



**Glasgow City Council**

**City Administration Committee**

**Item 3**

**21st November 2024**

**Report by Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate,  
Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery**

**Contact: George Gillespie, Executive Director Ext: 79106**

## **GRANT AWARD TO GREEN ACTION TRUST**

### **Purpose of Report:**

To approve grant funding to Green Action Trust in support of Glasgow Tree Plan

### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that Committee approves the matter of grant funding to Green Action Trust to deliver outcomes in support of the Tree Action Plan, namely:

- An additional £34,287 for Cadder Woods, and
- A sum of £495,000 for Baldragon Road greenspace

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ✓

consulted: Yes ☐ No ✓

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Glasgow Tree Plan contributes to the development of the Forestry and Woodland Strategy, the City's Climate Plan and seeks to build on activity being taken across the operational estate to deliver increased canopy cover across the City.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 A report was taken to Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee on the [12th November 2024](#) providing an update in relation to The Glasgow Tree Plan, which contributes to the development of the Forestry and Woodland Strategy, the City's Climate Plan and seeks to build on activity being taken across the operational estate to deliver increased canopy cover across the City.
- 2.2 Actions 3 and 4 of the Action Plan relating to the ambition that we further increase our targets for planting by developing new mechanisms and promoting further opportunities with existing funders and stakeholders respectively.
- 2.3 The Environment, Sustainability and Carbon Reduction City Policy Committee [paper 27th August 2019](#) provided an update on the Concordat that Glasgow City Council, along with 18 other Local Authorities, has with Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) and its delivery arm the Green Action Trust, a registered SCIO with a charitable purpose to improve Scotland's environments for people and for nature.
- 2.4 Guided by this Concordat, Green Action Trust are working with NRS, and a range of communities across Glasgow to bring forward woodland creation and management as part of wider greenspace projects, with this Concordat allowing us to work at scale and pace. In doing so, this allows Green Action Trust to propose projects within Glasgow which align to national priorities, allows Green Action Trust to secure the support of national funders and allows Green Action Trust to resource, at their own risk, initial project development stages from within their own charitable resources.

## **3. Proposed Grant Award to Green Action Trust**

- 3.1 City Administration Committee, at its meeting [31<sup>st</sup> August 2023](#), approved £ 772,700 of Vacant and Derelict Land Improvement Fund (VDLIP) funding being utilised by Green Action Trust to bring a long term VDL site in Cadder into actively managed greenspace. Phase 1 of the VDL funded project funded Green Action Trust to support the preparation of a woodland management plan and delivery of early actions, and a further phase of outcomes in support of woodland management, woodland creation, enhanced biodiversity, supporting active travel and outdoor learning across a 14.45-hectare site is now agreed. This has been identified by Cadder residents as key to delivering a quality, multifunctional greenspace within their community.
- 3.2 It is now recommended that approval is given for the level of grant funding to Green Action Trust to be increased by an additional £34,287, from funds held by Glasgow City Council and already approved for such purposes, in order to deliver agreed outcomes at Cadder Woods.
- 3.3 City Administration Committee, at its meeting of [16<sup>th</sup> August 2018](#), approved £471,000 of Vacant and Derelict Land funding for Easterhouse Relocation Project, to facilitate relation of water vole habitat as well as wider infrastructure and habitat investment at

Baldragon Road, adjacent to Bishop Loch Local Nature Reserve. A review of delivery arrangements was carried out following resolution of land ownership issues with outcomes including removal of redundant road infrastructure, and creation of a multifunctional greenspace including tree planting, habitat creation and enhancement for grassland water voles at this former housing site.

- 3.4 It is now recommended that this Committee approves grant funding of this £471,000, as well as grant funding of an additional £24,000 from funds held by Glasgow City Council and already approved for such purposes, to Green Action Trust to deliver agreed outcomes at Baldragon Road greenspace.
- 3.5 It is considered that Green Action Trust's Concordat, as set out in 2.4, (in for instance leading on NPF4 and the Central Scotland Green Network) enables us to progress our mutual objectives in relation to increased canopy cover through a grant agreement.

#### 4. Policy and Resource Implications

##### Resource Implications:

Financial: It is anticipated that the sites identified delivered within existing resources.

Legal: An appropriate grant funding arrangement will need to be put in place.

Personnel: It is anticipated that the sites identified can be progressed with existing personnel resources.

Procurement: Grant funding is not subject to procurement rules

Council Strategic Plan: Grand Challenge Three: Fight the climate emergency in a just transition towards a net zero Glasgow.  
Mission 2: Become a net zero carbon city by 2030

##### Commitments

12: Support new 'pocket' or 'wee' forests throughout the city, work with communities to identify opportunities for tree-planting, support the delivery of the Clyde Climate Forest.

21. Support the Glasgow National Park City campaign and support local environmental groups and conservation projects to provide nature-based volunteering opportunities.

33. Develop a tree nursery so we can nurture the saplings, of local provenance, which we would then plant across the city and supply to the wider Glasgow Conurbation while also providing training and employment opportunities via a social enterprise.

34. Deliver increased tree planting across the city as part of a comprehensive Tree Plan for Glasgow, including measures to support replacement when trees are lost to damage or removal, and responding to Ash Dieback disease, in accordance with the Forestry and Woodland Strategy.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Delivery of a number of the projects within this paper will benefit neighbourhoods within 2 most deprived SIMD deciles, and may deliver training and employability outcomes.

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.

Investment in Parks and Open Spaces can support outcome 6

What is the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

Potential positive impact – individual projects arising from this action plan may provide opportunities for community activities and volunteering

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

Delivery of a number of the projects within this paper will benefit neighbourhoods within 2 most deprived SIMD deciles

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

Climate plan Theme 1: Communication and Community Empowerment To engage with communities about the climate challenge. To foster participation and collaboration

Climate plan Theme 2: Just and Inclusive Place Empower and invigorate our communities, strengthening local economies share the benefits of climate action widely

Climate Plan Theme 4: Health and Wellbeing to protect and enhance local habitat connectivity and biodiversity in the city. To support creation and maintenance of good quality,

multifunctional green space to help reconnect communities with nature. To support equitable access to good quality, multipurpose open space and green infrastructure in the city.

Climate Plan Theme 5: Green Recovery Supporting a transition towards a circular economy. Supporting tree planting and maintenance, peatland restoration, and green infrastructure.

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	Supporting creation and development of additional new woodland across the City will help provide essential woodland, to absorb harmful carbon emissions and sequester carbon across the long-term, that will greatly contribute to Glasgow working towards their net zero target
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Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	Yes
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Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report Y/N	No impacts have been identified as part of activity to date
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If yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

## 5. Recommendations

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