West Yorkshire Combined Authority | Tracy Brabin Mayor of West Yorkshire

Our Reference: 3695

26/05/2026

Environmental Information Regulations 2004 Enquiry: EIR - Nature Spending

Thank you for contacting West Yorkshire Combined Authority ('the Combined Authority') with your request for information, which was received on 12/05/2026.

Your request was:

1. What has WYCA budgeted to spend on nature recovery/conservation, the implementation of nature-based solutions, or activities to improve access to nature in FY26/27? Please provide detail on the nature of this expenditure (e.g. its relation to specific sites and projects) to the extent this is reasonably possible. I understand a full breakdown may not be feasible or recorded, but any indication of the nature of the spend would be appreciated.

2. What did WYCA spend on nature recovery/conservation, the implementation of nature-based solutions, or activities to improve access to nature in FYs 25/26, 24/25, and 23/24? Please provide detail on the nature of this expenditure (e.g. its relation to specific sites and projects) to the extent this is reasonably possible. I understand a full breakdown may not be feasible or recorded, but any indication of the nature of the spend would be appreciated.

3. Does WYCA have any staff for whom nature conservation/recovery, the implementation of nature-based solutions, or activities to improve access to nature is explicitly within their role profile?

This request is being handled under Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

We have completed our searches, and I can confirm that the Combined Authority holds information covered by your request.

In relation to question 1 and 2 refer Table 1: WYCA Spend on nature recovery and nature-based solutions

Programme	Item/Project	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27
Local Nature Recovery Strategy	LNRS Strategy development. Including engagement/comms, evidence base preparation and Geographical Information	£0.025	£0.131	£0.144	£0.067

	System (GIS) mapping support				
Net Zero Region Accelerator	Calderdale Council blanket bog restoration project: restore 25+ hectares of degraded upland deep peat landscapes both within and adjacent to the Special Protection Area		£0.035		
Natural Flood Management (NFM) Programme	Chellow Dene NFM Scheme		£0.040		
	Landscapes for Water	£0.043	£0.241	£0.925	£0.651
	Wortley Beck NFM Scheme	£0.051	£0.220	£0.320	£0.409
	Pitty Beck NFM Scheme	£0.004	£0.023	£0.145	
	Farnley Wood Beck NFM Scheme			£0.064	£0.538
	Thorner Beck NFM Scheme				£0.820

With regards to Question 3, the Combined Authority generally uses generic Role Profiles. This allows the organisation to deploy staffing resources flexibly depending on business needs.
There is one Role Profile that includes one of the terms listed in this question. It is for the position of ‘Net Zero Region Accelerator Lead’ and includes the term ‘restore nature’.
There is one person in the Combined Authority who is employed using this Role Profile.

If you believe that your request for information has not been handled properly, you can ask for an internal review of our decision. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner’s Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

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Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

For your information, there is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely,

Information Governance Officer
freedom.info@westyorks-ca.gov.uk