CARETAKER COMMONS RESOURCE PARTICIPATION CHARTER

Rights, Responsibilities and Ecological Limits Governing Participation in Designated Natural Resources

Constitutional authority: UKMS Elected Government
Administrative authority: Caretaker Commons Administration
Currency authority: Resource Treasury
Ecological oversight: Independent Ecological Verification and Audit Authority

PREAMBLE

The Caretaker Commons is established within the United Kingdom Moneyless Society framework as a proposed system of collective stewardship and responsible participation in designated natural resources.

Its purpose is to protect the natural environment while allowing citizens to participate in the sustainable use of the resources upon which human communities depend.

Nature Pounds provide a means through which citizens may obtain defined participation rights within the Caretaker Commons.

Those rights shall be based upon ecological capacity, transparent allocation, lawful authority and reciprocal stewardship.

The Caretaker Commons shall not become a mechanism through which private ownership of natural resources is recreated under another name, nor shall possession of Nature Pounds permit unrestricted exploitation of the natural environment.

The governing principle shall be:

The natural world is held in stewardship; citizens may participate in its sustainable use; and every participation right carries a responsibility to preserve the resource for present and future generations.

PART I — GENERAL RIGHTS

1. Right to participate

1. A valid Nature Pound redemption shall entitle the holder to participate in the sustainable use of the designated natural resource identified in the relevant participation certificate.
2. Participation rights shall be specific, defined and limited by the ecological capacity of the resource.
3. A participation right may include:
    a. Cultivation;
    b. Harvesting;
    c. Collection of approved renewable materials;
    d. Sustainable fishing or aquatic activities;
    e. Renewable energy participation;
    f. Ecological management;
    g. Other approved forms of sustainable resource use.
4. The right shall be recognised within the participating UKMS framework and shall be subject to any applicable legal permissions and agreements.

4. Right to ecological protection

Participants shall have the right to expect that designated resources are managed according to approved ecological standards.

They may report environmental damage, unsafe practices, pollution, overuse or breaches of participation conditions.

Reports shall be considered under an independent and transparent procedure.

2. Right to transparent information

Every participant shall be entitled to receive understandable information about:

1. The resource being accessed;
2. Its ecological condition;
3. Its sustainable capacity;
4. The activity authorised;
5. The duration and extent of the participation right;
6. Applicable restrictions;
7. The responsible resource administrator;
8. The procedure for complaints and appeals.

3. Right to fair treatment

1. Participation shall be administered without arbitrary discrimination.
2. Resource administrators shall apply published rules consistently.
3. No person shall be excluded solely because of disability, age, caring responsibilities or lack of access to conventional employment.
4. Reasonable accessibility arrangements shall be provided where practicable.
5. Possession of additional Nature Pounds shall not automatically grant unrestricted control over a scarce or environmentally sensitive resource.

5. Right to challenge decisions

A participant may challenge:

1. Refusal of a participation request;
2. Suspension of an entitlement;
3. An alleged unfair allocation;
4. A disputed resource-use restriction;
5. A decision concerning alleged misconduct.

All challenges shall be handled through published review and appeal procedures.

PART II – NATURE OF PARTICIPATION RIGHTS

6. Participation certificate

1. Every approved redemption shall generate a Participation Certificate or equivalent auditable record.
2. The certificate shall identify:
    a. The participant;
    b. The designated resource;
    c. The authorised activity;
    d. The permitted quantity or extent of use;
    e. The validity period;
    f. The applicable ecological restrictions;
    g. Any training or safety conditions;
    h. The issuing resource administrator.
3. The certificate shall not constitute a land title, lease, ownership deed or unrestricted extraction licence.
4. It shall not override existing legal interests, protected rights or statutory restrictions.

7. Nature of the right

1. Participation rights shall be limited to the activity expressly authorised.
2. They shall not confer:
    a. Private ownership of land;
    b. Ownership of an ecosystem;
    c. Exclusive possession of a natural resource;
    d. Permanent control over a resource;
    e. Unrestricted extraction rights;
    f. Authority to transfer or sell the resource;
    g. Authority to exclude other lawful participants without justification.
3. Participation rights shall remain subject to the ecological condition and sustainable capacity of the designated resource.

