

Wider application

Regional urban forestry initiatives have an increasingly important role to play in underpinning integrated and sustainable regeneration and improving urban quality of life. A joint strategic approach can deliver a level of support for urban trees and woodland which is likely to be significantly greater than that achieved by individual agencies working in isolation.

By the year 2000 there were already over 30 regional and sub-regional urban and community forests in the UK, each dependent on strategic partnerships and contributions of resources similar to those in the White Rose Forest.

Further information

National Urban Forestry Unit

This leaflet is one of a series produced by the National Urban Forestry Unit. NUFU is a charitable trust and it provides a national focus for the exchange of information and good practice in urban forestry. If you would like further information on other case studies or their application, or if you have examples of good practice to share with others, please contact:

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White Rose Forest

For more information about this particular case study – a regional urban forestry initiative in West Yorkshire, please contact:

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Further reading

Charities Aid Foundation (2000) *The Directory of Grant Making Trusts*
Charities Aid Foundation, Tonbridge, Kent

National Urban Forestry Unit (1999) *Trees and Woods in Towns and Cities – How to develop local strategies for urban forestry.* National Urban Forestry Unit, Wolverhampton

National Urban Forestry Unit (2000) *White Rose Forest – A strategy for urban and rural renewal*
National Urban Forestry Unit Wolverhampton

National Urban Forestry Unit (2001) *Funding urban forestry: a guide*
National Urban Forestry Unit Wolverhampton

Royal Forestry Society (2000) *Grants for TrEEs* (A booklet giving comprehensive details of grants and advice with respect to trees. It is updated on a regular basis and is available from The Royal Forestry Society, tel: 01442 822028 or online at www.rfs.org.uk/Grants/about.htm)

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PRODUCED BY



Urban Forestry in Practice

Resourcing a regional urban forestry programme



CASE STUDY 30

Resourcing a regional urban forestry programme

Introduction

Funding an urban forestry programme at a regional level is not simply a question of raising money for the planting and maintenance of trees on individual sites. Resources are also needed to support programme administration, and to develop and maintain a committed partnership.

A partnership of key stakeholders can share such collective activities as high profile promotion, training and woodland-related business development. This kind of programme can attract significant collective resources, whilst at the same time enhancing the scope for individual partners to attract funds for individual projects within the regional initiative.

Specific examples

Project name and location

WHITE ROSE FOREST, West Yorkshire, UK

Project partners

Local Authorities

- Calderdale Metropolitan District Council
- City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
- City of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
- Kirklees Metropolitan Council
- Leeds City Council

Regional Agencies

- BTCV West Yorkshire
- Forest of Bradford
- Groundwork Wakefield
- Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber
- Leeds Metropolitan University
- Yorkshire Forward
- Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
- Yorkshire Water Services

National Agencies

- British Waterways
- Countryside Agency
- English Nature
- Environment Agency
- Forestry Commission
- Highways Agency
- National Urban Forestry Unit
- The Woodland Trust

Project objectives

The White Rose Forest partnership aims to create a sustainable well-wooded landscape which will benefit the people, economy and wildlife of West Yorkshire. Fundraising is intended to enable partners to achieve these aims together through the development of a co-ordinated package of local and regional projects.



The White Rose Forest extends across five West Yorkshire metropolitan authorities

Results

The successful bids described below made up a funding package for the first three years. This provided resources for projects and staff, and also paid for a shared regional development officer. Major bids were made by the National Urban Forestry Unit on behalf of the partnership, reflecting the priorities raised in the joint strategy. At the same time, other supporting bids for particular projects were made by individual partners.

Between 1998 and 2001, the National Urban Forestry Unit raised nearly £400 000 to develop the White Rose Forest programme and this was complemented by other partners' successful fundraising. Together they produced a total funding package of over £600 000 for the three year development phase. Future funding requirements were built into the programme's business plan, to take account of the aims and priorities set out in the strategy.

Funding sources 1998-2000

Source	Details	Amount
Biffaward	Landfill tax credits fund administered by the Royal Society for Nature Conservation. This grant, as with all landfill grants, requires approval of a project outline by the regulating body, Entrust	£40 000
Department of the Environment, Transport & the Regions	Special Grants Programme this grant is for the support of initiatives which encourage community involvement and volunteering in deprived communities. It requires matching 50% with funding from non-government sources	£90 000 <i>(over three years)</i>
Rees Jeffreys Road Fund	for the development of corridor initiatives in West Yorkshire	£10 000 <i>(over two years)</i>
Yorkshire Forward	Urban Forestry Grant for woodland creation on derelict land based on the land regeneration grant previously run by English Partnerships in the West Midlands	£250 000 <i>(over three years)</i>
Yorkshire Water	Site-based work	£3 000
Matching funding raised by partners and local authority funding	Site-based and matching funding was obtained from charitable trusts, landowner, national lottery sources, Forestry Commission Woodland Grant Scheme and existing Single Regeneration Budget Programme	£250 000
TOTAL		£643 000

The scale of the initiative and the strength and diversity of the supporting partnership have helped to ensure that urban forestry is firmly established as an integral part of the region's strategy for sustainable economic, social and environmental regeneration. 40ha of new woodland were planted across West Yorkshire between 1998 and the end of 2000.