

CASE STUDY

GREENING THE CITY

BRADFORD, WEST YORKSHIRE, UK



THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Climate change is a growing threat to the planet and people. Many councils, including The City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, have now declared a climate emergency and are taking action to help reduce environmental threats.

Trees for Cities have supported Bradford in tackling the effects already being felt by the climate crisis by hosting a variety of tree planting activities over the course of three planting seasons. We've engaged thousands of local residents and children to get them excited about going green and transforming their local urban spaces. Read on to find out more about our holistic approach, which saw the whole city take positive action against climate change!



THIS WHOLE PROJECT IS WONDERFUL AND GOES TO THE VERY HEART OF WHAT GRASSROOTS CLIMATE PROJECTS SHOULD REPRESENT. IT IS A PRACTICAL EXAMPLE OF THE CULTURE THE COUNCIL IS TRYING TO BUILD IN THE DISTRICT TO EMPOWER PEOPLE AND GROUPS TO HELP US CARE FOR OUR LITTLE BIT OF THE WORLD.

COUNCILLOR CAROLINE FIRTH



TREE FOR EVERY CHILD

Between 2021 - 2023, we helped to plant a tree for every primary-aged school child in the district. That's over **55,000** new trees planted across 90 primary schools in Bradford and the creation of four new children's woodlands within easy reach of schools and urban communities!

Tree for Every Child helped people learn more about the importance of trees, their benefits and maintenance, and included a number of interactive workshops about planting, watering and pruning.

This was a match-funded partnership project which engaged teachers, pupils and communities with tree planting locally and on their very own school grounds. The council and their partners covered the cost of planting and Trees for Cities took care of the cost of the trees that were planted.

THE IMPACT

Native trees and hedgerows were planted in partnership with Bradford Council and local delivery partners - YORGreencic, BEAT, BEES and Fruit Works, to bring a variety of benefits to Bradford. These new urban trees will provide shade, flood mitigation, increase biodiversity, produce fruit for both humans and wildlife, screen against pollution, and contribute to better mental health and wellbeing.

THE TREES

- **90** Primary Schools have planted **11,607** native trees/hedges on their grounds
- **40** of these and **1** Secondary School have new mini orchards
- **43,897** trees were planted to create new urban woodlands
- **4,000** trees were given to residents for their gardens

THE PEOPLE

We helped to engage hundreds of volunteers including local residents, faith groups, community organisations, local businesses, college and university students, museums, council staff, councillors, Queens Green Canopy Lieutenants and the Mayors Office.

Finally, thousands of pupils, staff, families and school communities got stuck in to help green Bradford too.



**WE HAVE PLANTED LOADS OF TREES AT SCHOOL!
I FELT LIKE I WAS GIVING LIFE. I WAS HELPING
THE ENVIRONMENT.**

BRADFORD SCHOOL STUDENT





93%

TEACHERS SAID
THAT EDIBLE
PLAYGROUNDS HAD A
POSITIVE IMPACT ON
PUPILS' ATTITUDE
TOWARDS HEALTHY
EATING

TREES FOR SCHOOLS

In Bradford, we have rejuvenated **11** school grounds and created greener and healthier outdoor areas through our award-winning Trees for Schools programme, Planting Healthy Air projects and Edible Playground initiatives. With our delivery partners, Grow to School, hundreds of pupils and school staff have been learning about food growing, the outdoor curriculum and long term, healthier lifestyle changes.

PLANTING HEALTHY AIR

Planting Healthy Air is an exciting programme that involves redesigning areas of school playgrounds where air quality is particularly poor, by planting trees and other vegetation and creating woodland shelters and wildlife areas to help create greener, healthier playgrounds. In Bradford, we have also run engaging air pollution monitoring workshops too!

EDIBLE PLAYGROUNDS

Edible Playgrounds offer a lively, engaging, multi-sensory way to teach children about growing and eating healthy food. We've been connecting Bradford pupils, teachers and parents with nature and teaching them the physical health benefits that eating well brings.





TREE CITIES OF THE WORLD

Trees for Cities is the lead partner of the Tree Cities of the World programme in the UK.

The scheme connects cities around the globe to create a network dedicated to sharing how we all manage urban trees and forests to make our cities greener and more robust. Bradford's hard work in becoming a green and healthier place to live didn't go unnoticed and the city was awarded recognition as a Tree City of the World for its commitment to urban forestry!

TREES FOR STREETS

Trees for Streets is a charitable scheme from Trees for Cities that offers residents a fantastic opportunity to sponsor street trees in their local area, helping green Bradford further.

The ambition of this scheme is to increase tree canopy cover and make the city more climate resilient, whilst also helping to reduce air pollution, improve mental and physical well-being and generally make the city an even more lovely place to live. To sponsor a tree visit: www.treesforstreets.org





55,000

**NEW TREES
PLANTED
ACROSS
BRADFORD!**

Our work in Bradford has formed part of an incredibly important initiative when it comes to creating a healthier city that can last a lifetime for children growing up in an urban environment, giving them the opportunity to really connect with and protect the trees and nature around them.

If you would like to learn more about how to get involved, please contact Mel@treesforcities.org

FUNDERS:

BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL - THE QUEENS GREEN CANOPY - BUPA - KEIGHLEY BIG LOCAL - BULB - SOVEREIGN HEALTH CARE - THE MOHN WESTLAKE FOUNDATION - MAHALO CHARITABLE TRUST

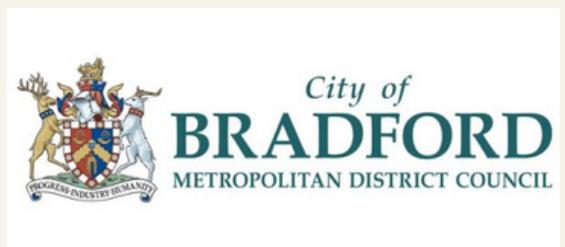
PARTNERS:

BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL WOODLANDS TEAM - YORGREEN CIC - BEAT - FOREST OF BRADFORD - BRADFORD ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SERVICES - FRUIT WORKS COOP - GROW TO SCHOOL



I AM DELIGHTED THAT THE TREE FOR EVERY CHILD PROJECT IS MAKING SUCH AN IMPACT, BOTH ON OUR LANDSCAPE AND ON THE CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS INVOLVED SO FAR. THE NEW TREES WILL LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY ON EACH OF THESE SCHOOL SITES.

COUNCILLOR SARAH FERRIBY



GET INVOLVED!

Get stuck in with one of our projects and leave a lasting impact on your community.

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1032154

INFO@TREESFORCITIES.ORG

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