8. Duration and renewal

1. Each participation certificate shall specify its duration or the point at which its authorised activity is completed.
2. Renewal shall depend on continued ecological capacity, compliance and any applicable redemption requirements.
3. No participation right shall automatically become permanent merely through repeated redemption.
4. Long-term stewardship arrangements may be established separately where they are necessary for effective resource management.

PART III — RESOURCE-SPECIFIC PARTICIPATION RIGHTS (Sections 9–11)

9. Agricultural land and food production

Participants may receive rights to:

1. Cultivate designated community growing areas;
2. Participate in approved planting and harvesting;
3. Access allocated growing space;
4. Participate in community food-production schemes;
5. Collect or receive an approved share of agricultural output.

Responsibilities shall include:

- Respecting soil conservation requirements;
- Following approved crop rotation and cultivation plans;
- Avoiding prohibited pesticides and damaging practices;
- Protecting watercourses and surrounding habitats;
- Preventing unnecessary food waste;
- Respecting other participants' allocated growing areas.

The resource administrator shall establish cultivation plans and sustainable production limits.

10. Woodland and forestry resources

Participants may receive rights to:

1. Participate in woodland restoration;
2. Undertake approved forest maintenance;
3. Collect designated renewable materials;
4. Participate in sustainable timber or biomass programmes;
5. Participate in approved woodland management activities.

Responsibilities shall include:

- Protecting habitats and nesting sites;
- Respecting protected species;
- Following approved harvesting limits;
- Avoiding unnecessary tree felling;
- Preventing erosion and soil damage;
- Respecting fire-safety rules;
- Maintaining woodland regeneration.

No participation entitlement shall authorise the destruction of protected habitats or unsustainable harvesting.

11. Rivers, lakes and aquatic resources

Participants may receive rights to:

1. Participate in river restoration;
2. Undertake approved conservation work;
3. Participate in sustainable fishing or aquaculture;
4. Collect designated aquatic resources where permitted;
5. Participate in approved water stewardship activities.

Responsibilities shall include:

- Protecting water quality;
- Respecting fish populations and breeding seasons;
- Following catch and collection limits;
- Avoiding disturbance of sensitive habitats;
- Preventing pollution;
- Respecting existing lawful water rights and restrictions.

No participation entitlement shall grant unrestricted ownership or control over water.

PART III — RESOURCE-SPECIFIC PARTICIPATION RIGHTS (Sections 12–14)

12. Wetlands and protected habitats

1. Wetlands and sensitive habitats shall primarily be managed for conservation and ecological restoration.
2. Participation may include approved habitat maintenance, ecological research, restoration and carefully controlled sustainable activities.
3. Extractive or productive uses shall only be permitted where independently verified ecological assessments establish that they are compatible with the habitat's conservation objectives.
4. Where public access would damage the ecosystem, access may be restricted.
5. The possession of Nature Pounds shall not override habitat protection.

13. Renewable energy resources

Participants may receive rights to:

1. Participate in community renewable-energy schemes;
2. Access an approved allocation of renewable electricity or energy services;
3. Participate in energy infrastructure stewardship;
4. Contribute to maintenance and approved community energy projects.

Responsibilities shall include:

- Respecting safety requirements;
- Protecting infrastructure;
- Following published allocation arrangements;
- Avoiding unauthorised interference;
- Supporting responsible energy consumption.

Energy participation rights shall be limited by actual generation, storage, network capacity and applicable legal arrangements.

14. Other renewable natural resources

1. Other resources may be included where their sustainable use can be scientifically assessed and lawfully administered.
2. The responsible authority shall publish a resource-specific participation schedule.
3. No resource shall be added merely because it has economic or commercial value.
4. Inclusion shall require evidence of ecological suitability, sustainable capacity and appropriate legal authority.

PART IV – PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

15. General duty of stewardship

Every participant shall exercise their participation rights in a manner consistent with ecological preservation and the sustainable use of the resource.

Participants shall:

1. Follow the approved resource-management plan;
2. Respect ecological limits;
3. Avoid pollution and unnecessary waste;
4. Protect biodiversity;
5. Respect other participants;
6. Follow applicable health and safety requirements;
7. Report serious environmental damage;
8. Avoid unauthorised extraction or removal of materials.

