

A photograph of a forest with tall trees and yellow undergrowth, serving as the background for the top section of the poster.

**ZERO
CARBON**

HARROGATE

WOODLAND CREATION CONFERENCE

Discovering the benefits of creating woodland and how it can contribute to future economic and environmental sustainability.

Thursday 21st June, 2018
9.30am – 4.30pm

Ripley Castle, Ripley
Harrogate
HG3 3AY



Organised by Zero Carbon Harrogate
Carbon Capture Group



Why woodland matters...

Woodland creation has a major role in mitigating climate breakdown and as a means of natural flood management.

Currently with 13% woodland cover the UK has about one third the European average and with only 10% England is significantly lower than the UK average. At 8%, in the area defined by the Northern Forest Project (NFP), it is lower still.

The Government's Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee report of March 2017, 'Forestry in England: Seeing the wood for the trees' highlights the major shortfall in tree planting rates. Since that report both the Clean Growth Strategy and the NFP have been announced. Britain's exit from the European Union also means exit from the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Changes are coming and by being better informed we can help shape these changes and benefit from them.



Forests and woodlands provide many environmental, social and economic benefits to society. In order to continue to provide these benefits the creation of new woodland is essential.

Select Committee Report, March 2017
'Forestry in England: Seeing the wood for the trees'

What can we do...?

Initiatives such as plans for a Northern Forest will give a major impetus to addressing this need but what more do we need to do if we are to reach the Government's target of 12% woodland cover in England by 2060 and achieve 50 million trees planted for the NFP over a 25-year period?

- Better manage and protect our existing forests and woodland.
- Influence public perceptions to highlight the need to manage and steward woodlands.
- Utilise available forestry grants to plant trees.
- Lobby the Government to ensure they meet their obligations in order to meet woodland cover targets.
- Develop markets for UK sourced timber.
- Monitor and report key statistics.
- Raise general awareness of the need increase woodland coverage.



Establish a new network of forests in England, including new woodland on farmland, and fund larger-scale woodland and forest creation, in support of our commitment to plant 11 million trees, and increase the amount of UK timber used in construction.

'Clean Growth Strategy', key policy and proposal 39



BENEFITS OF URBAN GREEN SPACES

- Urban green spaces such as domestic gardens, parks and woodlands provide a multitude of benefits to human urban populations, and vital habitats for wildlife, supporting bio-diversity.
- By improving physical fitness and reducing depression, the presence of green spaces can enhance the health and wellbeing of people living and working in cities.
- Green spaces and woodlands also impact our health by improving air, water and soil quality and reducing the urban heat island effect.
- Urban green spaces and woodlands absorb pollutants, store carbon, helping to mitigate climate change and reduce the likelihood of flooding by slowing the flow.

More detail on the points above can be found in 'A BRIEF GUIDE TO THE BENEFITS OF URBAN GREEN SPACES' published by the University of Leeds and the United Bank of Carbon.

<http://leaf.leeds.ac.uk/green-space>

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

09.30 Registration and Coffee

10.00 Welcome from ZCH organisers and
keynote address

MONEY AND ADVICE

10.25 Philip Wilson, Forestry Commission
*Current Funding Opportunities for
Woodland Creation*

10.50 Stephen Prior, Forest Carbon Ltd
*How the UK Woodland Carbon Market
Works*

11.15 Refreshment break

PROJECTS AND METHODS

11.45 David Hetherington, ARUP Engineering
Woodlands and Natural Flood Management

12.10 Carol Douglas, YDMT
Woodland Creation: is it all about funding?

12.35 Lunch

14.00 ZCH Launch (ZCH Chair)

OPPORTUNITIES

14.15 Andrew Heald, Confor
*Planting the Future – Productive Woodlands
for the 21st Century*

14.40 Guy Thompson, White Rose Forest
Northern Forest – update and next steps

15.05 Refreshment break

15.35 Panel Q&A

16.15 Closing remarks

16.30 Finish



...with 13% woodland cover the UK has about one third the European average and with only 10% England is significantly lower than the UK average.

SPEAKERS

Carol Douglas

Woodland Officer, Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT)

Andrew Heald

Technical Director, Confederation of Forest Industries (UK) (Confor)

David Hetherington

Global Water Research Manager, ARUP Engineering

Stephen Prior

Director, Forest Carbon Ltd

Guy Thompson

Partnership Manager White Rose Forest and Secretariat to the Yorkshire West Local Nature Partnership

Phillip Wilson

Woodland Creation Officer for North East and Yorkshire, Forestry Commission