

Bore Place and SES Water join forces to enhance biodiversity and education at Bough Beech Reservoir

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[Bore Place](#), home to the Commonwork Trust, and [SES Water](#) are proud to announce a new partnership aimed at enhancing biodiversity and delivering educational programmes at Bough Beech Reservoir. This collaboration has been funded through the Farming in Protected Landscapes fund and represents a significant commitment in ensuring that Bough Beech is accessible to the community and that nature is at its heart.

The partnership is a development in the relationship between neighbouring organisations Bore Place and SES Water, who have been working together to improve land management of the reservoir to boost outcomes for nature and ensure continued public access.

The new partnership will focus on several key initiatives:

1. **Nature recovery and biodiversity enhancement:** This includes habitat restoration and other nature recovery efforts across the whole landholding, supported through community volunteer programmes as well as the implementation of nature-based solutions to mitigate risks to water quality from upstream pollution.
2. **Educational programmes:** The partnership will introduce comprehensive educational programmes designed to engage a wide range of participants, including local primary schools, children attending holiday clubs, and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). These programmes will utilise the expertise Bore Place has in delivering environmental education providing hands-on learning experiences focused on environmental conservation, as well as citizen science and monitoring activities, complimenting SES Water's existing education centre, Flow Zone. University students will also participate through nature/climate related research at the site.
3. **Community engagement:** By ensuring the continuation of existing volunteer groups and opening up opportunities for new groups to engage with the nature recovery work at the reservoir, the partnership aims to foster a sense of community ownership and responsibility towards the conservation of the reservoir and its surrounding landscapes. Bore Place will continue to oversee the volunteer programmes as it has been doing for 4 years.

Other priorities of the project include ensuring safe routes and access to the reservoir for the public as well as the restoration and reopening of the Oast House for public use.

Commenting on the partnership, Dr Anna Bullen, CEO of Bore Place, stated: *"We are absolutely thrilled to be partnering with SES Water. This partnership represents so much of what we are about at Bore Place, from nature recovery and biodiversity enhancement to public engagement, education and nature connection; but also, importantly, working with others to achieve our mission. Now more than ever, we need to address the climate and nature crisis, and collaborative partnerships, such as this, are crucial to overcoming the complex challenges we face, at the speed and scale required."*

Grace Wood-Lofthouse, Sustainability Manager of SES Water, added: *"Our partnership is built on the foundations of working to the respective strengths of each organisation and the people who care about our landscape. By working together, we are able to enhance our environment and support the education of our future leaders and environmental contributors. Seeing this come together, complementing our catchment work and ongoing estate management, provides important momentum and demonstrates working locally has a positive impact to society."*

The partnership between Bore Place and SES Water is part of a commitment of both organisations to collaborate with others to create better outcomes for nature and improve land management,

enhance biodiversity and ensure local communities and the wider public have the opportunity to engage with this work to increase awareness and enable enjoyment of this unique landscape.

For more information about Bore Place and SES Water's partnership, please contact:

Florence.Clark@boreplace.org or communications@SESwater.co.uk or call 01732 755280.

Note to Editors:

Bore Place is a 500-acre estate owned by the Commonwork Trust, adjacent to Bough Beech. Its charitable objectives are focused on sustainable farming and land management in tandem with connecting people with nature to inspire, increase awareness and help people transform their lives. [Bore Place - People and nature working together](#)

SES Water supplies water to over 750,000 people in east Surrey, and parts of West Sussex, west Kent and south London. Our supply area is 322 square miles (835 sq km) extending from Morden and South Croydon in the north to Gatwick Airport in the south and from Cobham, Leatherhead and Dorking in the west to Edenbridge and Bough Beech in the east. Groundwater supplies provide 85 per cent of our water, with 15 per cent being extracted from one reservoir at Bough Beech near Edenbridge.

Farming in Protected Landscapes is a government funded grant programme for farmers and land managers in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty [Get funding for farming in protected landscapes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

High-resolution images of the Bough Beech reservoir and young people on Bore Place educational programmes are available on request.