





# Trees for Climate

Woodland Creation Fund with  
England's Community Forests

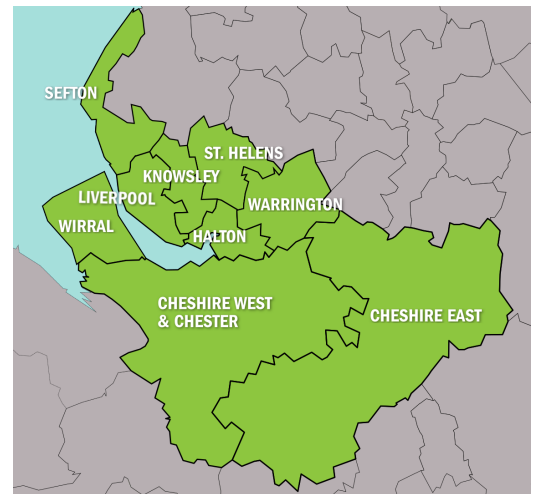


A five year woodland creation programme across England's Community Forest areas that can provide:

-  Grant funding to cover the costs of woodland creation
-  Woodland creation, design, planning and planting advice from a professional woodland team
-  Support for fences, gates, pathways, benches and more
-  A funded ongoing maintenance plan to ensure success



The local authorities covered by The Mersey Forest



## FAQs: **What are England's Community Forests?**

England's Community Forests are positioned around England's biggest cities. For almost 30 years, they have been creating green infrastructure projects to deliver social, economic and environmental benefits for millions of people.

### **What is The Mersey Forest?**

The Mersey Forest is a Community Forest covering Merseyside and Cheshire, where it has been developing a network of woodlands and green spaces for the last 25 years, planting of over 9 million trees.

### **What is Trees for Climate?**

Trees for Climate is a new five year woodland creation fund focusing on the Community Forest areas. It is part of the Nature for Climate scheme which is a national initiative for natural solutions to climate change.

### **What does Trees for Climate offer?**

A Trees for Climate grant is for anyone wanting to plant trees. In the past year we have supplied schools with planting days, helped green up parks and grant aided large woodland creation on farms. The grant is highly bespoke and is open to all – whether you are a parish council looking to add some shade to a green space or a farmer looking to diversify income streams, we can help.

### **How much is the grant?**

The grant will aim to cover all costs associated with woodland creation, as well as providing ongoing funding to support the maintenance of the trees. In certain situations we can also fund the installation of woodland infrastructure and the creation of associated woodland habitats.

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## **Contact us:**

To find out how we could help you, please contact us:

**Tel: 01925 816217**

**Email: [mail@merseyforest.org.uk](mailto:mail@merseyforest.org.uk)**

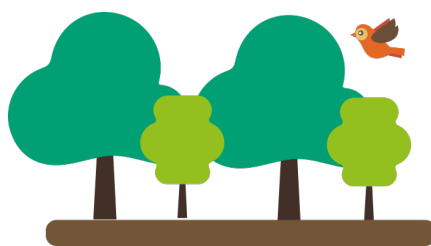
# Trees for Climate



- Landowner Advice Pack
- Types of woodland we can support



**Multi-purpose woodland (>5 ha)**  
Minimum of 1,600 tree per ha  
No single species more than 70%  
Up to 20% woody shrubs



**Small scale tree planting (0.5-4.99 ha)**  
Minimum of 1,100 trees per ha  
Up to 20% woody shrubs



**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



**Low density tree planting**  
Minimum of 25 trees per ha  
Minimum final canopy cover of 20% across area planted  
Species appropriate to context



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



**Hedgerows without trees**  
5 plants per linear metre  
Double-staggered row planting pattern, or similar  
70% native or locally characteristic



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

## Further information

These illustrations are for general guidance only – each of our woodland types has a more detailed specification.  
If you're unsure if your planting project fits our criteria please contact us:

**The Mersey Forest**  
**Tel: 01925 816217**  
**Email: [mail@merseyforest.org.uk](mailto:mail@merseyforest.org.uk)**

# Trees for Climate



- Landowner Advice Pack
- Grants Process



## Pre-planting



### Approved woodland design

After completing steps to plan, design, budget and get statutory consent, the scheme will be approved by The Mersey Forest.



### Grant offer

The grant offer will be subject to estimated costs within the project budget. Amendments can still be made at this point.



### Landowner agreement

After acceptance of the grant offer the applicant will be asked to enter into a landowner agreement. The agreement lasts up to 15 years.

## Planting



### Plant to specifications

Plant the trees according to the design and specifications agreed with The Mersey Forest.



### Site inspection

After planting the site will be inspected by a member of The Mersey Forest.

## Post-planting



### Submit grant claim form

Following inspection submit a claim form along with evidence.

Evidence can be in the form of photos and invoices



### Ongoing maintenance

If there is a maintenance plan, carry out as agreed. Record these operations with pictures and invoices too.



### Further grant claims

If the grant has multiple payments then claim forms need submitting at the agreed times, along with evidence.

# Trees for Climate



- Landowner Advice Pack
- Case study examples



## Small farm woodland

This new wildlife woodland established in west Cheshire has a wide shrubby edge with plentiful amounts of berry-producing species. It will also provide autumnal colour when several of the species will turn a vibrant red-orange.



### Objectives:

Habitat provision for wildlife; capturing carbon



### Species included:

Wild Cherry, Field Maple, Dogwood, Rowan, Oak, Hazel, Bird Cherry



### Help from The Mersey Forest:

Planning and design; supply of trees; labour



## Large farm woodland

Six hectares of new woodland was created that will provide the estate with income through carbon sales and timber production. Funding provided by The Mersey Forest will also cover the installation of deer fencing and ongoing maintenance to ensure the new trees reach maturity.



### Objectives:

Capturing carbon; timber production



### Species included:

Oak, Hornbeam, Alder, Lime, Norway Spruce, Scots Pine and shrubs.



### Help from The Mersey Forest:

Planning and design; grant aid



## Schools tree planting

A planting scheme was designed across different areas of the school's grounds with the objective of boosting biodiversity and providing habitat and food for birds and pollinators. An orchard was also included to promote healthy living, allowing students to experience food from seed to plate. School students and staff learned about the importance of trees and gained hands-on skills planting their new woodland.



### Objectives:

Carbon, wildlife, education



### Species included:

Common Oak, Downy Birch, Hornbeam, Elder, Common Alder, Small-leaf Lime, Wild Cherry, Hazel, Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry



### Help from The Mersey Forest:

Planning and design; contractor management; tree planting



## Community woodland

A native woodland was created in an unused part of a popular local park. The plan was to establish a wildlife haven with plenty of fruit trees that could help to reduce waterlogged conditions and provide a buffer to road noise and pollution. A high level of support was received from local communities and businesses with nearly 100 people attending three community planting days. Almost 800 trees were planted – now the woodland is thriving and already supporting native wildlife.



### Objectives:

Wildlife, Water management; noise buffering; carbon capture



### Species included:

Oak, Hazel, Hornbeam, Cherry, Crab apple, Hawthorn, Birch, Alder, Dog Rose and Scots Pine.



### Help from The Mersey Forest:

Woodland design and planning; community planting events.