



Forestry Commission
England

THE NATIONAL TREE PLANTING CAMPAIGN

'THE BIG TREE PLANT'



- **Included in the Coalition Government's initial programme and part of their aspiration to be the 'greenest Government ever'**
- **Preparations led by Defra (lead) and Forestry Commission**
- **Defra/FC supported by National Partners Group including Woodland Trust, Community Forests, Tree Council, Trees for Cities**



- **Targeted at Urban areas (although 'urban' not defined)**
- **Towns (including small and even village) could be eligible**
- **Particular priority to be given to areas of deprivation and relatively treeless areas in cities - FC working on spatial targeting**



- **As much about people/local communities/quality of life – trees are the tool to improve the latter**
- **Schemes must be locally organised delivered – bottom-up process**
- **Benefits to local people must be delivered and all must be able to visit**
- **Owner of land must give permission/support and there must be plans in place for aftercare**



- **The Campaign will seek to support community groups and organisations to establish or expand projects to plant and care for trees**
- **Defra have compiled a list of organisations who have indicated they can help at the local level**
Eg, Birmingham Trees for Life, Forest of Mercia Community Forest
- **Launched as part of National Tree Week (27 Nov – 5 Dec) - but events postponed to the big freeze!**



- **Grants to enable local groups and help deliver planting schemes will be provided via the FC**
- **From April 2011 to March 2015 £4.2m will be available to community and civic groups**
- **Application forms and guidance notes are available now from :
<http://thebigtreeplant.direct.gov.uk/funding.html>**
- **Grants Panel will meet twice a year Spring and Summer - first meeting March 2011. Application deadline for this meeting is 15th March**
- **For further information visit the website or call 0800 856 7984**