

Fund inclusive on-site signage, maps, info boards, viewing platform and audio experiences

Help us create informative and inclusive maps and signs to make it easy for anyone to navigate and learn about the Heal Somerset site. A viewing platform will give a unique perspective over the land and for those looking for something more interactive, there will also be a 'sound walk' and 'soil sonics' to explore.

"Walkers love nature! Readily available and accessible information about wildlife in an area makes walking so much more interesting. Knowing what trees, flowers, birds, insects and mammals are around helps make you more observant and appreciate the rich diversity of life around us." - Mike from Witham Friary Village

Our beautiful site is 460 acres of expansive fields, three river tributaries and miles of hedges. It's big, complex and not easy to navigate. For many people, nature is about independent exploration, and we want our site to enable as much of this as possible.

We will work with a local illustrator to design beautiful and informative maps, with clearly marked trails for different user groups, so that people can plan a great day out. Within the site there will also be information boards that share our rewilding story and bring people closer to the wildlife they can see at Heal Somerset. We want all our signage, maps and information boards to be inclusive and accessible. Design will involve consultation with experts to ensure neurodivergent and disability inclusivity, for example universally recognised symbols, braille and access videos.

And it won't stop there. This support will fund innovative and creative tools for people to interact with our site in an even deeper way. What noises does soil make or and what does the inside of an oak tree sound like? The sounds of insects chatting? Or the whispers of a moonless night? Our self-led sound walk on the Echoes app will allow people to explore the hidden sounds of nature – all for free and all on their own terms. It will be a unique experience with nature, and wonderfully coupled with our soil sonics. Probes in the earth turn the activity in the soil into sounds we can hear.

It's not all about walking. Some of the most magical experiences in nature happen when people are still and quiet for some time. Our viewing platforms will become the perfect place to admire our rewilding-in-action landscape, for spotting standout species like kestrels and barn owls, or simply resting and enjoying a gentle breeze on one's skin.

Heal Somerset will be open round the clock on nearly every day of the year, so whether visitors want a gentle stroll, in-depth exploration, an interactive experience or an opportunity to learn about nature and rewilding, we'll have it covered.

Impact

Increased opportunities for locals and visitors to learn about and engage with the Heal Somerset site. Opportunities will also be equitable to all user groups, as the on-site infrastructure will consider the needs of different people, for example disabled and neurodivergent visitors.

Legacy

On-site signage, maps, info boards, the viewing platform and audio experiences will be well-maintained through Heal's income-generating workstreams. Regular reviewing will also occur to ensure that the infrastructure is inclusive and meets the needs of diverse user groups.