



# NATURESPACE

## PARTNERSHIP

### Is there a pond near your development? Save time, cost and risk with this new, government approved scheme

Over 70% of the South Midlands is within 500m of a pond, which means great crested newts will be a planning consideration for any proposed development – but now there is a new and better system you can use.

Natural England has granted seven Local Planning Authorities in the South Midlands a District Licence relating to great crested newts that will mean a quicker, easier and more cost-effective process for developers and planners. NatureSpace will run the new scheme.

Benefits for developers include:

**Certainty:** - the licence system is watertight and you know what the costs will be ahead of applying for planning permission

**Time and Money Efficiencies:** - even with complex developments, the process takes less than 6 months and costs from as little as £1,000, capped at £90,000, compared with the 18 month timescales and up to £250,000 costs associated with the traditional option of on-site surveys and mitigation

**Flexibility:** - the licences can be granted all year around, releasing you from the constraints of spring-only surveys

**Social Responsibility:** - the licence fee paid will be used to create new ponds and habitats across the region for newts and other wildlife

**Media Assistance:** - NatureSpace can provide you with a fact-based statement of support from leading conservationists

**Nationally Recognised:** - the scheme is government endorsed and is fully supported by conservationists and your Local Planning Authority.

The Seven Planning Authorities operating this scheme with immediate effect from February 2018 are: Milton Keynes, Aylesbury Vale, Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire, South Oxfordshire, Vale of the White Horse, and Oxford City.

**Developers promoting planning applications in any of these authorities should contact Sarah Garratt 07722 942709, or visit the NatureSpace website: [www.NaturespaceUK.com](http://www.NaturespaceUK.com).**





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The new scheme is running in 7 Local Planning Authorities

