

A Record of Delivery	A Promise of More
Planted a million trees and protected our national forests by blocking plans to sell them off	Expand accessible green space with new National Nature Parks chosen by local communities, and plant a tree for every child born
Introduced a 5p charge on throwaway plastic bags to reduce waste	Drive up recycling to 70% of household waste and minimise landfill
£500m investment package to promote Ultra Low Emission vehicles which will cut emissions and improve air quality	Save lives by cleaning up our air, with low emission zones in towns with a pollution problem
Halted the Post Office closure programme and brought broadband to 80% of homes.	Complete broadband rollout to every home, and create an innovation fund to help keep local GPs, post offices and libraries open

6

Better places to live | communities, farming and the natural environment

## 6.1 Protecting nature

Britain's natural environment is precious. Without our green spaces, we would live less satisfying lives; they are critical to health, wellbeing and our sense of community. Even in cash terms, short-term profits from exploiting the environment carry a longer-term penalty in squandered resources, clear-up costs and the impact on health.

We will ensure that protecting the natural environment becomes a core commitment of every government department and agency.

We will:

- ♦ Pass a Nature Act to put the Natural Capital Committee (NCC) on a statutory footing, set natural capital targets, including on biodiversity, clean air and water, and empower the NCC to recommend actions to meet these targets.
- ♦ Significantly increase the amount of accessible green space.