



Tees Valley Nature Partnership

Memorandum of Agreement

1. Purpose of agreement

This agreement is made between Tees Valley Wildlife Trust and the five Tees Valley local authorities; Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council to support the operation of the Tees Valley Nature Partnership.

2. Background to the Tees Valley Nature Partnership

The Tees Valley Nature Partnership (TVNP) was formed in 2012 in response to the 2011 Natural Environment White Paper (The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature). It is one of 47 Local Nature Partnerships recognised by Government in England. The partnership builds on existing close working relationships in the Tees Valley and brings together representation from environmental organisations, local authorities, government agencies, the health and well-being sector, business sectors and local communities to promote co-ordinated decision making and integrated delivery of natural environment benefits and services alongside wider economic and social benefits.

3. Roles and responsibilities of partners

The parties to this agreement will undertake the following roles and responsibilities

3.1 Role of the accountable body

The Tees Valley Wildlife Trust undertakes to carry out the following.

- I. Employ, manage and provide office facilities for the Nature Partnership Manager and any other staff of the TVNP
- II. Ensure that all resources are spent according to agreed TVNP plans and priorities as laid out in the National Lottery Community Fund grant agreement.
- III. Maintain effective systems of auditing and monitoring spend and evaluation of the effectiveness of the TVNP as laid out in the National Lottery Community Fund grant agreement.
- IV. Report to the Tees Valley Combined Authority Management Group annually and at any other time required.

3.2 Role of partner local authorities

- I. Each local authority to nominate a named representative on the TVNP Steering Group who will take an *active role* on the partnership with a minimum of 75% attendance at TVNP meetings and events.
- II. Have a commitment to working with all project partners to take forward the objectives of the partnership.
- III. Make a financial contribution as outlined in the table below.

4. Duration of the agreement

The Agreement will take effect from 17th July 2019 until 31st August 2022, the duration of the National Lottery Community Fund project. The agreement may be updated at any point through written agreement by the partners.

5. Payment schedule

The local authority partners will administer their financial contribution to Tees Valley Wildlife Trust in annual instalments outlined in the table, payable promptly at the start of each financial year.

	yr1	yr2	yr3	Total
LA contribution to TVNP towards NLCF 'project'	12,766	18,600	16,255	47,621
LA contribution to TVNP April – September 2019*	14,399	-	-	14,399
TVWT contribution	5,300	-	-	5,300
<i>(Local Authority ea.</i>	<i>5,433</i>	<i>3,720</i>	<i>3,245</i>	<i>12,398)</i>
NLCF Contribution	93,586	93,586	93,586	280,758
TOTAL TVNP FUNDING	126,051	112,186	109,841	348,078

6. Resolving problems

In the event of a series dispute the matter will be referred to the Steering Group of Tees Valley Nature Partnership who will act as an arbiter.

7. Signatures of Parties' Principals

The undersigned agree to this memorandum as described above.

Signature	Name	Role	Organisation
	Ian Williams	Director of Economic Growth	Darlington Borough Council
	Denise McGuckin	Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods	Hartlepool Borough Council
	Parkes Kevin	Director of Economic Development & Communities	Middlesbrough Borough Council
	Sarah Robson	Director of Growth, Enterprise and Environment	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
	Richard McGuckin	Director of Economic Growth & Development	Stockton Borough Council
	Jeremy Garside	Chief Executive Officer	Tees Valley Wildlife Trust