## Funding for Urban Tree Planting in England to Benefit Health and Wellbeing

The <u>Urban Tree Challenge Fund</u> has re-opened for applications, which means that thousands of trees will be planted near schools and healthcare centres and in areas with fewer trees and higher social deprivation.

Across England, 44,000 large trees will be planted in towns and cities. The aim is to support areas to improve health and wellbeing and help connect people to the outdoors. Evidence from Forest Research shows the majority of adults surveyed agreed that their level of happiness when in nature has increased compared to before the pandemic.

The new trees will also support the UK's journey to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and commitment to increase tree planting across the UK to 30,000 hectares of trees a year by 2025.

The current round of funding is open for the planting of standard trees only, to both block bids and individual applications. A block bid is designed for organisations to apply for funding for multiple projects that can be geographically dispersed or focused in one area but submitted under one application.

The guideline for block bids is a minimum funding requirement of £250,000 and there is no maximum value. Individual applications are for smaller, focused areas of planting undertaken by small organisations or community groups. These individual applications will need a minimum funding requirement of £10,000 up to a maximum of £30,000.

Applications are accepted from community and volunteer groups, town councils and individuals wishing to plant trees in urban areas of England. Applicants must have full management control over the land or signed consent from those with such control.

Applications must be submitted by 25 July 2021 (23:59 BST).