



### 1. Scheme Objectives

The aim of this grant is to enhance the tree cover within the National Park by funding planting of individual trees or small areas of woodland not eligible for other funding to deliver the first National Park Partnership Plan outcome of improving and enhancing our natural capital.

### 2. Who can apply?

The scheme is open to businesses, organisations, individuals and community or voluntary groups.

Applications from schools and other publicly funded bodies will be considered.

Applicants do not need to be based within the National Park, provided that the project is delivered within the National Park.

Board members and staff of the National Park Authority are not eligible to apply.

Applicants must disclose whether they have any family members working for the National Park Authority, together with the relationship and proximity of the employee to the grant being sought.

### 3. Priority Outcomes

The grant scheme will support planting of trees that deliver the following priority outcomes for biodiversity, climate and landscape:

- 1) Enhancement of riparian and loch shore habitats, usually within 10m of a water course.
- 2) Enhancement of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes, see locations [here](#).
- 3) Enhancement of Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas, see locations [here](#).
- 4) Enhancement of the public realm and delivery of public amenity benefits, such as locations adjacent to core paths, public roads and in areas of green space used by the public.
- 5) Enhancement of tree integration into agricultural systems (Agroforestry).
- 6) Replacement of individual trees where they are threatened by Ash dieback (Chalara)
- 7) Other proposals that bring biodiversity, climate or landscape benefits.

### 4. Eligibility

The scheme will fund:

- Planting of native tree species and appropriate non-native tree species used for landscape purposes, which would deliver the scheme's objectives. If you have any species queries, please contact our Trees & Woodland Adviser.
- Any required protection i.e., tubes, stakes or fencing.
- Associated labour costs will not be funded separately as they are incorporated through the use of standard costs for tree planting, see below.

### 5. Ineligibility

The scheme will not fund:

- Hedge planting;
- Felling. The scheme does not pay for felling. If any removal of trees is proposed to enable outcome 6 (Ash dieback) the grant application must be approved prior to any felling being undertaken. Any felling would have to be exempt under the requirement for felling permission from Scottish Forestry.
- Planting in existing woodland, unless it is a proposal for planting following removal of invasive rhododendron. In such cases, the grant application must be discussed and agreed in principle with the Park Authority prior to any rhododendron removal being undertaken.

Or any planting required as a result of:

- tree works permissions or tree replacement notice;
- felling license or other forestry requirements;
- or any other required tree planting for discharge for any other statutory obligations.

### 6. Conditions

If the applicant is not the landowner, they must show they have consent of the landowner to undertake the proposed planting.

If a scheme requires EIA screening by Scottish Forestry or affects a designated site, the NPA will discuss this with the applicant and the appropriate competent authority. All works must be undertaken in line with UK Forestry Standard and all other legislation.

If your scheme uses tree tubes, they should be reused tubes or biodegradable tubes and you should commit to removing and reusing or recycling them once the trees are established.



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### 7. Assessment and application deadlines

Applications will be assessed on their delivery of the Priority Outcomes and their value for money.

Applications that score equally will be ranked on:

- Multiple benefits, i.e., delivering more than one Priority Outcome;
- Ratio of matched funding to grant value; and
- The order in which they are received.

The closing dates for applications are 30 September and 30 November 2022. The scheme may close earlier if all funds have been committed.

We aim to assess the applications within a month of these closing dates.

### 8. Value of grant and VAT

The value of the grant will be based on our [Tree Planting Grant Scheme Costs](#) document.

Each grant award can be for a minimum of £800 and a maximum of £3,000, inclusive of any VAT the applicant is unable to recover.

### 9. Claims

Claims will be paid with 1 month of submission of the claim form. In certain limited circumstances, up-front payments are available to organisations which meet the criteria detailed in the application form.