

Report to Executive



DATE	September 20th 2023
PORTFOLIO	Leisure
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Climate Action Fund: Burnley Green Activities Project

PURPOSE

1. To accept grant funding from Burnley Leisure and Culture for a climate action project.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Executive is recommended to:
 1. Approve the acceptance of grant funding of £330,000 over 4 years from Burnley Leisure & Culture for the Burnley Green Activities Project.
 2. Authorise the Head of Legal & Democracy Services to complete Deeds of Dedication for Council owned land where micro woodlands will be planted.
 3. Recommend that Full Council approve establishment of the budgets outlined in this report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. To enable the Council to accept grant funding.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

4. Burnley Leisure & Culture has secured funding of £380K from the National Lottery Community Fund's Climate Action programme which focuses on the link between nature and climate and aims to fund projects that encourage community-led climate action.
5. BLC will act as the accountable body and will work in partnership with the Council to deliver the project as part of the 'Burnley and Outdoor Town' initiative.
6. The Council will receive £330K from BLC over a four-year period and will use the funding to organise and deliver volunteer activities involving people of all ages and abilities in Burnley's parks and greenspaces across the borough.

7. Volunteer activities will include tree and woodland planting, creation of wildflower meadows and other environmental activities and improvements. The budget will employ a Green Activities Coordinator, provide EV transport and pay for materials and equipment including trees and wildflower seed, etc.
8. The Executive is requested to approve acceptance of the £330K funding.
9. The project plan identifies that 15 new micro woodlands will be planted on Council owned green spaces. The funding agreement requires the Council to complete a Deed of Dedication which obliges the Council to maintain each site as woodland in future. (Similar Deeds of Dedication were completed for the lottery funded Forest of Burnley woodland schemes).
10. The Executive is requested to authorise the Head of Legal and Democracy Services to complete Deeds of Dedication in respect of the 15 woodland sites.
11. The £50K that BLC retains will provide funding for future editions of Beat the Street and project management.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

12. The project is fully funded by the payments received from BLC. The Council is not required to make any financial contribution.

Expenditure:	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	Total
salaries	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	160,000
training	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,000
wrapping van	2,500				2,500
tools	2,000				2,000
workshops	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	5,000
trees & wildflower supplies	19,500	25,000		25,000	69,500
interpretation boards		6,000		6,000	12,000
operational budget	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
vehicle costs	35,000				35,000
Total Expenditure	111,250	83,250	52,250	83,250	330,000

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

14. The project will help the Council to delivery on commitments made in the Climate Change Strategy.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

BACKGROUND PAPERS

FURTHER INFORMATION **Simon Goff**