Glasgow City Council

City Administration Committee

Item 5

5th November 2026

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

Contact: George Gillespie Ext: 79106

Grant Award to Green Action Trust

Purpose of Report:

To recommend approval of grant funding of up to £65,000 to Green Action Trust in respect of woodland creation works in support of the Glasgow Tree Plan.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report; and
2. Approves the proposal for grant funding of up to £65,000 to Green Action Trust to support woodland creation in support of the Glasgow Tree Plan.

Ward No(s): Citywide: ☒

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☒ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☒

1. Introduction

1.1 An update was taken to Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee 23rd September 2026 in relation to the delivery of our Forestry and Woodland Strategy and Glasgow Tree Plan delivery and noting our concordat with Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) and its delivery arm, the Green Action Trust, with this being a delivery route which can accelerate delivery of this Strategy.

1.2 Committee therefore referred the matter of grant funding of Green Action Trust to deliver works in support of the Glasgow Tree Plan to City Administration Committee for approval.

2. Glasgow Tree Plan delivery 2027

2.1 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 Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a charitable purpose to improve Scotland's environments for people and for nature. Guided by this Concordat, NRS is working with Green Action Trust, 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. Feedback received in relation to delivery to date has highlighted that this approach has matched additional technical and fundraising expertise to local authority strategy, priorities and opportunities.

2.2 The Glasgow Tree Plan identifies woodland creation opportunities in support of the ambition to increase city-wide canopy cover to 17.4%. A report to Net Zero and Climate Progress Monitoring City Policy Committee on 22nd September 2026 highlighted progress made in delivering the Glasgow Tree Plan, including creation of 8 ha of new woodland and planting of 29,509 trees across Glasgow in 2025/26. We plan to continue implementation of the plan in 2027 as follows.

- 10,000 trees to create approx. 4ha of new woodland in partnership with Green Action Trust.
- 5000 trees planted in partnership with TCV Scotland.
- 3500 trees planted in priority neighbourhoods with Clyde Climate Forest.
- Creation of the Glasgow Tree Nursery on former vacant and derelict land in Barmulloch.

2.3 Working in partnership with Green Action Trust we have identified the following priorities for woodland creation commencing in the Q1 2027 planting season:

- Former Ruchill Golf Course
- Carmyle New Park
- Mount Vernon Park
- Lochar Park

We expect woodland creation at these sites to be delivered in phases over the next 2-3 years.

2.4 Costs for Phase 1 planting in 2027 are expected to be up to £65,000. This will be resourced with £50,000 from Scottish Government Nature Restoration Fund, with the balance the funding coming from existing budget approvals, with authority already in place for Glasgow City Council to utilise these funds for this purpose. We would now recommend that Committee approves this sum being grant funded to Green Action Trust to support woodland creation in support of the Glasgow Tree Plan.

3. Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	Funding is required to carry out planting and other projects as part of the Tree Plan and sources of funding are outlined in the report above.
Legal:	The production and delivery of the Forest and Woodland Strategy meets the Council's statutory requirement in terms of Section 53 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (which amends the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997).
Personnel:	None
Procurement:	There are no procurement implications.

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. 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, and develop a Forestry and Woodland Strategy for the city.
Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:	
Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.	Can support outcome 6 (tackling social isolation and loneliness) though environmental volunteering opportunities
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	Potential positive impact – tree planting can provide opportunities for community activities and volunteering
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.	Increasing tree canopy cover on vacant and derelict sites can reduce blight, improve health and wellbeing, provide leisure and recreation opportunities, and change the way local communities and others perceive disadvantaged areas.

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. Ensure that the transition to a net-zero society is a catalyst for building a fairer, healthier, prosperous, resilient and greener city for all 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 tree planting and maintenance, peatland restoration, and green infrastructure.
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	Additional tree and woodland planting across the city will sequestrate carbon emissions, help control water flow, improve air quality, and regulate temperature.
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	Yes, as above.

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

4. Recommendations

4.1 It is recommended that Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report; and
2. Approves the proposal for grant funding of up to £65,000 to Green Action Trust to support woodland creation in support of the Glasgow Tree Plan.