



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Trees outside of woodland: Funding support for Local Authorities

13 December 2023



Policy Framework



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Nature for Climate Fund





Trees outside of woodlands

- 19% of the UK tree cover, covering 773,000 hectares
- Sequester 3.9 million tonnes of carbon/year
- £1.4 billion annual benefit



- Heavily affected by pests and diseases (ash dieback, Dutch elm disease)
- Ageing population
- Vulnerable to development pressures



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Local Authority Treescap (LATF)

- Key government offer for local authorities (LAs) to restore and enhance trees outside of woodlands.
- Funding awarded for both direct planting and natural colonisation.
- Tree planting within parklands, riparian zones, urban areas, roadsides, canals, footpaths, hedgerows and field boundaries.



LATF: The Offer

Borough, District and City Councils, as well as County Councils, Unitary and Metropolitan Boroughs may apply individually or in groups.

Collaboration with private landowners (NGOs, charities, utility boards, farmers, individuals) accepted and encouraged.

Applications for a minimum of £50,000 are accepted and are awarded as capital grants if successful. **There is now no upper limit to the funds that may be applied for.**

Funding covers one winter season of tree planting or activities that promote natural colonisation. Funding for three years of tree maintenance is also provided.

Any Parkland, riparian zones, urban areas, roadsides, canals, footpaths, hedgerows and field boundaries.



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Recent successes

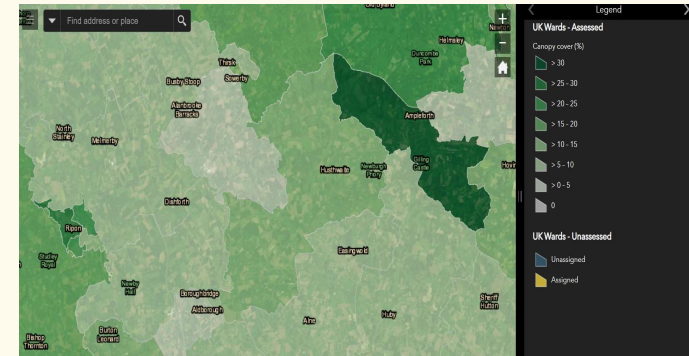
- **Trees planted: 357,384**
- **Successful applications: 127**
- **Trees committed to be planted: 210,588**
- **Funding awarded so far: £13.5m**



Building your LATF bid: Gathering information

Begin collecting information on:

- *Approximate* current tree distribution and condition. Identify areas of low tree cover
- *Approximate* tree loss figures in recent years (including predicted threats)
- Planting opportunities (grass verges, vacant planting pits, public parks, vacant plots, brownfield land, riparian corridors, hedgerows etc). *Precise locations not required*





Building your LATF bid: Approach potential collaborators

- Approach other neighbouring or lower tier authorities about being included within the bid
- *Any land within the LA's administrative boundary may be planted on!*
- Consider schools, NHS, churchyards, utility companies, NGOs, charities, agricultural landowners, institutions and sports facilities.
- Consider potential suppliers (confirm biosecurity certificate)





Building your LATF bid: Complete the Project Cost Calculator and Application Form

- Download the application pack
- Complete the Project Cost Calculator - ready-made Excel based calculator for project costing
- Complete the application form – You should now have all the information needed to complete the application form.
- Applications are then assessed by the Forestry Commission



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Feedback

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

