

# **COMMUNITY FORESTS**

- England's Community Forests are positioned around cities (creating green infrastructure projects to deliver social, economic and environmental benefits for millions of people)
- PSDCF is one of England's newest Community Forest's
   (joining the nationwide network of Community Forests 13 in total)
- It's a partnership project
   (Plymouth City Council, South Hams District Council, West Devon Borough Council, National Trust and Woodland Trust.

# TREES FOR CLIMATE FUND - DEFRA

A woodland creation programme across England's Community Forest areas that can provide grant funding for:

- 1) Capital the costs of woodland creation
- 2) Maintenance to ensure successful establishment
- 3) Additional payments for ecosystem services

# TREES FOR CLIMATE FUND - DEFRA

## **Eligible Items**

The full list of available eligible items supported under the Trees for Climate Programme are:

- Trees, tree guards, fencing and any associated supplies and equipment
- Surveys, technical studies, reports supporting planning and consenting
- Access, interpretation, signage
- Site infrastructure access and egress, seating, structures
- Natural Flood Management (NFM) interventions
- Communications material on site and in communities
- Community engagement costs, events, materials
- Project delivery management
- Woodland establishment operations and maintenance activities
- Payments to secure ongoing delivery of ecosystem services
- Non-recoverable VAT
- Depreciation of portable plant & equipment used to deliver the project
- Consumables & welfare items
- Volunteer training and expenses



# PLYMOUTH AND SOUTH DEVON COMMUNITY FOREST VISION

# EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE

An accessible woodland network connecting the people and places of Plymouth and South Devon.

Increased numbers and diversity
of people regularly interacting
with and receiving the
environmental, social, physical, and
economic benefits of their
community forest.

#### RESILIENT

A network of trees and woodland spaces across Plymouth and South Devon bringing improved health and wellbeing to individuals, communities, and climate.

Citizens working to protect future generations of trees, people, and wildlife through sustainable management and care.

#### **PIONEERING**

An enterprising and innovative woodland culture enhancing lives through jobs, skills development, volunteering, and wider interaction with the blue/green network.

An embedded woodland approach to community businesses and forestry integral to community life.

# TYPES OF WOODLAND SUPPORTED



# MULTI-PURPOSE WOODLAND (> 5HA)

Minimum of 1,600 trees per ha No single species more than 70% Up to 20% woody shrubs



#### **LOW DENSITY TREE PLANTNG**

Minimum of 25 trees per ha Minimum final canopy cover of 20% across area planted Species appropriate to context



## SMALL SCALE TREE PLANTING (0.5-4.99 HA)

Minimum of 1,100 trees per ha Up to 20% woody shrubs



#### **HEDGEROWS WITH/WITHOUT TREES**

5 plants per linear metre
Trees planted every 15 metres as
appropriate
70% native or locally characteristic



## **VERY SMALL SCALE TREE PLANTING** (0.1-0.49 HA)

Minimum of 1,100 trees per ha Up to 20% woody shrubs Fruit trees accepted



#### **NATURAL COLONISATION**

Must achieve minimum of 60% woody cover and 100 trees per ha within ten years

ITEM	MAXIMUM PAYMENT / HA	GUIDANCE
CAPITAL GRANT	£10,500	This is the funding required in order to deliver the proposed project i.e.  cost of trees/guards/fencing,  labour,  surveys,  infrastructure etc.  The application should demonstrate 'value for money', though it should be noted that under this scheme the lowest cost is not deemed to always represent the best value for money.
MAINTENANCE GRANT	£4,000 (10yr cumulative)	This is the funding required to deliver ongoing tree maintenance i.e.  replacement/removal of tree guards,  watering,  management of undergrowth etc
EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, AND CONNECTED PROJECTS	£2,950	Additional funding can be awarded if the proposed project meets the PSDCF aims to deliver an equitable, inclusive, and connected network, significantly increasing the numbers and diversity of people regularly interacting with, and receiving the environmental, social, physical, and economic benefits of their community forest. Examples include:  • if the project is within a certain proximity to settlements,  • if there is public access to the planted area, and the quality of this access.
RESILIENT PROJECTS	£5,300	Additional funding can be awarded if the proposed project will bring improved health and wellbeing to individuals/communities, and positively impact the climate emergency.  Examples include:  providing nature recovery by creating/enhancing/restoring priority habitats,  delivering water resilience by having a positive impact on water quality, reducing flooding, cooling rivers etc.
PIONEERING PROJECTS	£1,500	Additional funding can be awarded if the proposed project provides an enterprising and innovative woodland culture - enhancing lives through jobs, skills development, volunteering, supporting an embedded woodland approach to community businesses and forestry integral to community life.  Examples include:  delivering woodland planting that supports the local economy and infrastructure (e.g. orchards, agroforestry, sustainable timber, water collection etc),  provides engagement/networking opportunities (e.g. involvement of the local community in planting and establishment, hosting of wider woodland engagement events as part of the delivery, agreement to become a CF ambassador for participation in case studies and wider network events with CF partners etc)

