

FORGOTTEN PLACES:

GREENING COASTAL TOWNS AND CITIES

2021-2023





**TREES
FOR CITIES**

WHY COASTAL TOWNS AND CITIES?

Coastal communities up and down the country are in desperate need of a resource boost to kick-start a new green economy. However, many local authorities lack the capacity and resources to increase urban trees and woodland, which is where **Trees for Cities** comes in!

Through this initiative, Trees for Cities is planting new urban trees to help reach a 15% minimum recommendation for canopy cover for coastal areas. Many of the coastal towns and cities we are working with, currently have a cover of only 10% or less.

This means planting urban trees now, to increase urban greenery and provide essential benefits local communities.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

In total, over 55,000 trees have been planted across 83 locations in these seven coastal areas - all of which have been delivered through local community tree planting events.

These events have engaged and connected local individuals and communities with nature and inspired a new generation to plant, protect and promote urban trees.

THE BENEFITS OF URBAN TREES

Urban trees bring many benefits to our towns and cities such as releasing oxygen, keeping the air clean and mitigating the effects already felt by the climate crisis.

They create shade, shelter and habitats for wildlife and create beautiful, tranquil spaces for everyone to enjoy.

By planting a range of tree species, we enhance the structural and functional diversity of woodlands and city streets, as well as building resistance to pests and disease.



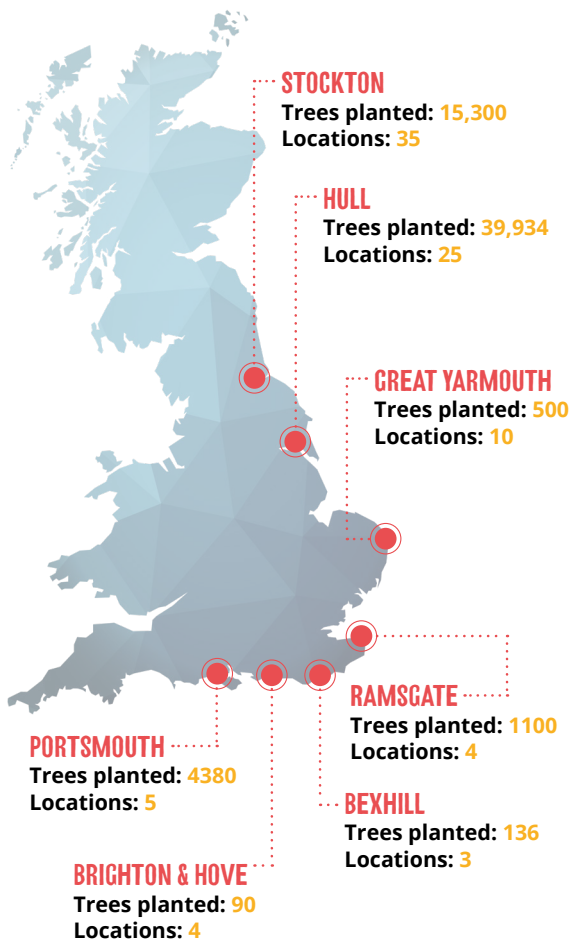
NEW GREEN JOBS AND SKILLS

As well as tree planting, Trees for Cities and partners provided free training and job opportunities to upskill those interested in the environmental sector.

Participants gained new skills and employment prospects to further their careers, including a series of tree identification guides and training supplied by our partners, Field Studies Council - an educational charity offering opportunities for people to learn about and engage the outdoors.

Trees for Cities also held an introductory tree training course which covered how to plant and care for new trees.

THE SEVEN COASTAL TOWNS AND CITIES



OUR PARTNERS

Trees for Cities worked with the **Field Studies Council, Treeconomics, Forest Research, and local delivery partners to bring this project to life.**

Field Studies Council provided upskilling opportunities for residents, and Treeconomics and Forest Research helped develop key research into planting in coastal conditions. The programme is also part of The Queen's Green Canopy, a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, in which local residents were invited to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'.

OUR FUNDER: THE GREEN RECOVERY CHALLENGE FUND

Trees for Cities were awarded a grant from the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund, a multi-million-pound boost for green jobs and nature recovery.

The funding of over £1.2M secured allows us to specifically focus on increasing tree cover in smaller coastal cities and towns with lower than average tree canopy cover and high levels of socio-economic deprivation.

This project is funded by the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund, which is supported using public funds and delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England, the Environment Agency and Forestry Commission. The fund was developed by Defra and its Arm's-Length Bodies.

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THIS PROJECT REPRESENTS A FANTASTIC STEP TOWARDS REBALANCING THE UK'S CANOPY COVER BY PRIORITISING SOME OF OUR FORGOTTEN COASTAL TOWNS AND CITIES AND TACKLING GREEN INEQUALITY AND DEPRIVATION FOR THOSE MORE LIKELY TO FACE BARRIERS TO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.”

David Elliott
Chief Executive of Trees for Cities



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Green Recovery Challenge Fund

