

# The London Tree and Woodland Grant Scheme

The Forestry Commission's Community Grant Scheme



**This leaflet provides details on how to apply for a grant from The Forestry Commission's Community Grant Scheme, which awards funding on an annual basis as part of The London Tree and Woodland Grant Scheme (LTWGS).**

**For details on the Mayor's Street Tree Programme, visit: [www.groundwork.org.uk/london](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/london), or contact the LTWGS Programmes Officer on 020 7239 1292 or [londonprogrammes@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:londonprogrammes@groundwork.org.uk).**

The Forestry Commission's Community Grant Scheme supports projects delivering community benefits to schools, open spaces and woodlands in Greater London with particular emphasis on improving health and well-being.

Each year the Grant Scheme will be targeting specific benefits from this programme and this year, the focus be health. The Forestry Commission will be giving priority to any applications which can either encourage the planting of tree in hospital grounds, GP surgeries and / or demonstrate long term community improvements to health and well-being through tree related projects

London is fortunate. It has many woodlands and green spaces. However, these are not evenly spread and many areas of the city do not have easy access to open space. Equally, many of our fine woodlands require long-term management.

Trees grow slowly and can live for hundreds of years. Often the wide range of benefits that they provide are taken for granted or go unnoticed. Trees enhance the landscape and biodiversity and improve the quality of life for people living and working in London. Without trees our lives would be much poorer.

## **LTWGS Aims**

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**Ensure trees and woodlands contribute to a high quality environment.**

**Help shape the built environment and new developments in a way that strengthens the positive character and diversity of London.**

**Help foster community and individual well-being and social inclusion through contact with trees and woodlands.**

**Make sure the right tree is in the right place.**

**Reduce health inequalities in London, through empowering communities to make a difference in their local woodlands and open space.**



## **Benefits from trees and woodlands in cities may include:**

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**Cooler street temperatures in summer**

**Reduced water run-off and less flooding**

**Healthier communities and higher rates of physical activity**

**Reduction of man-made particulates in the air**

**Greater wildlife biodiversity**

**Reduced noise levels from busy transport corridors**

**Increase in house values through high quality surroundings**

**Lower maintenance costs in parks**

**Community pride and sense of ownership for an area**

**Higher levels of community engagement**

**Climate change mitigation and adaptation**

## Grant Criteria

Projects in the following categories will be considered for the LTWGS:

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### Health & Recreation

Green Routes. Promotion of underused sites and links between open spaces. Planting in or near hospital grounds.

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### Community & Education

Community consultation, training and capacity building; support for 'Friends of' groups, schools, playgroups etc. Planting in schools grounds and play areas.

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### Trees & Woodland Management

Tree and shrub planting, signs, gates, fences etc. Management of existing woodland including creating plans for certification. Improving the standards of access and recreational facilities.

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### Tree Related Strategy

Proposals within areas of high deprivation, links to the Green Grid and Regeneration Areas.

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### Biodiversity

Management practices that encourage improved biodiversity through planting and maintenance.

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### Landscape & Land Regeneration

Planting and woodland management along transport corridors. Screening of unsightly buildings. Planting in industrial estates. Planting on derelict sites where appropriate. Planting on mown grass, monoculture sites.

The London Tree and Woodland Framework has a useful checklist for choosing the appropriate species, design and location of trees:  
[www.right-trees.org](http://www.right-trees.org)

## **Value of Grants**

No maximum or minimum value has been set. However, as a guide, applications above £500 and under £5,000 are encouraged.

Match funding in cash or in-kind, including volunteer time, should be at least 50% of project costs. We encourage schemes that have been developed by a wide range of interested partners.

## **Who can apply?**

Applications are welcomed from anybody able to represent the wider community and will need to show support from all relevant stakeholders.

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### **Local Authorities -**

should show how they intend to involve the local community.

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### **Community Groups -**

should show how they represent the wider community and have appropriate permissions and support from relevant authorities and landowners.

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### **Businesses -**

should show how their neighbours have been consulted and the wider community will benefit.

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All grant recipients should be legally constituted.  
All applications will be judged by a selection panel.

## Lead Partners



### The Forestry Commission

The Government Department leading on the development and promotion of sustainable forestry management. In London we are trying to encourage tree planting and woodland management which promotes maximum social, environmental and economic benefits.



### Groundwork London

Groundwork is a not-for-profit organisation that works to improve the lives of London's most deprived communities and the areas where they live. We work in partnership to develop bespoke projects that address specific local issues. In particular we engage and involve local communities, improve open and green spaces, deliver projects to reduce and mitigate climate change, and help people back into work.

Groundwork is all about action. For 15 years we've been making a difference in London's most deprived communities. Today we deliver over 700 projects each year with a combined value of £10m+.

### GLA

Greater London Authority: The regional Authority for London.

### MAYOR OF LONDON

The Mayor's Street Tree Programme is a separate strand of the London Trees and Woodlands Grant Scheme that directly supports the planting of 10,000 street trees in 40 priority areas across London.

The Mayor believes that trees, woodlands and other open spaces: provide a valuable resource and focus for local communities; can have a positive effect on the image and vitality of areas; and can encourage investment. As London becomes more compact and intensive in its built form the value of these trees, woodlands and other open spaces will increase. The Mayor will plan for a range of different types of open space to meet a variety of needs and work with others to realise the full potential of those spaces that are currently undervalued

Thanks to Natural England for assistance  
in the delivery of this project.



*"We encourage any projects that will help to reduce health inequalities in London, whilst also recognising the valuable part the natural environment plays in improving overall mental and physical health."*

If you have a project idea you would like to discuss, need further information or want an application pack, please contact Groundwork London:

**LTWGS Programmes Officer**

**Groundwork London  
12 Baron Street  
London, N1 9LL**

**Tel: 020 7239 1292**

**Email: [londonprogrammes@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:londonprogrammes@groundwork.org.uk)**

**[www.groundwork-london.org.uk/ltwgs](http://www.groundwork-london.org.uk/ltwgs)**