16. Prohibited conduct

The following shall be prohibited within the UKMS participation framework:

1. Extracting resources beyond authorised limits;
2. Deliberately damaging ecosystems;
3. Polluting land or water;
4. Falsifying participation certificates;
5. Transferring or selling participation rights where prohibited;
6. Interfering with ecological monitoring;
7. Harassing or unlawfully excluding other participants;
8. Misrepresenting the sustainable capacity of a resource;
9. Using a participation entitlement for an activity outside its authorised purpose.

17. Voluntary stewardship

1. Participation rights may carry reasonable stewardship responsibilities directly connected with the activity.
2. Such responsibilities shall not create compulsory general labour obligations.
3. Participants shall not be required to undertake unrelated unpaid work as a condition of exercising a valid participation entitlement.
4. Additional voluntary caretaker opportunities may be offered through the Caretaker Guilds and Environmental Caretaker registration system.

PART V – RESOURCE ADMINISTRATION

18. Designated Resource Administrators

1. Each designated resource shall have an identified Resource Administrator.
2. The Administrator shall be responsible for:
   a. Maintaining resource records;
   b. Administering participation certificates;
   c. Monitoring use;
   d. Applying ecological restrictions;
   e. Maintaining safety arrangements;
   f. Reporting environmental deterioration;
   g. Resolving routine administrative disputes.
3. Resource Administrators shall operate under published mandates and shall not exercise unrestricted authority over participants.
4. Their decisions shall be subject to audit and review.

19. Sustainable participation plans

1. Every designated resource shall have a Sustainable Participation Plan.
2. The plan shall establish:
   a. The resource's ecological baseline;
   b. Its sustainable use capacity;
   c. Approved activities;
   d. Maximum permitted use;
   e. Seasonal restrictions;
   f. Restoration requirements;
   g. Monitoring procedures;
   h. Emergency suspension arrangements.
3. The plan shall be reviewed when ecological conditions materially change.
4. Participants shall be informed of relevant changes before new activities are undertaken, except where an immediate safety or conservation restriction is necessary.

20. Fair allocation

1. Where demand exceeds available ecological capacity, participation shall be allocated according to transparent and fair rules.
2. Depending on the resource, allocation may use:
   a. Equal-access opportunities;
   b. Rotation;
   c. Published waiting lists;
   d. Household or community allocations;
   e. Demonstrated stewardship requirements;
   f. Other democratically approved arrangements.
3. The allocation method shall not automatically favour those who possess the greatest number of Nature Pounds.
4. Essential community needs and ecological protection shall be considered in determining allocation.
5. No allocation arrangement shall permit an individual or organisation to monopolise a shared natural resource.

PART VI – ECOLOGICAL LIMITS AND SUSPENSION

21. Ecological priority

1. The preservation of ecological integrity shall take precedence over the continued exercise of a participation entitlement where the two become incompatible.
2. A participation right shall not be interpreted as an unconditional right to extract or use a resource regardless of environmental consequences.

22. Suspension

A Resource Administrator may recommend suspension where:

1. The ecosystem is deteriorating;
2. Sustainable capacity is exceeded;
3. The authorised activity becomes unsafe;
4. Pollution or contamination is detected;
5. A legal restriction prevents continued use;
6. The resource requires restoration.

Suspension shall be proportionate and limited to the affected activity wherever possible.

23. Emergency restrictions

1. Immediate restrictions may be introduced where necessary to prevent serious ecological damage or danger to participants.
2. Reasons shall be recorded and communicated as soon as practicable.
3. Emergency restrictions shall be reviewed independently.
4. Affected participants shall have access to an appropriate review or remedy process.
5. The suspension of a participation right shall not automatically cancel the underlying Nature Pound balance.

24. Restoration

1. Where a resource has been damaged, the Resource Administrator shall establish an appropriate restoration programme.
2. Participants may be invited to assist voluntarily through approved caretaker activities.
3. Restoration shall be guided by independent ecological advice.
4. The resource shall not return to ordinary participation merely because currency demand exists. Reopening shall depend on verified ecological recovery and appropriate approval.

