



**2024**

# **DONCASTER ENVIRONMENTAL PRIDE PROGRAMME**



**City of  
Doncaster  
Council**



# What is the Environmental Pride Programme?

Environmental Pride provides varying levels of support to help communities deliver environmental improvement projects within their areas. Community groups can request a range of support, including but not limited to extra volunteer support, business advice or funding to get the project off the ground.

The programme is intended to help local residents make a difference to their community and will support projects that:

- Are created and led by the local community for the local community
- Improve or celebrate the local environment
- Remain the responsibility of the community throughout the project
- Support local people to become active in enhancing and celebrating their local areas
- Encourage people to be physically active\* whilst improving their environment and/or as a result of activity/project
- Bring people together and promote pride in the community and neighbourhood
- Are sustainable in the long term without significant ongoing organisational support or funding
- Are aimed at obtaining funding for a purpose that City of Doncaster Council and St Leger Homes (or its partners) would not normally contribute towards,

\* Moderate activity – walking, gardening etc.



# Environmental Pride

## Category 3 - Community Orchards

This category is for community groups looking to start a community orchard project, helping to contribute to the Doncaster One Million Tree challenge.

Community orchards are excellent places for people to come together to plant and cultivate a variety of fruit or nut trees and to use the area as a focal point for community activities.

If you are not the landowner, you will need to evidence their permission alongside your Expression of Interest.

Successful projects will be provided with guidance on tree planting and aftercare, to ensure the orchard has the best chance of being established successfully.

### Applications must include:

- A map of the area with a plan showing how many trees you are wanting to plant and where they will be placed. Please note, trees must be planted on average 5m apart from each other (subject to species) and orchards must be a minimum of 5 trees.
- An initial budget which considers all the costs of your project E.g. installation, maintenance, equipment etc.
- A plan for how the local community will be involved in your project E.g. helping on planting days, tree education workshops, harvesting fruit etc. We encourage you to think big and outside the box on this!
- Evidence of landowner permission. If the land you would like to plant on is owned by the council, then you will need to access this Street Scene form: [Apply to hold a task day or activity in a park | Get Doncaster Moving](#)
- A maintenance plan for how the community orchard will be cared for going forward. See this link for some suggestions of what to consider: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/advice/care/>
- All planting projects must have checked for utilities and underground/overhead services within the area to ensure trees are safe to plant. Please get in touch with us if you wish us to support you with this check: [sustainabilityteam@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:sustainabilityteam@doncaster.gov.uk)
- You should test your soil to understand which trees are most suitable for your site. Here is a soil guide to help you carry out these tests: <https://blog.southernexposure.com/2022/12/soil-texture-the-jar-test/>. Again, if you require extra support please get in touch.



# Environmental Pride

## Category 3 - Community Orchards - Continued

### Additional considerations:

- Trees need watering regularly in their early years, you should consider how you will be able to facilitate this.
- You need to state in your application whether you are already receiving funding from another source / third party, and if so, what the value of this funding is.
- We will be ordering all of the trees needed for the project, this is to ensure all trees are compliant and free from diseases. Please do not buy your own as we will not be able to reimburse you. The trees will be stored at Sandall Beat, so you may wish to include transport costs within your project budget as the trees will be in excess of 1m tall.
- Projects will be monitored after planting to check project delivery meets the agreed criteria. Grantees will need to report on tree survival rate 1 year after planting.
- All trees are mapped to specific location through Doncaster's Tree Register, which then feeds monitored answers into an interactive map of the city and trees that have been planted.
- More info on orchards - <https://ptes.org/campaigns/traditional-orchard-project/>

Orchard trees we can fund: \*

### Traditional "Edible" Orchards

- Apple – (*Malus domestica*)
- Pear – (*Pyrus communis*)
- Plum – (*Prunus domestica*)
- Damson – (*Prunus insititia*)
- Cherry – (*Prunus avium*)
- Greengage – (*Prunus italica*)
- Quince – (*Cydonia oblonga*)

### Native Wildlife Orchards

- Hazel – (*Corylus avellana*)
- Hawthorn – (*Crataegus monogyna*)
- Blackthorn – (*Prunus spinosa*)
- Dog rose – (*Rosa canina*)
- Elder – (*Sambucus nigra*)
- Crab Apple – (*Malus sylvestris*)
- Walnut – (*Juglans regia*)

\*A combination of species from each orchard category is permitted.

### We cannot support:

- Replanting of replacement trees/existing orchards
- Tree species not included in the table above



## Who can apply?

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Applications are open to:

- Registered charities including charitable incorporated organisations
- Formally constituted community groups (e.g. 'Friends of' groups, allotment associations)
- Social and not-for-profit businesses including community interest companies and social enterprises
- Tenants' and residents' associations, and tenant clubs
- Schools (but only for category 2 – activities/events)
- Parish councils (but only for category 2 – activities/events and category 3 – community orchards).

Applications should be from a formally constituted organisation that has a group bank account (at least two unrelated signatories) and is able to enter into legal contracts.

**Please note**, we hope to fund as many groups and projects as possible across the Doncaster borough. In previous rounds we have received a high number of applications. If oversubscribed, we may prioritise ward areas or applicants that have not yet received any funding from previous rounds.

