

Thu 16/10/25 08:01

Dear Colleagues,

Adventures Away from Home Bid

We are delighted to have been successful with our application to DCMS for Adventures Away from Home 3 and have secured £133,000. This is to support 700 young people to attend a day's field work and 350 young people to attend a 2 night residential. The funding is to support young people aged 11-18 (or up to 25 with SEND) who experience barriers to accessing outdoor education. The funding is limited to young people living in England, although there is potential for them to stay at a Welsh or Scottish centre so we haven't forgotten about you Shell, Tom, Sian and Elke.

A win for Protected Landscapes

It's tough going in the policy sphere at the moment with lots of delays to key policy announcements and very little money which makes the above funding success all the more impressive. So it's right to celebrate another significant win. The government backed down on plans to fundamentally weaken the protection for National Parks and Landscapes. Fortunately, the late-in-the-day amendment was spotted sliding its way through the Planning and Infrastructure Bill with no consultation.

Thanks to the quick work of the Campaign for National Parks, we were one of over 200 like-minded charities, scientists, NGOs, businesses and landowners to sign a letter to the PM to ask him to rethink, whilst politely reminding him that National Parks were brought in by the post war Labour Government. Herding that many cats in just a few days was in itself a huge achievement, but more so because the government has listened and the plans have been shelved. You can [read more about it here](#).

Pushing DEFRA on Outdoor Access

Like buses, a second opportunity to put our names to a joint letter came along at the same time as the above. It was to the newly appointed Secretary of State at DEFRA Emma Reynolds. The recent publication of the report [Outdoors for All](#) to which we supplied evidence, recommends residential for all young people was a good opportunity to remind the minister of a manifesto promise relating to better "responsible access" to nature. We were expecting something significant in "the summer". Staff have been attending workshops relating to this area of work, and asked to keep it confidential until further announcements.

Over 40 organisations with a focus on better access to nature and the countryside signed the letter to the Secretary of State who, at her party conference a few days before, had made much of Labour's historic involvement in better access rights. Now we need something for the 21st century.

CPD Success

The Field Studies Council is now an accredited CPD provider and **three of our professional biodiversity courses have officially been accredited by The CPD Group**. This recognition is a huge milestone for our team and reflects our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality, professional learning experiences that truly make a difference. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the design, delivery, and continuous improvement of these courses your hard work and passion made this possible.

✦ Accredited Courses:

■ [Biodiversity Literacy \(self-led\)](#)

■ [Discovering the Biodiversity Metric](#)

■ [Biodiversity Net Gain for Reviewers](#)



Investors in People

Please don't forget to complete the IIP Survey that arrived in your inbox on Monday. The closing date is 6pm on Sunday 2 November 2025.

Welcome to Field Studies Council

Ruby Heath has joined the team at Preston Montford as Casual Hospitality and Catering Assistant.

Also, this week:

Matt Healey has been appointed to the new role of Adventure Road Map Planning Lead.

Previous Catch Ups can be [found here](#)

Best regards

Mark