-compatible habitats, provide natural flood management (NFM) benefits and protect soil carbon. Focus on the creation/restoration of new wetlands on river floodplains, peat soils and restoration of hydrological functioning on historically cut-over peat moss at Arnside Moss and Hale Moss.

S3 Biodiversity (continued)

- 3bb Maintain and improve wetland connectivity for wetland species, especially European Eel by maintaining/improving natural and built watercourses and removing barriers to fish passage. Where possible, allow natural watercourses to function within their floodplain, removing or re-engineering bank structures, canalised sections and culverts.

- 3cc Improve water quality and severely reduce diffuse pollution risk from agricultural and urban sources through sustainable wastewater and sewerage interventions.

- 3dd Encourage built development (including renovations/remodels of older buildings) to incorporate wildlife friendly features such as Swift bricks, bird/bat boxes and bug hotels/invertebrate habitat within both the built structure and landscaping

- 3ee Utilise urban landscaping such as roadside verges to improve connectivity for pollinators. Identify and maintain existing high value verges and explore options for further verge enhancement with relevant Highways Authorities.

S4 Historic & Cultural Heritage

- 4a Reduce the number of nationally designated scheduled monuments at risk in the landscape: Arnside Tower, Hazelslack Tower and Beetham Tower.

- 4b Conserve and enhance designated heritage assets, including scheduled monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, listed buildings and the Conservation Areas of Warton, Beetham, Yealand Conyers and Redmayne. Where possible, support condition monitoring of designated heritage assets and seek out, survey and research other heritage assets in the area potentially suitable for designation.

- 4i Conserve and increase awareness of landscape heritage sites of importance, such as Dallam Tower Deer Park and the medieval earthworks and field systems around the historic settlements of Beetham, Far Arnside, Hale, Silverdale, Warton and the Yealands.

- 4j Identify, conserve and restore the network of traditional field boundaries, including dry stone walls, veteran hedgerows, historic trackways and lanes.

- 4k Identify, maintain and restore historic orchards.

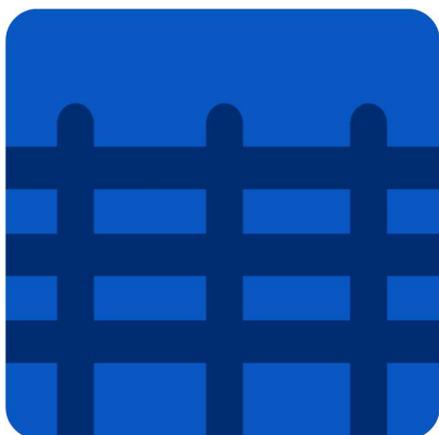
- 4l Encourage uptake of Agri-environment scheme actions to enhance the historic landscape

- 4m Conserve and ensure positive management of historic springs, ponds, and wells such as Bank Well and Wood Well in Silverdale

- 4o Conserve features associated with the pre-medieval history of the area such as Warton Crag Scheduled Monument. Implement management recommended within the Warton Crag Scheduled Monument Conservation Management Plan.

S5 Access, Enjoyment & Well-being

- 5a Offer and support an integrated and co-ordinated annual programme of events, guided walks, festivals, talks and conferences within the landscape. Curate outdoor experiences for a range of audiences and benefits including education, interpretation, health and wellbeing etc. Support existing long-running events that connect communities with landscape such as Apple Day and the Silverdale & Arnside Arts & Crafts Festival.
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- 5b Deliver a supported walks programme for people experiencing barriers to enjoying the countryside, particularly barriers relating to physical disability, mental health and neurological and neurodegenerative conditions such as dementia.
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- 5f Operate and support coordinated youth education and engagement programmes. Encourage participation by young people in the interpretation and management of the landscape and increase opportunities for schools, both locally and from nearby urban areas to access and discover the landscape.
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- 5g Support the development and delivery of projects that engage and interpret the landscape and its special qualities through the creative arts.
-
- 5h Maintain the public rights of way network to a high standard and identify opportunities to expand and improve both the public and permissive access network, improving the number, distance and connectivity of multi-user accessible routes including bridleways. Ensure the network is supported by consistent and high quality waymarking, signposting and suitable well-designed rest stops.
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- 5k Recognise and maintain key viewpoints across the landscape. Where possible, improve accessibility to key viewpoints.
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- 5n Raise awareness and encourage visitor compliance of relevant national guidance such as the Countryside Code, Marine and Coastal Wildlife Code and the 'Leave no Trace' principles. Support measures locally to tackle issues of livestock and wildlife disturbance by dogs on private land and across the PROW network.



S8 Farming, Forestry & Rural Land Use

- 8a Provide bespoke advice and support to landowners and managers on land management practices which conserve and enhance the landscape and natural and cultural heritage of the area through a range of mechanisms e.g. habitat and species monitoring, woodland/site management plans, felling licences, Agri-Environment Scheme (AES) agreements etc.
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- 8b Ensure at least 80% of farmers and land managers adopt nature friendly farming practices on at least 15% of their land.
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- 8c Deliver the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme, supporting projects which:
- Support nature recovery
 - Mitigate the impacts of climate change
 - Provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and its cultural heritage
 - Protect or improve the quality and character of the landscape or place.
-
- 8d Support the National Landscape Farming and Land Management Group, provide information, share expertise and explore further development of farm 'clusters' to deliver nature-based projects.
-
- 8e Support development of relevant skills and expertise within the farming, forestry and land management sector, collaborating with existing networks to provide information, knowledge sharing, training and events tailored to the landscape. Promote innovation and use of new technologies that may improve the sustainability and viability of land use operations.
-
- 8f Support and implement Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) initiatives to tackle agricultural diffuse and point source pollution across the landscape.
-
- 8g Improve climate change resilience of farm businesses to adapt to expected drier summers, wetter winters and higher frequency of storms. Support the transition to systems of 'wetter' farming on low-lying, reclaimed farmland and farmland over peat soils where inundation risk is highest.
-
- 8h Support opportunities for creating and developing the next generation of land managers through work placements, apprenticeships, internships and skills training opportunities.
-
- 8j Support development and diversification of rural economy with products produced through the conservation of habitats, species and landscape e.g. biochar and woodcraft products from under-managed woodlands, local venison supply chains as part of deer management etc.
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- 8k Protect and restore healthy soils on farmed land. Encourage the development and delivery of soil restoration plans for farmed land.
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- 8l Support measures to protect soil carbon by raising water levels on low-lying, reclaimed farmland and farmland over peat soils. Encourage update of Agri-Environment Scheme (AES) options which raise water levels in peat soils.
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- 8m Support development of a viable conservation grazing model that provides sustainable conservation grazing services to nature reserves and high nature value farmland within the landscape.

S8 Farming, Forestry & Rural Land Use (continued)

- 8n Safeguard local genetic progeny of heritage livestock breeds. Encourage uptake of and support applications using relevant Heritage Breeds at Risk (HBAR) management actions within Agri-Environment Schemes (AES).
-
- 8o Ensure compliance with relevant gamebird release general licence (GL43) in relation to gamebird release within buffer zones of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). Encourage sustainable gamebird management practices within the landscape and explore opportunities for biodiversity improvements as part of gamebird management.

S9 Governance

- 9d Support, champion and build capacity of community led organisations which directly support the conservation and enhancement of the landscape such as the Arnside & Silverdale Landscape Trust and Bittern Countryside Community Interest Company (CIC).
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- 9e Actively support volunteering within the landscape, ensure volunteering opportunities are available to people of all ages and abilities and recognise volunteering for its value to individual health and wellbeing.
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- 9i Practice a multi-objective approach to planning and project design.

