

Public Document Pack

6. **Million Trees Project Update** (Pages 1 - 8)

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Million Trees Project Update

Improvement and Scrutiny - Climate Change, Biodiversity
and Carbon Reduction

29th April 2024



Introduction and Background

- The Million Trees Project was launched by the Council in June 2021 and is aiming to facilitate the planting of a million trees in Derbyshire by 2030
- The Million Trees Project was created to help address tree losses due to Ash Dieback within the Derbyshire landscape and encourage public participation in tree planting
- Woodlands are sustaining and connecting wildlife-rich habitats that are valued by all County residents, businesses, and visitors, for the social, economic and environmental benefits that nature provides
- The dedicated Million Trees Project Officer joined Derbyshire County Council in October 2022
- Derbyshire County Council formally approved a Tree and Woodland Strategy in September 2023. The strategy links to the Council's Natural Capital Strategy and current work on the preparation of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). The strategies will highlight opportunities and guide future tree planting in Derbyshire



Highlights



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- **500,228** trees planted
- £4500 in company donations
- 11200 trees planted by company donors facilitated by Derbyshire County Council
- 16808 trees added to online map
- Partnerships formed with organisations – DWT, Woodland Trust, Groundwork etc.
- Derbyshire's Heartwood Community Forest success

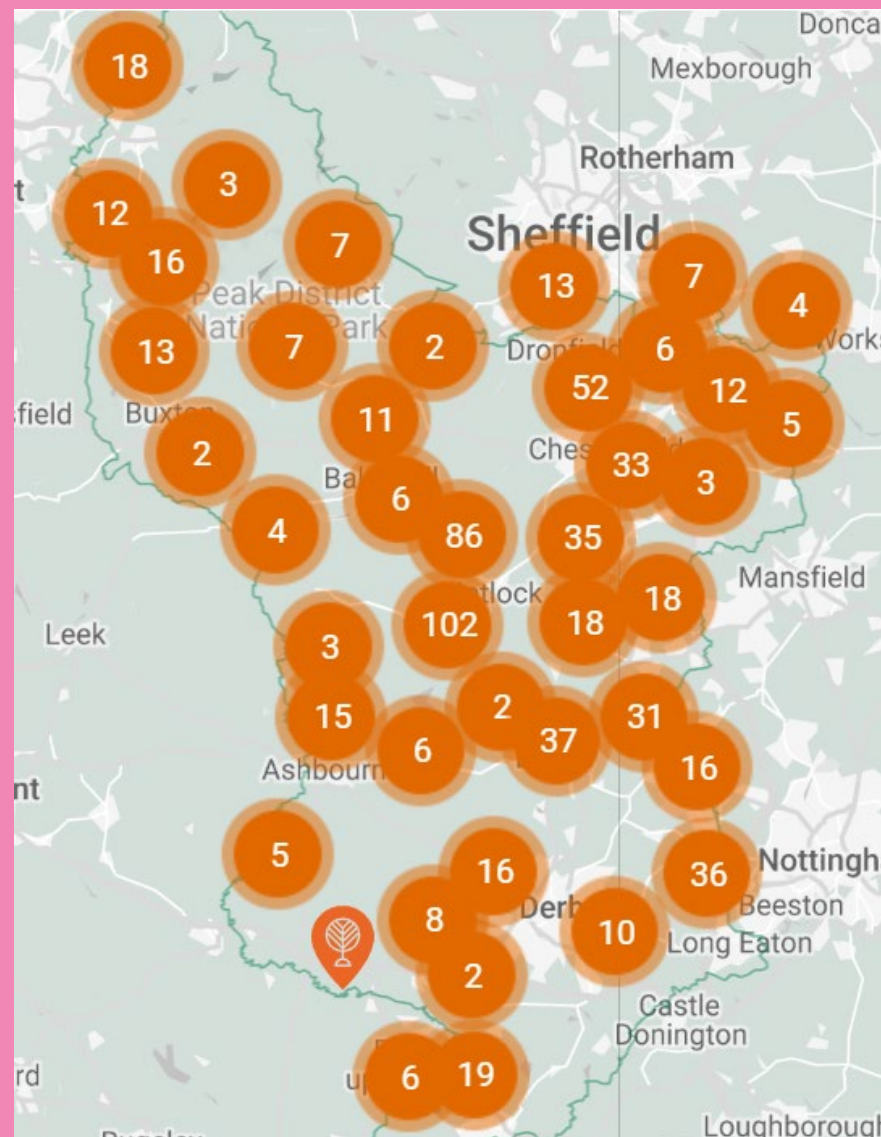
Million Trees Website

- The Million Trees [website](#) has proven to be very successful in engaging with the public
- 16808 trees have been added to the interactive map from 704 individuals
- It has received direct enquiries from 87 landowners, 42 businesses and 148 volunteers
- 4511 unique visits to the Million Trees website
- Tree planting data for this most recent tree planting season (2023-24) is still being collated and therefore the figures and totaliser will rise

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500228 trees planted



Brook Park Volunteer Day

- Eight staff from Griffith Foods, on Cotes Park Industrial Estate, pulled on their boots and turned out to plant trees at Brook Park – a 37-hectare site with specially recreated limestone grassland on the site of the former Shirebrook Colliery
- As well as donating £2,500 towards the cost of the trees, the team helped to plant 600 saplings at Brook Park with the support of 3 members of local charity Groundwork which helps to manage the site on behalf of landowners The Land Trust
- Cllr Barry Lewis attended the event to plant a tree and meet the volunteers

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Partners



- Tree planting data is being collated from businesses and organisations operating in Derbyshire who have planted trees. These figures are being included in the Million Trees totaliser
- The figures provided by partner organisations has greatly contributed to the Million Trees totaliser
- The Council is also working with districts, boroughs, town and parish councils to facilitate tree planting and collect tree planting data from these organisations and areas
- DCC will continue to work with these organisations as part of tree planting data collection for the Million Trees Project

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WOODLAND
TRUST



Derbyshire
Wildlife Trust





million
trees

Derbyshire's Heartwood Community Forest

- Having successfully bid to government for funds to create Heartwood along the eastern and southern fringes of Derbyshire, we're aiming to plant 300,000 trees (approx. 75Ha) on pockets of land within the community forest area by March 2025.
- Trees for Climate offer a generous grant to landowners for planting trees and hedgerows

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Work has commenced to create a pipeline of opportunities across the Heartwood area for the 2024/25 planting season

Tree planting activity will now be focussed on the development and delivery of the new Derbyshire's Heartwood Community Forest. Existing work streams within the Million Trees Project will continue and these will be completed where possible

- The Million Trees Project and Derbyshire's Heartwood Community Forest both align with the objectives of the Tree and Woodland Strategy. The strategy initially focuses on the three-year period of 2023-24 to 2025-26. During this time, the Council's intention is to accelerate appropriate action to improve the quantity and quality of, and public accessibility to, Derbyshire's varied treescapes. which was formally approved by Cabinet in September 2023



Thank you

