

APPENDIX 4 – FUNDING MECHANISMS

Trees for Climate

The Trees for Climate Fund is managed by England's Community Forests, one of which is the newly established North East Community Forest. This funding pot aims to plant up to 500ha of trees by 2025 across England.

This funding pot is specially for woodland creation of which must be at least 0.10ha in size. Funding is available throughout of the year and can be used for:

- Urban and parkland tree planting
- Hedgerows and shrub belts with field trees
- Tree/shrub belts within a holding planted to support catchment management
- Community orchards and woodland
- Rural woodlands

An offer is made against the agreed costs for the woodland creation which is benchmarked against standards costs.

Woodland Creation Grant¹

This is a Forestry Commission Grant which is aimed at large woodland creation greater than 5ha. It is available to landowners, land managers and public bodies. Funding is capped at £30,000 per project. The woodland must meet the definition set out by the National Forest Inventory.

England Woodland Creation Offer²

Another year-round grant managed by the Forestry Commission which offers more than just woodland creation funding. It also offers annual maintenance payments, contribution to infrastructure costs and additional contributions where the location of the woodland will deliver public benefits including climate change resilience, using private finance to support woodland creation, nature recovery, improved water quality, planting riparian buffers, flood risk prevention, social benefits, and ammonia capture. The four types of payments are as follows:

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1. **Standards costs for establishing new woodlands** – 100% of costs based on national average of establishing woodlands.
2. **Annual maintenance payments** - £200 per ha.
3. **Contribution to infrastructure costs.** For infrastructure – 40% of actual costs. Recreational infrastructure costs – 100% of costs.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-creation-planning-grant>

² <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/england-woodland-creation-offer>

4. Additional contributions

Nature recovery – between £2,800 and £1,100 per ha. Water quality - £400 per ha. Flood risk - £500 per ha.

Riparian buffers - £1,600 per ha. Close to settlements - £500 per ha. Access - £2,200 per ha.

MOREwoods³

A Woodland Trust grant scheme for landowners only to create new woodland of a minimum size of 0.5ha. The funding provides 75% of the costs of trees, tree protection, advice, and guidance.

MOREhedgerows⁴

A similar scheme run and managed by the Woodland Trust for the creation of hedgerow planting with large trees intertwined available for landowners. Hedging must connect with at least 0.2ha of existing or newly planted woodland via established hedgerows within 500m of the new hedge. Funding again is provided against 75% of the costs of trees, tree protection, advice, and guidance.

Urban Tree Challenge Fund⁵

The Urban Tree Challenge Fund is aimed at the planting of large and small trees in urban and peri-urban areas⁶, and is available for anyone who has full management control of the land. Funding covers up to 50% of costs, with the remaining funding being met through match funding (costs or labour), you are not allowed to apply for another grant alongside this. The funding pot for the two-year period 2021/22 to 2022/23 is now closed and it hasn't been confirmed if future funding pots will be released.

Local Authority Treescapes Fund⁷

A Forestry Commission grant for local authorities for new woodland creation and planting in hedgerows, parklands, urban areas, beside riverbanks, roads and footpaths, copses, and shelterbelts. There are no limits on sizes, but any planting must be within 50m of existing tree seed source. Grants available are between £50,000 and £300,000 – this is a capital only grant which covers the costs of the tree planting or natural colonisation activities, it will also fund the costs of maintenance activities for years 2 – 4. This funding pot is currently closed for applications, and it hasn't been confirmed if future pots will be available.

³ <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/large-scale-planting/morewoods/>

⁴ <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/large-scale-planting/morehedges/>

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/urban-tree-challenge-fund>

⁶ An urban area is defined as a built-up area with a population of at least 2,000 people and a buffer of 1km to account for peri-urban planting.

⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-authority-treescapes-fund>

Ground Control – Evergreen Fund⁸

A private equity fund as part of the company Ground Control available to landowners creating woodland over 5ha. The funding is available all year round to apply to, but it is unknown how much money is available.

