

England's Northern Forest

A growing opportunity
for a better quality of life



England's community forests



Manchester
City of Trees



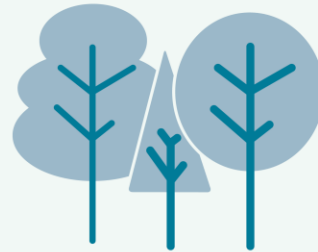


A new Northern Forest

The Woodland Trust is working with the Community Forests in the north of England to develop plans for a new Northern Forest – stretching from Liverpool across to Hull, with the M62 as its spine.



25
years



50m
trees

Our area is changing — we need to respond

With below average woodland cover, but above average ambition, the North of England is perfectly placed to leverage huge value from renewed investment in community forests.

650k 

new homes planned for the Northern Forest area. Over the next 20 years these could save over 2 million tonnes of CO²

7.6%

woodland cover



UK average = 13%

EU average = 44%

The area has an abundance of transport infrastructure, with key gateways served by

2 & 7

ports airports

plus a new unified
transport body,
Transport for the North

13m 

population

>£75bn

infrastructure investment
planned over the next 25 years

1 million companies help
the area generate over

£304bn 

(that's 18% of England's GDP)

The chance to deliver

The Northern Forest will complement planned investment and the new UK Industrial Strategy, and help to achieve the 25-year plan for the environment.

Planting an additional 50 million trees over the next 25 years, we will focus on:



Setting the scene for growth



Reducing flood risk



Improving health



Producing sustainable timber products and biomass for energy



Mitigating and adapting to climate change



Creating a woodland culture



Enhancing biodiversity



Increasing our Natural Capital



Identifying new funding mechanisms



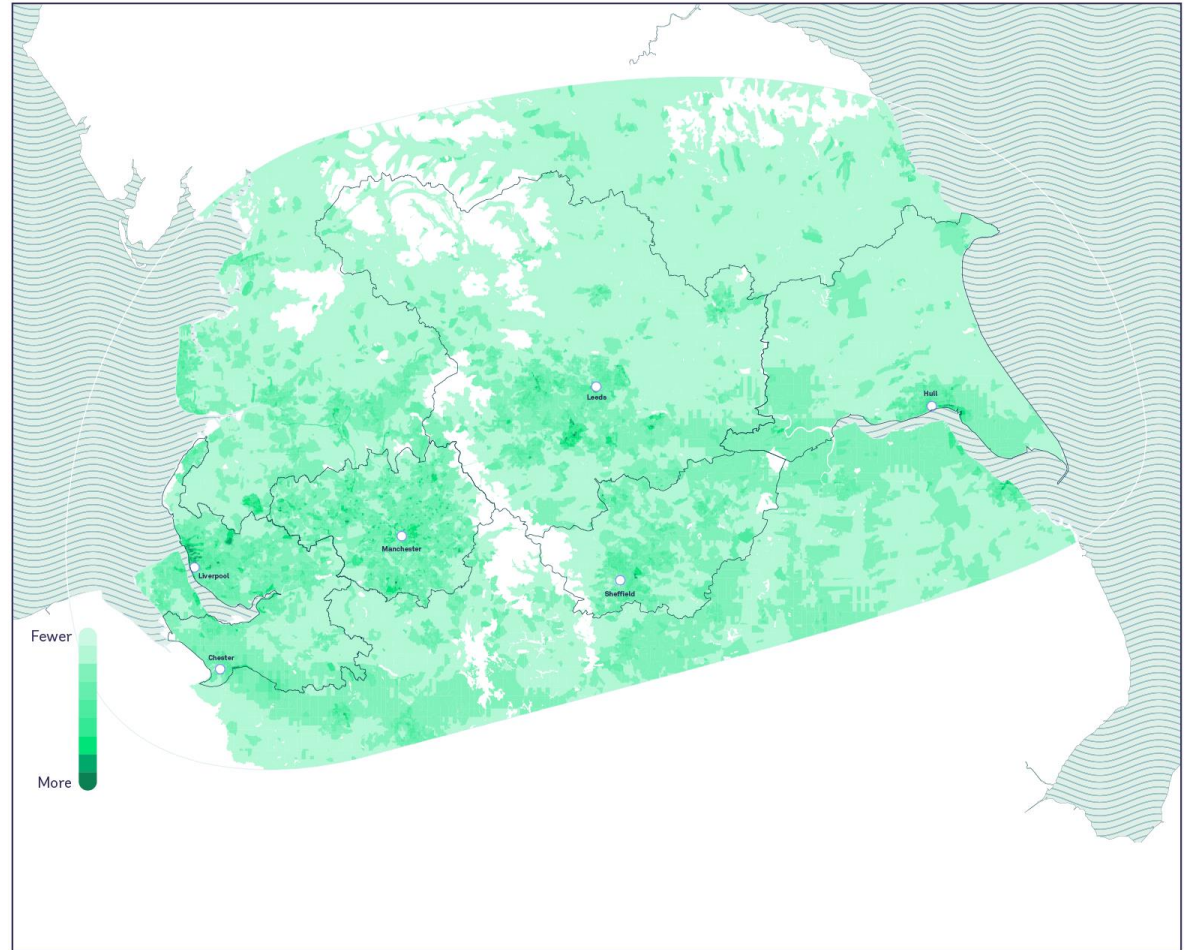
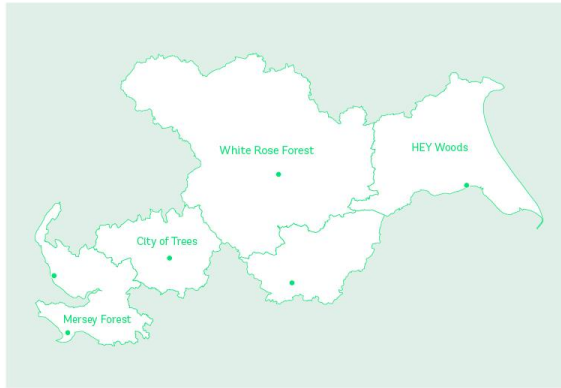
A living laboratory



