# Speechly’s Farm – Financial Additionality Justification Statement

A summary of the financial additional for the Speechly’s Farm project is provided below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Project Costs** |
| Site Acquisition | £4,439,925 |
| Capital Works & project set up (years 0 – 5) | £1,552,537 |
| Ongoing Maintenance and Management (years 5 – 50) | £6,170,415 |
| **Total Project Costs** | **£12,162,877** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Project Income** |
| Wilder Carbon estimated income | £12,744,400 |
| National Lottery Heritage Fund income | £5,992,462 |
| **Total Project Income** | **£18,736,862** |

The Speechly’s Farm Wilder Carbon project is in receipt of a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant, as well as potential future carbon income through Wilder Carbon. The project is deemed to meet financial additionality criteria in the following ways:

* The National Lottery Heritage Fund grant was required in order to purchase the site (at a cost of £4.4m, which obviously was required before the project was registered or validated through Wilder Carbon and so carbon finance could not be used for this), as well as for up front initial capital works and project set up costs in the first five years. Thus by year 5 this finance has already been spent and cannot be used for the ongoing management, monitoring and maintenance of the project over the 50 year timescale. Given this cashflow timescale, both the National Lottery Heritage Fund grant and the Wilder Carbon income are required, in combination, to run the project.
* Although the Speechly’s Farm Wilder Carbon project and the associated legal agreements are over a 50 year timescale, in reality the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire have acquired the site with the express intention of owning and managing it in perpetuity, and so they require financial sustainability for the site over a period beyond 50 years. Thus income that is above the projected project costs over 50 years goes to supporting this. The Wilder Carbon Standard for Nature and Climate states that, for permanence, the intention is to provide this financial sustainability beyond 50 years and towards 99 years for in perpetuity site and project maintenance, and so finances need to be considered for organisational operability beyond the 50 year budget for the project.
* The potential Wilder Carbon income is just that; potential income. Market risks and uncertainties mean that obtaining that full income may not be achievable, and so a greater level of potential income, derived through conservative estimations and using the mechanisms in place within the Wilder Carbon Standard, which is required to run the project, should be facilitated.