Land Use

"Helping communities, customers and partners value, create and sustain high quality natural places"



What we do:

We deliver consistent, timely, and high quality advice to support good decision making on the development and use of land and water, drawing on our skills and expertise in planning, water, and the coast.

Our staff are our most important asset; we invest in them, and empower them to listen to and work with our stakeholders, working together to find solutions and achieve results where it matters most.

Our key priorities:

- Help protect and enhance the natural environment, so enabling sustainable economic and social developments
- Support the England Biodiversity Strategy by protecting and creating priority habitats, species and landscapes through the planning system
- Provide quality advice to Local Government and other statutory partners to ensure that strategic land use, water and coastal plans protect and enhance the natural environment.
- Increase the uptake of discretionary advice on planning casework by introducing new chargeable services for our customers.
- Work with Environment Agency and others to deliver the Water Framework Directive, improving freshwater and coastal outcomes.
- Ensure the ecosystem approach and climate change response is embedded in our land use work.



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We want to see:

- Effective protection and enhancement of natural sites, species, and landscapes.
- Developments that integrate with and help sustain the natural environment.
- Resilient and sustainable ecosystems that function more naturally.
- A natural environment that enhances the lives of individuals and communities through the environmental, social, and economic services it provides