Effective delivery

Where?

Delivering a better quality of life is a central aim of the Northern Forest mission. As such, tree planting will target areas where it will have the biggest impact on health and wellbeing. The Northern Forest partners have used advanced mapping techniques to assess where trees can deliver the maximum benefits for air quality, water, recreation and biodiversity.



Strategic value

As well as the direct delivery of projects by the Northern Forest partners, the intention is that the Northern Forest will have value way beyond the activities of the partnership.

Some already identified areas of added value are:

- *Northern Powerhouse NP11- supporting green clean growth agenda*
- *Mayoral and City Region agenda's*
- *Private sector collaboration*
- *Development Masterplans*
- *Supporting Green Infrastructure approaches by Defra Family*
- *Enabling sustainable infrastructure investment*
- *Working across the third sector to add value, strengthen collaboration and build resilience in the sector*

Defra Grant Agreement (GA) support

- £5.7m over 4 years (ending March 2022)
- Core funding for 2.5FTE
- Core delivery £3.1m (800k trees)
 - Urban offer via Community Forests
 - Rural offer via WT MOREwoods (up to 85% of costs)
 - Partnership Innovation Fund £2.1m (1m trees)

Partnership Innovation Fund

- Northern Forest Land Bank- public/private
- Northern Forest Climate Fund- carbon and development
- Natural Flood Management programme- YW/UU/EA
- Income Annualised Land Partnership (Roots to Prosperity)
- Landscape Enterprise Networks- Natural Capital payments
- Countryside Stewardship extension scheme- productive woodland
- Northern Forest landfill review- Lockhart Garrett/WT
- Small scale Natural Capital investments- e.g. linking timber sales to woodland creation

GA Achievements so far

- Core delivery
 - 2018/19 100k trees
 - 2019/20 pipeline 175k (full)
- PIF applications
 - Leeds FAS2
 - Yorkshire Water

Making a good start

- Government support (Defra 25 Year Plan)
- Strong woodland creation pipelines across the partnership and the infrastructure to deliver
- Building resilience in the tree supplies (UKSG)
- Profile has unlocked some new and exciting conversations (1m Yorkshire Water trees)
- Estimated £3m+ investment in tree planting and woodland restoration already happening 2018/19
- Together the Community Forests and Woodland Trust have managed to gain wide ranging support for the Northern Forest from Defra, LNPs, LEP's, Metro Mayors, City Region leaders, Confor, CLA, NT, Yorkshire Water, United Utilities, and a host of Local Authorities....many of which have announced climate emergencies
- 65 MPs have signed a letter to the PM for cross party support and engagement

**The time
to create a
Northern Forest
is now**