# Woodlands that will provide benefits by being close to people

## **Spatial Targeting**

Site touches the 'EWCO - NfC Social' layer

## **Species mix**

No one species more than 50%

## **Stocking density**

Minimum of 1,100 stems per hectare

## **Amount**

£737.50 p/ha

# Woodlands that provide new permissive access

## Requirements

- Permissive access provided on land that does not currently have access to it
- Access permitted for a minimum of 15 years
- Access allowed during daylight hours for 365 days per year (unless otherwise agreed with the PSDCF)
- New paths created (including linking to existing Public Right of Way (PRoW) where possible)
- Access Map provided showing where the paths and signs are to be located
- Advertisement (physical and/or digital) that there is access to the site (i.e. waymarkers, signage at entry points, online maps)

Note: Additional Contributions apply only for the areas with permissive access.

#### **Amount**

£2,212.50 p/ha

# **Woodlands that restore nature and species**

## **Spatial targeting**

Site touches the EWCO Biodiversity - Priority Habitat Network Higher or Lower Spatial Priority Area

## **Species mix**

30% of the species mix made up of small trees and woody shrubs At least 80% of the total species mix native Minimum of 5 native species No one species more than 50%

## **Stocking density**

Minimum of 1,600 stems per hectare

#### **Amount**

Higher £2,650 p/ha, Lower £1,325 p/ha

# Woodlands that help reduce the risk of flooding

## **Spatial targeting**

Site touches the 'EWCO Water – Flood Risk Management' layer

## **Species mix**

No one species more than 50%

## **Stocking density**

Minimum of 1,100 stems per hectare

Maximum of 20% open space (with the exception of a standard requirement of 40% in riparian buffers) in the floodplain

#### **Amount**

£883 p/ha

# **Woodlands that help improve Water Quality**

## **Spatial targeting**

Site touches the High Priority area 'EWCO Water – Water Quality' layer

## **Species mix**

No one species more than 50%

## **Stocking density**

Minimum of 1,100 stems per hectare Maximum of 20% open space

## **Amount**

£883 p/ha

## **Woodlands that help Keep Rivers Cool (Riparian Buffers)**

## **Spatial targeting**

Within the 'EWCO - Keeping Rivers Cool' layer
Planted within 10 metres of the watercourse's bank
(Only the area fully within the targeting layer is eligible for the Additional Contribution and this must be mapped as a separate compartment)

## **Species mix**

Native species only

## **Stocking density**

1,100 stems per hectare Standard requirement of 40% open space

#### **Amount**

£883 p/ha

# Woodlands that support the local economy and infrastructure

(e.g. Orchards, Agroforestry, Sustainable Timber, Water collection)

## **Amount**

£750 p/ha

# Woodlands that support activities and/or partnerships

(e.g Involvement of local community in planting and establishment, hosting of wider woodland engagement event on land as part of delivery, agreement to become CF ambassador, for participation in case studies and wider network events with CF partners)?

## **Amount**

£750 p/ha

# **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- 1. Expression of Interest Form
- 2. Desktop assessment (by PSDCF team for constraints and opportunities)
- **3. Full application** (alongside any required elements such as consultation, public register, EIA etc) (Woodland Creation Planning Grant is compatible at this stage for schemes above 5Ha)
- **4. Assessment Panel** (have the final approval of the scheme)
- **5. Landowner agreement** (25% upfront payment possible at this stage)
- 6. Project delivered
- 7. Inspection / Claim form / Full grant payment

# To find out more and to apply, email: PSDCF@plymouth.gov.uk

PLYMOUTH
AND
SOUTH DEVON
COMMUNITY FOREST

