PART VII – RIGHTS, PRIVACY AND PROTECTION

25. Privacy and personal information

1. Personal information collected for participation shall be limited to what is reasonably necessary for administration, safety and accountability.
2. Participants shall receive information about how their data are used.
3. Personal information shall not be disclosed publicly merely because a person holds or redeems Nature Pounds.
4. The UKMS framework shall apply appropriate data protection safeguards and comply with applicable legal requirements.

26. Protection against arbitrary exclusion

1. No participant shall be arbitrarily excluded from a resource for political disagreement, criticism of the government or good-faith reporting of environmental concerns.
2. Restrictions shall be based on published eligibility, safety, ecological or lawful administrative grounds.
3. Any exclusion decision shall be accompanied by reasons and an opportunity for review.

27. No purchase of political authority

1. Nature Pounds shall provide economic participation rights only.
2. Their possession shall not confer parliamentary votes, additional democratic influence, executive authority or preferential access to constitutional institutions.
3. No person shall be permitted to use Nature Pounds to acquire control over the Caretaker Commons or its administrators.

PART VIII – DISPUTES AND REMEDIES

28. Complaints

1. Participants may submit complaints concerning:
    a. Unfair allocation;
    b. Improper suspension;
    c. Mismanagement;
    d. Environmental damage;
    e. Discriminatory treatment;
    f. Failure to honour an approved participation entitlement.
2. Complaints shall be investigated under published procedures.
3. The relevant administrator shall not be the sole decision-maker where the complaint concerns its own alleged misconduct.

29. Independent review

1. Participants shall have access to an independent review procedure.
2. Where an internal UKMS adjudicative institution has valid jurisdiction through the applicable constitutional arrangements and accepted agreements, disputes may be referred to that institution.
3. The process shall preserve due process, impartiality, access to relevant evidence and an appropriate opportunity to challenge decisions.
4. Nothing in this Charter shall automatically displace the jurisdiction of courts or tribunals established under the law of the United Kingdom.

30. Remedies

Appropriate remedies may include:

1. Reconsideration of an allocation decision;
2. Restoration of a suspended entitlement where justified;
3. Correction of inaccurate records;
4. Alternative participation arrangements;
5. Restorative environmental measures;
6. Compensation or other remedies where legally available and appropriate.

PART IX – DEMOCRATIC OVERSIGHT

31. Community participation in resource governance

1. Communities shall be invited to participate in the development and review of Sustainable Participation Plans.
2. Consultation shall include affected participants, environmental specialists, relevant community organisations and other appropriate stakeholders.
3. The elected government shall retain responsibility for establishing the constitutional rules governing the Caretaker Commons.
4. The AI Advisor shall provide information and recommendations only. It shall not allocate resources, remove participation rights or make binding decisions.

32. Public reporting

The Caretaker Commons Administration shall publish regular reports on:

1. The condition of designated resources;
2. Participation entitlements issued;
3. Resource use and allocation;
4. Ecological restrictions;
5. Environmental incidents;
6. Restoration programmes;
7. Complaints and appeals;
8. Administrative performance.

33. Review and amendment

1. This Charter shall be periodically reviewed.
2. Changes affecting fundamental participation rights shall require democratic approval under the applicable UKMS constitutional procedures.
3. Resource-specific operational rules may be amended by authorised administrators only within the limits of this Charter and the approved Sustainable Participation Plan.
4. No administrative amendment shall override the constitutional protection of ecological integrity, fair treatment or essential baseline provision.

FOUNDING DECLARATION OF THE CARETAKER COMMONS

The Caretaker Commons exists to establish a new relationship between people and the natural resources upon which their lives depend.

Nature Pounds shall provide citizens with an opportunity to participate in the responsible use of those resources, while recognising that participation brings obligations as well as rights.

No person shall acquire ownership of the natural world merely by possessing currency. No institution shall be permitted to exploit the commons beyond its regenerative capacity. No ecological resource shall be sacrificed to maintain the circulation or perceived value of Nature Pounds.

The purpose of the Caretaker Commons is to protect the natural inheritance, distribute opportunities for sustainable participation and ensure that present use does not deprive future generations of the same opportunity.

> **The commons shall be stewarded, not conquered; participation shall be earned and shared, not monopolised; and ecological limits shall govern every authorised use.**

End of Technical Instrument III.