Woodland Trust – Free trees for schools and communities⁹

The Woodland Trust are offering tree trees for schools and communities (residential associations, sports clubs, parish councils, scouts, guides) over two delivery periods per year (March and November). There are several different types of tree pack which are:

- Hedges (to make a natural screen or connect existing woodland)
- Copse (silver birch, rowan wild cherry)
- Wild Harvest (growing fruit or nut trees)
- Year-round colour (trees to give colour throughout the year)
- Working wood (rowan, silver birch, common oak, grey willow)
- Wild wood (native species that can tolerate exposed sites and help dry up wet areas)
- Wildlife (establish food and shelter for wildlife)
- Urban trees (for residential areas with limited communal space)

The eligibility criteria for a school application are that the trees must be planted on school grounds, and for community groups the trees need to be planted on publicly accessible land.

Trees Call to Action Fund¹⁰

The Trees Call to Action Fund is administered by the heritage fund in partnership with the Forestry Commission and DEFRA and is part of the Nature for Climate Fund. The fund is available for local authorities and should aim to deliver the aims of the England Trees Action Plan:

- Expanding and connecting trees and woodlands
- Trees and Woodlands as part of the green economy
- Protecting and improving our trees and woodlands
- Connecting people with trees and woodland

Grants are available for £250,000 to £500,000 for projects which should be delivered by March 2025.

National Lottery Grants for Heritage¹¹

This grant scheme funds projects to connect people and communities to national, regional and local heritage between the sum of £3,000 and £10,000. The scheme is available to a range of applicants including not-for-profit organisations, community groups, local authorities, and parish councils. Grants that will be prioritised in 2022-22 include those that promote inclusion

⁸ <https://www.evergreen-fund.co.uk/tree-planting>

⁹ <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/>

¹⁰ <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/trees-call-to-action-fund>

¹¹ <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/national-lottery-grants-heritage-3k-10k>

and involve a wide range of people, boost the local economy, encourage skills development and job creation, support wellbeing, create better places to live, work and visit and improve the resilience of organisations working in heritage.

DEFRA Air Quality Grant

The government's £9 million air quality grant is available for local authorities to develop and implement measures to reduce the impact of polluted air on people's health. The criteria for the 2021 grant will prioritise these areas:

- Projects which reduce air pollutant exceedances.
- Projects that will improve knowledge and information about air quality and steps individuals can take to reduce their exposure to air pollution.
- Projects that include measures to deal with particulate matter.

The application period for 2021 grant has now closed, but it is expected that future grants will be available.

Environment Agency Funding

Funding from the Environment Agency can be applied for to create new or improved flood risk and coastal erosion management infrastructure and tackle groundwater and surface issues. The two types of funding that are available include WEIF (Environment Programme) and FDGiA (FCRM capital programme). WEIF funding is used mainly to fund the delivery of Water Framework Directive objectives.

Tesco's Community Grants Scheme¹²

Administered by Groundwork, grants are available up to £1,500 to fund community improvement projects including play areas, allotments and school grounds. Charities and community organisations can apply.

SUEZ Communities Trust – Landfill Communities Fund¹³

Fund provides grants to not-for-profits organisations to undertake work under the Landfill Communities Fund which includes public amenities, biodiversity and historic buildings, structures, or sites. There are two types of funds:

Smaller projects fund – awards between £1 and £20,000 to projects that costs no more than £40,000.

Primary fund – awards between £1 and £50,000 to projects that costs no more than £250,000.

Money must go towards the purchase of materials/equipment and the appointment of a contractor to complete the improvement works.

¹² <https://tescocommunitygrants.org.uk/>

¹³ <https://www.suezcommunitiestrust.org.uk/apply-for-funding/england/>

ENTRUST funding – Landfill Communities Fund¹⁴

Funding for organisations enrolled with ENTRUST which must match one of the following:

- The reclamation, remediation or restoration of land which cannot currently be used.
- The prevention of potential for pollution or the remediation of the effects of the pollution.
- The provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or another public amenity.
- The conservation or promotion of biodiversity
- The restoration of a place of religious worship or of historic or architectural interest.

Power to change¹⁵

Provide grant fundings to community lead business run by local people for the benefit of the local community that are tackling challenges in their local area, which have included community gardens.

¹⁴ <https://www.entrust.org.uk/landfill-community-fund/>

¹⁵ <https://www.powertochange.org.uk/>