

# BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN CONSULTANCY SERVICE

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is a new requirement introduced by the Environment Act 2021. It obliges developers to deliver a 10% gain in biodiversity compared to pre-development levels. Some developers may need to fund habitat creation or restoration 'off-site' to achieve this target.

This service is for farmers who:

- Are interested in the opportunities and funding that BNG might bring to their business.
- Have been approached by brokers or habitat banks looking for land on which to deliver BNG projects.
- Have a development opportunity on their land that might be impacted by BNG.

## SUMMARY OF SERVICE

If you are successfully referred to the Biodiversity Net Gain service following the initial on-farm business review, there are two different service packages that we can offer.

### HALF DAY SERVICE

If you have a particular site or project that you think may be suitable for BNG, or if you have been approached by a habitat bank or broker who is interested in your holding, this half day service will include:

- A meeting or video call to discuss your potential BNG project and understand how it sits within your wider farm business and/or land management.
- A consultant will talk you through the advantages, disadvantages, risks and benefits.
- After the meeting, you will receive a report summarising the discussion and recommending next steps.

### TWO DAY SERVICE

This service will help to assess the viability and suitability of creating a BNG 'receptor site' on the holding and identify one or more options for potential sites and projects.

#### DAY ONE

- Market research and high-level financial planning.
- Desktop information gathering and review of existing reports/survey data etc.
- A half day farm visit to get to know the holding, understand your objectives and see how BNG sits within the wider farm business.

#### DAY TWO

- Further research and consideration of suitable projects or sites.
- Your consultant will prepare a report summarising the discussion and findings from day one, plus further information on the process of creating a 'receptor site' and next steps (e.g. consents and surveys, registration of the site).
- The report will not include biodiversity metric calculations for your site, however, will provide examples of what could be achieved on a 'typical' site similar to yours.

### ADDITIONAL SERVICES

The following services are not covered by the FBAS scheme, but can be provided on a time charge basis:

- Arranging surveys such as baseline habitat or hydrological surveys.
- Applying for the necessary consents or permissions needed for a proposed project.
- Advice for landowners or developers on how to meet the BNG requirement for a planned development.

Any additional work will be agreed with you prior to any work being undertaken.