



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: FOI771713366

Thank you for your request for information relating to Green For All National Lottery Funding.

You have requested the following information:

In July 2025, Coventry City Council was awarded nearly £1million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the 'Green for All' initiative. A different Forestry Commission 'Treescapes' grant was also awarded this year of £295k

Could you please detail:

1.How this money has been allocated?

Nature in Towns and Cities: Green for All

The total value of the project is £1,722,855, which is made up of £989,685 of grant funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund and £733,170 match funding from Coventry City Council (including staff time in kind), Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and the John Muir Trust. This has been allocated to funding external partner delivery and internal resources. Funding has been split between the following organisations:

- Coventry City Council
- Coventry University
- the University of Warwick
- Warwickshire Wildlife Trust
- John Muir Trust
- Grapevine
- Garden Organic

A list of the services each institution will provide are detailed below:

Coventry City Council

1 FTE Programme Coordinator, development & delivery of training package, schools engagement, production of citywide Green & Blue Plan and nature funding strategy, communications, marketing, events & digital services

CAWR (Coventry University)

Digital mapping of green & blue assets, community engagement.
Creation of school allotment network.

University of Warwick

Digital mapping of green & blue assets, community engagement, workshops.

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust

1 FTE Community Organiser & 0.5 FTE Digital Organiser, plus management support & community engagement coordination.

John Muir Trust

Surveys, training, delivery of awards, membership & resources, citizen science project.

Grapevine

1 FTE Community Organiser.
Garden Organic Training to communities, residents & volunteers.

National Trust and Historic Coventry Trust are also formal project partners but are not receiving any funding to support project activities. They will support project delivery, particularly where project activities focus on Charterhouse Heritage Park and linking nature corridors to heritage assets around the city.

Local Authorities Treescapes Fund

The total value of the LATF Project is £336,606.12, which is made up of £299,257.46 of grant funding and £37,348.66 of match funding by Coventry City Council. This funding has been primarily allocated to two main delivery partners: Earthwatch Europe and Beechwood Trees & Landscapes Ltd, and some of the funding has been used to directly procure trees from nurseries for planting.

Earthwatch Europe were responsible for the delivery of 6 Tiny Forests (3600 trees) and supported additional traditional whip planting, and Beechwood were contracted to deliver and manage the 142 Semi mature trees planted. Some tree planting delivered by Earthwatch was on Citizen Housing land, and therefore this funding has been allocated to Citizen Housing, to be then sent on to Earthwatch.

2. Which councillors have been involved in the equal distribution of funds?

Nature in Towns and Cities: Green for All

The project bid was led by the Council, with strong support from all external partner organisations. The Cabinet Member for Jobs, Regeneration and Climate Change has supported the project, but officers have led on the distribution of funding based on project activities and outputs.

Local Authorities Treescapes Fund

The distribution of tree planting across Coventry was primarily determined by Council officers through a process of elimination based on land use and availability, habitat suitability and omission of utilities or land contamination. Once sites were selected, all Councillors of recipient wards were informed and invited to join the community consultation process.

3. Which partnerships have been formed with private companies and how much they have/will receive and what they are expected to deliver?

Nature in Towns and Cities: Green for All

None of the partners in Nature Towns and Cities are private companies.

Local Authorities Treescapes Fund

Beechwood Trees & Landscapes are the Council's contracted tree works provider, and they coordinated the procurement, planting, and management of the 142 semi mature trees planted as part of this project. Approximately 3,500 whips were procured by the Council through our regular nurseries, Hilliers and Boningale. Details of amounts of funding sent and to be sent are commercially sensitive and cannot be shared (withheld under s43 of the FOIA).

4. How many members of local communities have been consulted to put forward their ideas and suggestions?

Nature in Towns and Cities: Green for All

Due to the capacity-building nature of the project, community consultation was not part of the development of the grant application. However, community engagement is one of three key work streams of the grant and will be delivered by our consortium of partners, including: University of Warwick, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, John Muir Trust, Grapevine, and Garden Organic. This engagement will include numerous training and education days over the 3-year period, and the use of walking interviews and focus groups to cocreate maps to understand how communities use their green spaces, and strategies that identifies opportunities and mechanisms to improve green and blue infrastructure across Coventry.

Local Authorities Treescapes Fund

The project delivered of 11 community engagement days. Five of these events involved co-creating the planting designs of the proposed Tiny Forests before they were planted, and the remaining six, provided post-planting training in citizen science techniques to monitor tree growth and understand the impacts the trees are having on our local environment, such as through pollinator counts and water sequestration experiments. On average, upwards of 20 people attended each event, with approximately over 200 people consulted overall.

5. Where is the transparent audit trail and publicly visible account of allocated funds?

Nature in Towns and Cities: Green for All

The Nature Towns and Cities project attracted just under £1m grant, which means according to Council constitution it requires approval from Cabinet Member and Section 151 officer, a public report was not required. However, the funds will be managed in strict accordance with external funding regulations and the Council's budgetary framework.

Local Authorities Treescapes Fund

The Local Authority Treescapes Fund project attracted just under £300,000 in grant funding, therefore in line with the Council constitution joint approval by the Chief Executive and the Section 151 Officer was received, a public report was not required. However, the funds will be managed in strict accordance with external funding regulations and the Council's budgetary framework.

6. How much of this money (both funding amounts) has been spent to date and who is responsible at CCC for this and what has the money been spent on?

Nature in Towns and Cities: Green for All

Coventry City Council did not receive formal permissions to start the Green for All project from the National Heritage Lottery Fund until December 2025, and therefore no funding has been claimed or spent up until this date. The first funding claim to NHLF will be submitted in late January/early February and will predominantly include staff time spent on the project. The responsible officer at the Council is the Strategic Lead for Green Futures, who leads the Climate Change and Sustainability Team.

Local Authorities Treescapes Fund

To date (January 2026), funding to Beechwood Trees & Landscapes has been spent on the procurement, installation, and management of the 142 semi mature trees planted as part of the project. Funding to Earthwatch Europe and Citizen Housing is dependent on the receipt of the grant funding from Local Authority Treescapes Fund, which comes in Pre and Post Planting iterations and then annual maintenance amounts for the three following years.

The Council has only received the pre-planting funding, which has been distributed to the relevant parties. The responsible officers at the Council are the Parks and Open Spaces Manager and the Planning Department Manager.

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For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance