



<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>Assistant Director Operational Services</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Climate Emergency Working Group</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>

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## **PBC TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME- BRIEFING**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update CEWG on PBC's tree planting programme.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

To note the report

To propose any private landowner sites that may be suitable / available for bulk planting schemes which can then be reviewed

### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

To understand PBC's tree planting progress and plans.

### **2022/23 progress**

During the planting season of 2022/23 since the report provided in December 2022, the bulk tree planting scheduled to be carried out at Alkincoates and Barrowford by the Ribble Rivers Trust was installed successfully.

On top of this a further 145 'standard' trees of approximately 3m high of native origin were planted at various sites across the Borough, the largest site being the new 'levelling up park' on Netherfield road where 45 trees were planted.

Approximately 35 pot grown horse chestnuts were kindly donated to PBC which have been introduced into woodlands within PBC parks and nature reserves to replace those felled in recent years.

A further 1,000 whips were also planted at locations from the previous year where they had failed either through vandalism or as a consequence of the heatwave earlier in the year.

## **2023/24 Tree planting plans**

The winter of 2023/24 does not have any bulk planting schemes planned by PBC, Key reasons are a lack of suitable land under council ownership, and also working alongside local communities that make clear the lack of desire for every green space to be planted with trees.

An application will be made next week to the Kings coronation scheme where funds can be granted to provide community orchards or small woodlands of up to 200m<sup>2</sup>, this information has been shared with Town and Parish councils so one joint bid can be made under the PBC umbrella. To date, interest has been shown by Barrowford PC, Reedley Hallows PC, Nelson TC, Alkincoates woodland Nature reserve and a partner from Together Housing.

Looking forwards we are currently identifying sites that can be funded under the Treescapes scheme with LCC, likely to be street trees, standards and small copses.

If members can propose any private landowner sites that may be suitable / available for bulk planting schemes these can be reviewed.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy:** PBC declared a Climate Emergency in 2019. Tree planting is key to help achieve carbon neutral status.

**Financial:** None arising directly from this report

**Legal:** None arising directly from this report.

**Risk Management:** None arising directly from this report.

**Health and Safety:** None arising directly from this report.

**Sustainability:** PBC's tree planting programme is fundamental for long-term environmental sustainability.

**Community Safety:** None arising directly from this report.

**Equality and Diversity:** None arising directly from this report.