

south west chamber of rural enterprise
working together for a prosperous countryside

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Dr Helen Phillips
Chief Executive, Natural England
1 East Parade
Sheffield
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7th November 2008

Dear Helen,

Environmental Funding Gap

I enclose a letter that I was asked to send to you following a recent South West Chamber of Rural Enterprise meeting. The letter covers concerns about the possibility that many of the environmental achievements of the Countryside Stewardship Scheme are at risk of being lost.

The South West Chamber of Rural Enterprise, brings together the land based sector in South West England, including some more broadly based rural and environmental organisations. We have always supported Natural England's work in protecting and improving the English Rural environment. The letter explores South West ideas on how that might be better achieved. I hope you do not mind raising these points and that you will be able to ensure that these ideas are fed into any review process of developing future policy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Harry Studholme'.

Sir Harry Studholme
Chair, South West Chamber of Rural Enterprise