

Woodlands are an important part of our national heritage within the UK. But UK woodlands have been declining over the past 600 years due to factors such as Logging, Deforestation, and Habitat conversion for farmland and general loss to increasing human population. The UK currently is Europe's lowest forested region with only 13% of the UK covered with woodland compared with the European average of 36% (Woodlandtrust, 2019).

Over the past decade there has been an increase in woodlands being planted with in the UK to increase the overall woodland coverage, and recent research suggests that for the first time Woodland areas are beginning to increase. This is due to people wishing to have more connection with nature, wild spaces and the spaces which reside in them.

David Lewis, Land Based services will be working in collaboration with The Woodland Trust as part of their MOREWOODs initiative, we will be creating an accessible, interactive 23 acre woodland heritage site which will;

- See the development and extension of existing woodland on site with the planting of over 8000 trees in 23 acres.
- Plant roughly 12 thousand UK native wildflower seeds and bulbs, to create wildflower meadows.
- Facilitate innovative new work based leisure and learning activities and opportunities for service user, student and other groups
- Improve the habitat and conservation of the area to encourage nature and wildlife to thrive, creating a space to benefit many generations to come

Creating 23 Acre Wood will increase the diversity of activities and interactions with nature that can be provided and will leave a wild space for future generations to enjoy the opportunities that this new wild space will provide.