



OPERATION
NOAH

Faith-motivated. Science-informed. Hope-inspired.

CHURCH LAND USE VISION

Church Land Use Climate and Biodiversity Targets for 2030

Transparency - Denominations and dioceses should be transparent about the land they own and how it is used, devising and publishing Land Management Plans with ambitious targets for 2030 (see targets below).

Mapping - Maps of denomination and diocesan-owned land indicating land use and protected areas should be available upon request by 2030.

Emissions - Denominations and dioceses should have plans available publicly by 2030 for reaching net zero on church land by 2030 or as soon as legally possible.

Biodiversity - Over 30% of denomination and diocesan-owned land should be protected for nature by 2030.

Growing Trees - 10% or more of denomination and diocesan-owned land should be planted with suitable trees by 2030 unless other habitat areas designated for nature are demonstrated to be more or equally valuable. This excludes commercial forestry, and new trees should be mainly mixed native varieties supporting biodiversity.

Protecting Peatland - Denominations and dioceses which own peatland should be ensuring climate resilience, and restoring/rewetting 100% of degraded peatland by 2030 or as soon as legally possible.

Supporting Farm Net Zero - Denominations and dioceses which own agricultural land should actively support tenants to be working to reach farm net zero by 2030 or as soon as legally possible.



Interim targets for 2025/6

- **Transparency**

Land Management Plans should be devised and published within 2025/6.

- **Mapping**

Have a plan for mapping church land in place within 2025/6.

- **Emissions**

Have a plan for estimating a church land emissions profile in place within 2025/6.

- **Biodiversity**

Set stretching targets in 2025/6 for protecting and increasing nature & biodiversity on your land in the coming years.

- **Growing Trees**

Assess what land is suitable for growing trees, identifying promising sites within 2025/6.

- **Protecting Peatland**

Peatland owners should be pursuing ways to join in trials of peat protection and/or paludiculture within 2025/6.

- **Supporting Farm Net Zero**

Encourage completion of farm carbon audits and identify steps to support farmers to reduce emissions within 2025/6.