

The Forestry England Woodland Partnership: creating new woodlands with local authorities

Woodland creation is an invaluable nature-based tool to address the climate and nature crises. As public organisations, planting the right tree in the right place can help us meet our common commitment to tackling these challenges whilst unlocking a wide range of additional benefits. The Forestry England Woodland Partnership is an exciting opportunity supporting local authorities to deliver woodland creation and meet ambitions for action on climate change, nature, and the provision of accessible green space for all.

Forestry England manages and cares for the nation's 1,500 woods and forests, with over 363 million visits per year. As England's largest land manager, we shape landscapes and enhance forests for people to enjoy, wildlife to flourish and businesses to grow. Forestry England has the expertise and resources to work in partnership with local authorities to collaboratively design, plan, plant and manage new woodlands.

Examples of the Woodlands already created under the partnership include:

- **York Community Woodland, City of York Council:** a predominantly broadleaf woodland designed to provide a valuable mix of recreation, wildlife, and wider environmental benefits. The 78ha woodland will sequester over 18,000 tonnes of CO₂ in the next 100 years, helping York to be a net-zero carbon city by 2030. In total, 210,000 trees will be planted – one tree for every resident of the city. Watch the video [here](#).
- **Wing Wood, Buckinghamshire Council:** a new 51ha woodland, with over 187,000 broadleaf and conifer trees being planted by 2024. This new woodland will help Buckinghamshire Council meet its ambition of planting one tree for every resident and is estimated to sequester over 10,000 tonnes of CO₂ in the next 100 years.

The partnership in practise

Through the Forestry England Woodland Partnership, we can work with local authorities to negotiate a lease on suitable sites of at least **20 hectares** for a minimum of **60 years**. You may already have land within your asset portfolio, or you might consider acquiring land specifically to enter a partnership with us. On entering an agreement, the new woodland will provide:

- **Rental income:** Over the duration of the lease, you will receive a guaranteed, index-linked annual rent. Rental incomes are site-specific and are negotiated to be competitive with alternative support payments.
- **Carbon sequestration:** New woodlands are registered with the Woodland Carbon Code and any Woodland Carbon Units generated can be reserved by your authority as part of the lease negotiations.
- **Biodiversity gains:** New woodlands are designed to create a mosaic of connected, healthy habitats, with appropriate management guaranteed for the duration of the lease.
- **Public Access:** New woodlands created by the Forestry England Woodland Partnership will become part of the nation's forests, delivering guaranteed public access to high-quality green space, and supporting your local authority's goals for community health and wellbeing. Forestry England will provide ongoing maintenance for the duration of the lease period with no upfront or ongoing costs required from local authorities.

A more detailed overview of the Forestry England Woodland Partnership for local authorities is provided in this [brochure](#), available to download from our [website](#).

Forestry England will be running a webinar on June 8th at 2pm to explain the Forestry England Woodland Partnership and answer any questions. Sign up at [Forestry England Woodland Partnership for Local Authorities Tickets, Thu 8 Jun 2023 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)