



# Priority Species Scheme

## Cost-effective off-site Priority Species Compensation *and* BNG Habitat Delivery

### Integrated Off-Site Compensation

The scheme, approved by your local planning authority, facilitates the protection and recovery of populations of locally important Priority Species by providing BNG habitat that also delivers for these species.

We can secure compensation for **skylarks, linnets, yellowhammers, and hedgehogs.**

### Accurate Impact Assessment

Using our specially developed species-specific metrics, we can quantify a development's impact on locally important Priority Species.

This allows for the provision of viable and proportionate compensation to be secured as part of the planning process.

#### EFFICIENT AND SIMPLE



There's no requirement to design and submit a compensation scheme - we provide all the documentation and evidence to support your planning application and/or discharge your planning conditions.

#### COST-EFFECTIVE



Our delivery partners create BNG sites that deliver for species *and* BNG. The integration of species into BNG delivers considerable combined cost savings.

#### NO LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS



Your fee covers all ongoing management and monitoring undertaken by our delivery partners, and the habitats are secured and managed by them for 30 years with no further payments required.

#### DESIGNED FOR YOUR NEEDS



The scheme is flexible and we can offer different delivery options based on the requirements of your development, including securing bespoke measurable agricultural improvements.

#### BETTER FOR NATURE



We work with expert NGOs to secure high quality landscape-scale BNG compensation habitat suitable for impacted species that's designed to strengthen local populations.

#### FULLY COMPLIANT



Designed alongside industry experts and LPA partners, the scheme complies with DEFRA guidance, ensuring that the integrated species units contribute to BNG delivery only up to 'no net loss'.

## How it works

The Priority Species Scheme provides off-site compensation habitat for:

- skylarks
- linnets
- yellowhammers
- hedgehogs

When you join the scheme, we provide you with all necessary documentation required to support your planning application.

We provide species assessments which calculate your development project's compensation requirements using our species-specific metrics and details from your project's ecological surveys and BNG metrics. **We will deliver an initial assessment in 5 working days.**

Our compensation delivery partners select and secure high-quality off-site BNG gain sites and assess their unit value for the relevant Priority Species, using our unique metrics. We allocate these units to your development to cover your species impact.

All responsibility for the long-term monitoring and management of off-site compensation habitat is taken on by our compensation delivery partners.

**We can also secure additional bespoke measurable agricultural improvements to provide units for species such as farmland birds that require large areas of specific habitat types.**

## Flexible Integrated Delivery

We work with you to provide the most cost-effective solution to meet your development project's Priority Species compensation requirements. Our flexible scheme can be delivered with our BNG scheme allowing you to meet both your Priority Species and BNG requirements.

## Already met your BNG requirements?

We can provide standalone off-site species compensation units to cover your Priority Species impacts, if you can already meet your BNG requirements **on or off-site.**

If you have already secured off-site BNG habitat, we can calculate its value for the impacted Priority Species, covered by our scheme. We can then provide evidence, through the scheme, that this habitat covers your species impacts. Additional species units, where required, can be purchased from us, to ensure you are fully covered.

## Already received planning permission?

If you have a planning condition that requires you to submit details of Priority Species compensation, please get in touch, as we may be able to help.

