

MANIFESTO FOR URBAN TREES



We must level up the presence of trees in urban areas across the UK. No street, school or place of work should be a tree desert. Support our campaign to ensure urban trees are front and centre for government.

Trees for Cities is looking for a clear commitment from government to improve the provision of urban trees. Without this, real opportunities to support human health and wellbeing in everyday life will be lost, ultimately costing the economy, shortening lives and missing opportunities to adapt to climate change.

1. DELIVER TREE EQUITY FOR PEOPLE IN URBAN AREAS

ADOPT TREES FIRST FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Recognise trees and woodland as the most powerful tool for defending people from climate change in urban areas where heat is increasingly a threat and where over 80% of the population live.

FOCUS ON NEED

Promote trees in areas with the least trees and where trees can help the most, creating new targets to drive action where this is needed.

INCLUDE ALL

Promote the need to bring new people together to accelerate progress, including decision makers, businesses, developers, landowners, philanthropists and community groups.

2. CARE FOR WHAT WE HAVE

MANAGE TREES AS ASSETS

Promote investment in urban trees to reap the benefits they offer including within streets. We need to increase tree cover massively across the UK, and to focus this in urban places.

A RIGHT TO LIVE AMONGST TREES

Promote and embed a recognition that everyone has a right to trees where they live so they can breathe easy, take shade from the heat and connect with nature.

LOOK AFTER IT

Act urgently to better protect trees in urban areas where generations of people have already worked to green up our cities and towns. Protect urban trees in the same way we value our built heritage, expanding legislation where needed to do so.

3. MAKE LOCAL PLACES MATTER

ENSURE EVERYONE CAN BE 'PRO TREE'

Promote the creation of policies, regulation, insurance and planning that is more naturally pro tree, and suggest new targets or obligations where this is in question.

FOSTER HEALTHY PLACEMAKING

Promote evidence about how trees support human health. Powerful evidence shows how trees and nature boost human health, but it's not well used. Urban forestry offers jobs and skills development too, and the opportunity to connect with local places.



WILL YOU PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT TO URBAN TREES?

treesforcities.org/manifesto-for-urban-trees

We seek the support of MPs to champion people and trees in urban areas. Sign up via our webpage to join others who pledge to stand up for our vital city trees in parliament.