

Merseyside

Agri-Environment Schemes:

Key information, scheme uptake and expenditure data – November 2012

Total area of county (hectares)	65,386
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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)	62	5,203	£181,286	8.0%
• Combined ELS and Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) ²	15	2,942	£386,244	4.5%
• Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)	7	483	£153,170	0.7%
Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA)				0.0%
Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS)	16	257	80,191	0.4%
Grand Total	100	8,885	800,891	13.6%

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)	13,981	21.4%
Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	10,528	16.1%
Special Protection Areas (SPAs) (for birds)	8,609	13.2%
Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance)	13,520	20.7%