## Who can't apply?

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### **We cannot support:**

- Groups/organisations who have received a total public subsidy of over £315,000
- Private individuals
- Organisations/groups who do not have a group bank account. However, please get in touch with us if this is the case and we may be able to help arrange an accountable organisation to accept funds on your behalf.

**Please note:** whilst ward councillors are unable to lead on a project themselves, they may be able to support you in your application and assist your project if successful.

### **We are unable to fund ideas that are:**

- Political activities.
- Goods or services that have already been purchased or ordered.
- Activities outside of the Borough of Doncaster.
- On-going organisational running costs.
- Trips and holidays.
- Costs that are already included within and funded by an existing grant or contract.
- School activities that are included within the curriculum (activities led by schools that engage the community will be eligible/considered in Category 2).
- Endowments / loan repayments.
- Items that can only benefit an individual
- Seen as subsidising existing City of Doncaster Council or St Leger Homes services



# Environmental Pride

## Your Project

**Below are some prompts to help provide the information that may be required and will help assess your project:**

Give a brief description of your project and what you hope to provide with the funding.

- Provide details of how you established the need for this project. We want to know what research has been conducted to demonstrate that the project will benefit the local community. Any results of surveys/letter of support etc can be attached as additional documents if you have them.
- Provide details of what you aim to achieve with this project and how you will measure the success of the project over its lifetime.
- Provide details of how the project will be delivered. We want you to tell us of any project plans you have, dates for completion etc.
- Provide details of how the project will be managed after completion, demonstrating the sustainability of the project. We want you to tell us how this will be funded in the future and who will be responsible for maintenance and upkeep.
- We will also ask you to provide a breakdown of your project costs. Please research these costs so we can better understand the true costs of your project.
- **If applicable**, please provide ownership details of the property on which the project will be situated. If the land does not belong to your organisation, you must provide a copy of the rental/lease agreement or written permission from the land owner(s) prior to receiving funding. This information will be used to determine whether the project is sustainable.
- **If applicable**, provide details of any planning advice provided, or other respective permissions, this may state planning permission is not required. If planning permission is required, you must provide details of your planning application, such as local authority, planning reference number, etc. If your planning permission application has already been approved, please provide a copy of the letter confirming this.

# Environmental Pride

If your application is successful, you must complete the funding agreement and return any additional requested documentation to [EnvironmentalPride@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:EnvironmentalPride@doncaster.gov.uk) within 20 working days, to confirm you wish to accept the offer.

If your application has been unsuccessful, we will offer support to try to resolve these issues or if the issues are trickier, we can support you to develop the application for future or alternative funding opportunities. You should not let unsuccessful applications deter you from submitting applications for future projects.

## Starting your project

You can start your project once we have approved any grant condition responses and have received a signed funding agreement.

We are at hand throughout the project for advice and support – from help putting your ideas together to actually delivering the project and then evaluating its success.

## Finishing your project

We can help you deliver your project to the timescales you set out and to achieve the outcomes you want.

At the end, we will require a report which describes how the project went and what you achieved. If you receive funding you will need to ensure VAT receipts are kept to demonstrate how the funding has been spent. We would also like to receive three photographs of your project/event to show the impact this has made.



# Environmental Pride

## Additional resources

### Trees

- Free trees provided by [TCV](#), [The Woodland Trust's trees for schools communities](#) and [The Tree Council's Orchards for Schools programme](#)
- Tree Council [Guide to planting trees](#)
- Forestry Commission's [Urban Tree Manual](#) for street trees
- Forest Research [information and advice on pests and diseases](#)
- [Orchard planting guides](#) by The Orchard Project

### Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs), Waterways and Biodiversity

- Rain Garden [Guide](#)
- SUDS [resources](#)
- Pond creation [toolkit](#)
- [Wildlife Trusts advice](#) on building bug hotels to creating garden ponds and more

### Community engagement

- [My Community](#) has a whole host of tools and guidance to help you connect to your local community
- [Parks Community UK](#) provides a free online knowledge hub and network for all 'Friends of parks and green space community groups, no matter their size or level
- The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) are working with Doncaster Council to run a [Green Space Network](#) programme, which connects community groups across the borough. Get in touch with [gareth.dowle@tcv.org.uk](mailto:gareth.dowle@tcv.org.uk) to find out more
- Tool/equipment library - <https://getdoncastermoving.org/borrow-tools-or-equipment>
- Funded training opportunities - <https://getdoncastermoving.org/dgsn>
- Litter picking – you can apply for free litter pickers from Street Scene (and arrange for Street Scene to pick up litter) through this website – [This is my Doncaster - Get involved - City of Doncaster Council](#)

### Events

- [Organise and stage an event in Doncaster](#) - City of Doncaster Council if successful in the events grant, you will be required to complete this form.

### Projects

- If successful in running a project on City of Doncaster land, you will be required to complete this form - <https://getdoncastermoving.org/task-or-activity-apply>





## **DONCASTER ENVIRONMENTAL PRIDE PROGRAMME**

### **Contact Us:**

Civic Office  
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**City of  
Doncaster  
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