



# 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, part of the London Tree and Woodland Grant Scheme (LTWGS). Additionally, the Mayor of London has committed to funding an expansion of the Forestry Commission's London Tree and Woodland Grant scheme, as part of his goal to make London a greener city. This will provide 10,000 street trees over the next four years in 40 areas across London that often have no street trees at all. For more information on how to apply for a grant relating to this scheme visit: [www.groundwork-london.org.uk/ltwgs](http://www.groundwork-london.org.uk/ltwgs), or contact the LTWGS Programmes Officer on 020 7922 1230 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.

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**



## **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 categories**

Projects in the following categories will be considered for a grant under The Forestry Commission's Community Grant Scheme:

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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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### **Biodiversity**

Management practices that encourage improved biodiversity through planting and maintenance.

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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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### **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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### **Recreation & Health**

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

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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, woodland owners and managers -**

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 an established group with a governing document and a separate bank account.

All applications will be judged by a selection panel.



## Lead Partners

### The Forestry Commission

The Government Department responsible for forestry policy throughout Great Britain. It leads 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+.

## MAYOR OF 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

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  
18-21 Morley Street  
London, SE1 7QZ**

**T: 020 7922 1230 or E: [londonprogrammes@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:londonprogrammes@groundwork.org.uk)**

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



All photos courtesy of the Forestry Commission