

14 October 2026

Dear

ATISN 27521: Nature creation, restoration and conservation expenditure (2020–2026)

Thank you for your request, received on 16 September 2026, for information under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. You asked for:

- The annual budget allocation and spend for nature creation, nature restoration and nature conservation, including activity relating to 30 by 30 and ecosystem-restoration targets associated with the Global Biodiversity Framework; and
- Where recorded, a breakdown by target habitat type and primary delivery funding stream.

Our response

The information held by the Welsh Government is set out on page two. Figures are presented as supplied by the relevant policy and finance teams. They are budget allocations against the relevant financial year unless otherwise stated. Expenditure against all allocation was recorded as full expenditure.

Programme / funding stream	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
N2K Restoration of Natura 2000 sites	£10,000,000	£6,500,000	—	—	—	—
Green recovery: access to nature	—	£5,000,000	—	—	—	—
Local Nature Partnerships	—	—	£900,000	£1,200,000	£1,200,000	£1,200,000
Land Management Agreements*	—	£2,500,000	—	£400,000	—	—
LIFE Celtic Rainforest restoration	£1,000,000	—	—	—	—	—
Sands of LIFE dune restoration	£386,488	—	—	—	—	—
Dee LIFE river restoration	£825,000	£825,000	—	—	—	—
Rivers 4 LIFE river restoration	—	—	£850,048	£850,048	£850,048	£1,600,048
LIFE Quaking Bogs peatland restoration	—	—	£433,548	£433,548	£433,548	£433,548
Natur am Byth	—	—	—	£200,000	£200,000	£200,000
Nature Networks Programme	—	—	£4,500,000	£6,000,000	£6,000,000	£6,000,000

Nature Networks Fund	—	—	£10,216,000	£11,148,000	£11,048,000	£10,398,000
Community Asset Transfer application: 94ha of Welsh Government farmland on the Gwent Levels	—	—	—	—	—	£15,000
Total programme allocation and spend	£12,211,488	£14,825,000	£16,899,596	£20,231,596	£19,731,596	£19,846,596

Notes:

* Land Management Agreements: Natural Resources Wales may enter into agreements that place obligations or restrictions on the management and use of land and may provide for works and payments. The agreements are subject to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 provisions relating to sites of special scientific interest and support Natural Resources Wales in exercising its functions.

Habitat and target breakdown

The information held does not provide a complete year-by-year breakdown against the categories of nature creation, nature restoration, nature conservation, 30 by 30, Global Biodiversity Framework targets or target habitat type. Where the programme title identifies a habitat or form of restoration, that description has been retained in the first table. This includes Natura 2000 sites, Celtic rainforests, dunes, rivers, peatland and the Gwent Levels. No further disaggregation is recorded in the financial return.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

or by email to: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House

Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,