

Winter Cover Crop Agreement

Application Form Version 1.0

Natural England's Nutrient Mitigation Scheme



Before you apply

Use this form to apply to enter the Natural England Nutrient Mitigation Scheme as a provider of winter cover crops.

This form does not constitute an offer by Natural England. The purpose of this form is for Natural England to gather preliminary information about your land to assess whether it is eligible to enter this scheme. No legally binding agreement with Natural England is formed until such time as a Winter Cover Crop Agreement is signed by you, Natural England and any other relevant party.

Submitting this form

Email your completed form to nutrientmitigation@naturalengland.org.uk

Please include 'cover crops' in the email subject line.

Please note any changes made to this form, other than the requested information, will render the application void.

What happens next

Once you have submitted your application, Natural England will email you within 5 working days to confirm that it has been received.

We will be processing applications on a monthly basis, with agreements signed within 8 -10 weeks.

There is a chance that some ostensibly suitable land will be screened out at this stage. You will be contacted if your application is not successful.

For more information, please refer to the additional guidance.

Section 1: Application details

1.1 For how many years do you wish to enter into the Winter Cover Crop Agreement?

Years

[answer must be a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 6 years]

1.2 How many hectares do you wish to commit to provide each year?

Hectares [minimum 25 hectares]

1.3 During the course of the agreement you may wish to rotate the parcels where cover crops are sown (subject to an initial minimum of 25 hectares) or to increase the area of cover crops.

Decreases are not permitted.

Please therefore list below all the parcels that you *might* wish to enter into the scheme over its duration.

Natural England will review each parcel's suitability for this scheme, and the parcels that are eligible will be listed in the Particulars section of a subsequent Winter Cover Crop Agreement.

Nominated Parcels:

| Full Land Parcel ID | Hectares | Farm type* |
|---------------------|----------|------------|
| [AA12345678] | | |
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*Please choose from the following 'robust farm types' for each parcel of land: cereals/general/mixed/horticulture

[Farm type classifications match the Defra Robust Farm Types. Users should select the farm type that best matches the dominant type of farming for the given area of land. For example, if an area of farm is under an arable rotation that in most years grows cereals but includes livestock in some years, that area of a farm would be classed as the 'cereals' farm type.]

Section 2: proposed Agreement Holder details

2.1 What is the Rural Payments Agency's Single Business Identifier (SBI) number for your business?

[9-digit RPA number]

2.2 Name of proposed Agreement Holder(s):

The name of the person below is the name of the person who is proposed to be the Agreement Holder should a Winter Cover Crop Agreement be offered by Natural England. This should be the person(s) who have the legal right to farm the land over the term of the proposed agreement.

Full Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone number:

Email address:

2.3 Name of landlord or licensor (if applicable):

Full Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone number:

Email address:

2.4 If there are other persons or entities (eg companies, trusts etc) with a legal interest in the land, please explain their roles:

2.5 If you wish us to communicate with you via an agent, please give their details:

Full Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone number:

Email address:

By giving these details, you authorise Natural England to make contact with your agent and to discuss your potential involvement in Natural England's Winter Cover Crop scheme. Any subsequent Winter Cover Crop Agreement will require your signature and it is your responsibility to ensure that you are fully aware of all of the terms, conditions and obligations of any such agreement.

Section 3: declarations:

I / We declare that:

- a. To the best of my/our knowledge, the statements and information provided in this application form are true, accurate and not misleading. I/we acknowledge that Natural England will act on the basis of information supplied in this form and understand and agree that the provision of inaccurate information may lead to the termination of any subsequent Winter Cover Crop Agreement and the recovery of payments made under that agreement.
- b. None of the land identified in Section 1 of this form is enrolled in any scheme of any description that offers payment for the sowing of winter cover crops and I/we acknowledge that any land so enrolled is/will be ineligible for a Natural England Winter Cover Crop Agreement.
- c. All of the land identified in Section 1 of this form is currently managed as required by the Reduction and Prevention of Agricultural Diffuse Pollution (England) Regulations 2018 (also known as Farming Rules for Water).
- d. Before entering into any agreement with Natural England, I/we will be responsible for contacting all of persons or other entities that have a legal interest in the management of the land identified in Section 1 and will obtain their consent to enter into a subsequent Winter Cover Crop Agreement.
- e. I/we have read and understood the 'Using and sharing your information' section below and consent to Natural England utilising information contained in this application form and any resulting Winter Cover Crop Agreement in the manner there described.

| Signature | Name(s) in BLOCK letters | Date |
|-----------|--------------------------|------|
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Section 4: Using and sharing your information

The data controller is Natural England, Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX. Your information will be stored and processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR). We will process your personal data in accordance with all applicable data protection laws.

The data will be used for administering and analysing the agreement and payments under Natural England's Nutrient Mitigation Scheme. Contact details will be shared with organisations or individuals acting on Natural England's behalf to undertake customer due

diligence check, specialist site assessment and monitoring. If during the checks it is identified that a crime has been committed, then data will be shared with the relevant competent body.

As participation in this scheme involves expenditure of public money and there is public interest in the working and financing of this scheme, Natural England makes information about agreements and payments publicly available, for example on a website at: [MAGIC \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk). Details disclosed include, but are not limited to, your name, the name and address of your farm or business, postal town/parish, first part of your post code, grid references, the total area under agreement, the payments you receive, and other information about the agreement. On request, copies of individual agreements will be made available.

Natural England or its appointed agents may use the name, address and other details on your pre-agreement information request form to contact you in connection with occasional customer research aimed at improving the services that Natural England provides to you.

We will respect personal privacy, whilst complying with access to information requests to the extent necessary to enable Natural England to comply with its statutory obligations under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For further details, please visit [Nutrient mitigation scheme privacy notice - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)