Essex

Agri-Environment Schemes:

Key information, scheme uptake and expenditure data – November 2012



Total area of county (hectares)	367,286
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Agri-Environment Scheme	Number of Agreements	Area of the county under agreement (hectares)	Payments over lifetime of agreement (£) ³	Percentage of county in agreement
Environmental Stewardship (ES) ¹ :				
Entry Level Stewardship (ELS)	655	117,217	£3,366,157	31.9%
 Combined ELS and Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)² 	143	30,024	£2,819,883	8.2%
Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)	32	1,237	£355,804	0.3%
Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA)	88	3,621	711,499	1.0%
Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS)	61	1,036	397,781	0.3%
Grand Total	979	153,134	7,651,124	41.7%

Note 1 - All ES data includes conventional ES and Organic ES agreements.

Note 2 - For combined ELS/HLS, the area figure refers to total agreement area i.e. underpinning ELS area on which HLS options are located (not the area under HLS management).

Note 3 - Payment figures excludes payments for Capital Items and Conservation Plans.

Designated sites	Area of county designated (hectares)	Percentage of county designated (hectares)
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	34,004	9.3%
Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	19,128	5.2%
Special Protection Areas (SPAs) (for birds)	25,979	7.1%
Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance)	29,465	8.0%