



# Grant funding for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects

25/10/2022

Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils  
Conference

*Alexander Beckett*

*Climate Change Programme & Partnership Manager  
Buckinghamshire Council*



# Funding

1. Transport-related initiatives
2. Tree Planting
3. Building Sustainable Energy Projects
4. Other Sources of Funding
5. Accessing and Using Funding

# 1. Transport

## 1. [On Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme \(ORCS\)](#)

- For publicly available on-street chargepoints up to 22kW in residential streets where off-street parking is not available
- Covers **up to a maximum of 60% of project capital cost of projects**
  - **up to a maximum of £7,500 per chargepoint, unless electrical connection costs are exceptionally high. In these cases, funding up to £13,000 per chargepoint may be provided.**
  - **75% of the grant funding upfront. 25% on completion**
- Chargepoints may be installed on land not owned by a local authority.
- All chargepoints must have a minimum payment method, such as contactless, to make EV charging as accessible as possible.
- Energy Saving Trust can provide assistance with applications:  
<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/grants-and-loans/street-residential-chargepoint-scheme/>

# 1. Transport

## 2. Workplace Charging Scheme (WCS)

- Covers up to 75% of the total costs of the purchase and installation of EV chargepoints (inclusive of VAT) predominantly for staff or fleet vehicles, capped at a maximum of:
  - £350 per socket
  - 40 sockets across all sites
- Must be installed by an authorised installer
- Voucher given to the installer for them to reclaim the value post-installation (within six months of voucher issue)
- Must be able to demonstrate that the parking space will be used predominantly for fleet/staff use

# 1. Transport

## 3. [Plug-in Vehicle Grants](#)

For eligible vehicles with zero tailpipe CO2 emissions

- [Wheelchair accessible vehicles](#)
  - 35% discount up to a maximum of £2,500 per vehicle
  - vehicle must:
    - be converted from an eligible passenger vehicle
    - be able to travel at least 112km (70 miles) without any emissions
    - cost less than £35,000 (recommended retail price, including VAT and delivery fees, not including cost of conversion)
- [Motorcycles and mopeds](#)
  - 35% discount up to a maximum of £500 per motorcycle or £150 per moped
  - Motorcycles must be able to travel at least 50km (31 miles) between charges
  - Mopeds must be able to travel at least 30km (19 miles) between charges
  - Vehicles must have a recommended retail price of less than £10,000, including VAT and delivery fees.

# 1. Transport

## 3. [Plug-in Vehicle Grants](#) - Vans

For eligible vans that

- have CO2 emissions of less than 50g/km
- be able to travel at least 96km (60 miles) without any emissions)
- [Small vans](#)
  - Maximum of £2,500 per vehicle
  - vehicle must:
    - be less than 2,500 kilograms (kg) gross vehicle weight
- [Large vans](#)
  - Maximum of £5,000 per vehicle
  - vehicle must:
    - be between 2,500kg and 4,250kg gross vehicle weight

# 1. Transport

## 3. [Plug-in Vehicle Grants](#) - Trucks

For eligible trucks that

- have CO2 emissions of at least 50% less than the equivalent conventional Euro VI vehicle that can carry the same capacity
- are able to travel at least 96km (60 miles) without any emissions
- [Small trucks](#)
  - Maximum of £16,000 per vehicle (N2)
  - vehicle must:
    - be between 4,250kg and 12,000kg gross weight
- [Large trucks](#)
  - Maximum of £25,000 per vehicle (N3)
  - vehicle must:
    - be heavier than 12,000kg

## 2. Tree Planting

[England Woodland Creation Offer](#) grants (for sites of 1ha) provide:

- £8,500 per ha cap for standard items (trees, fencing etc)
- £300 per ha per annum contribution for maintenance (10 years max.)
- [Additional 'one-off' grant contributions will be sought where sites:](#)
  - Give recreational access (£2,200 per ha)
  - Are close to settlements (£500 per ha)
  - Provide nature recovery benefits – e.g. woodland expansion (£1,100 / £2,800 per ha)
  - Provide water quality benefits – e.g. reduce pollution to watercourses (£400 per ha)
  - Mitigate flood risk (£500 per ha)
  - Provide shading / wildlife corridors for watercourses (£1,600 per ha)





# 2. Tree Planting

## Forestry England Woodland Partnership (FEWP) scheme

- Tree establishment and maintenance is the responsibility of Forestry England
- Public can access the newly forested sites
- Landowner can benefit from the Woodland Carbon Units generated
- Rental income received from Forestry England (FE)
- Site must be 50ha (but can be a smaller area if located close to FE operational sites)



## 2. Tree Planting

### Urban Tree Challenge Fund



- 50% funding for establishing trees in urban or peri-urban areas (including three years worth of maintenance)
- Minimum UTCF funding requirement of £125,000 for block bids. Individual applications for smaller, focused areas of planting undertaken by small organisations or community groups will need a minimum UTCF funding requirement of £10,000 up to a maximum of £30,000.
- Closed currently with round 5 expected to open next year

### Local Authority Treescapes Fund (LATF) (via a top tier local authority)

- Covers 100% of establishment and 3 years worth of maintenance costs

Government funding streams for woodland design, restoration, creation, maintenance and products are constantly evolving. Please see the following for more information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/tree-planting-and-woodland-creation-funding-and-advice>.

# 3. Building Sustainable Energy Projects

## Low Carbon Skills Fund

- Covers the cost of producing heat decarbonisation plans (HDPs) which describe how an organisation intends to replace fossil fuel reliant systems with low carbon alternatives (e.g. Heat Pumps)].
- Opens for applications typically in September each year
- HDPs or detailed designs need to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March following year

## Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

- Provides approx. 50% grant funding for decarbonising heating systems and energy efficiency measures
- Phase 3b open currently

# 4. Other Sources of Funding

## HS2 Community & Environment Fund

- For projects within 1 km of the Phase 1 route and priority local authority areas (N.B. Buckinghamshire is not a priority area for '22/'23 but may be in the future)
- Up to £250k available (up to £10k; up to £75k; and up to £250k)
- For projects that will enhance the quality of life and the environment of communities disrupted by the construction of HS2, e.g.:
  - Improved pedestrian, equestrian, or cycle access not provided under statutory services,
  - Landscape and nature conservation enhancement projects which increase biodiversity (including pop up interventions such as skip gardens), or
  - Provision of enhanced or new community facilities

# 4. Other Sources of Funding

## Heart of Bucks

- [Flood Recovery & Awareness Fund](#)

Up to £10k to cover capital, revenue and project costs for flood damage/prevention or awareness in the form of training or education.

Grants may include (this list is not exhaustive):

- Capital items to replace those destroyed by flooding
- Emergency repairs as a result of flood damage
- Venue/room hire costs for relocating activities as a result of flooding
- Community projects to prevent future flooding
- Education/training in relation to flood damage/prevention

- [Green Community Fund](#)

Up to £10k for projects designed to improve the environment and/or public spaces for the benefit of Buckinghamshire residents, for example, which:

- Deliver educational projects and initiatives, for any age group
- Develop environmental improvement schemes or services
- Transform engagement with the environment and public spaces
- Increase biodiversity / creation of new habitat areas / community orchards
- Reduce carbon footprint
- Improve sustainability
- Enhance community transport
- Projects that encourage natural flood management and biodiversity

# 4. Other Sources of Funding

Community Board Funding

Woodland Trust

- [MOREwoods](#) – new 500+ tree woodland on 0.5ha (up to 75% of costs)
- [MOREhedges](#) – new 100m+ of hedgerow (up to 75% of costs)

# 5. Accessing and Using Funding

## Accessing Funding

- Barriers
- Opportunities

## Using Funding

- Challenges
- Benefits