



Bassetlaw District council is seeking to strengthen biodiversity and the natural environment in Bassetlaw by asking landowners across the district to submit possible sites which could be used to improve biodiversity, mitigate climate change or help with flood management. The Call for Sites runs between the **20 March 2024 and 1 May 2024**.

It follows the introduction of new national Government legislation which requires biodiversity net gain from new development. Biodiversity net gain aims to leave the natural environment and wildlife habitats in a measurably better state than before the development took place. The Call for Sites will help identify local sites for biodiversity net gain in Bassetlaw which is the Council's preference so our local communities can benefit from more biodiversity in their local area.

Any size and scale of sites can be submitted; it could be land that joins up the landscape such as field margins or could be part of an amenity space, in towns/on the edge of towns or in the countryside. Opportunities could include creating wildflower meadows, new hedgerows, planting trees or installing ponds.

Landowners can get funding from developers from the sale of biodiversity units on their land and a maintenance contribution from developers for any biodiversity provided for 30 years. Funding may also be available from selling carbon credits from planting trees. We understand that landowners need to think carefully about making decisions about land for the long term. Submitting a site now is an expression of interest, it does not provide a commitment to using the land for biodiversity in the future.

Please go to the Council's website www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/call-for-biodiversity-sites for Call for Sites forms or to read a short guidance note. Forms and guidance notes will also be available shortly at Worksop, Retford and Harworth & Bircotes town halls and at libraries in the district.

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