

# Trees for Climate

## Proposed scheme design criteria & reporting standards

Type of planting	Design criteria			Measurement unit	Reporting standard
	Stocking density & species	Open space & layout	Typical planting stock & protection		
<b>Multi-purpose woodland (≥5.0ha)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimum of 1,600 trees per hectare;</li> <li>✓ No single species to be more than 70%;</li> <li>✓ Up to 25% woody shrubs;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Up to 40% open space as part of good design for specific biodiversity and recreation objectives);</li> <li>✓ Management prescription required for open space;</li> <li>✓ Minimum 20m width;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Seedlings/forest transplants/whips/cell grown;</li> <li>✓ Establishment by natural colonisation (incl. assisted) acceptable – see separate planting type for details;</li> <li>✓ Protection as appropriate;</li> </ul>	Hectares	Gross area of woodland to be reported, including up to the 40% open space within the woodland design.
<b>Small-scale tree planting (0.5 – 4.99ha)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimum of 1100 trees per hectare;</li> <li>✓ No single species to be more than 70%;</li> <li>✓ Up to 25% woody shrubs;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Typically 20% open space used for perimeter buffer habitat, but can be up to 40% in exceptional circumstances where woodland rides &amp; glades integral to good design;</li> <li>✓ Management prescription required for open space;</li> <li>✓ Minimum 20m width;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Forest transplants/whips/cell grown;</li> <li>✓ Establishment by natural colonisation (incl. assisted) acceptable – see separate planting type for details;</li> <li>✓ Protection as appropriate;</li> </ul>	Hectares	Gross area of tree planting to be reported, including up to the 40% open space within the woodland design or up to 20% buffer of open space habitat beyond net area of actual tree planting. Default open space buffer to be 20%.
<b>Natural colonisation (≥0.5ha)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Must achieve minimum of 60% woody cover and 100 trees per hectare within 10 years<sup>1</sup>;</li> <li>✓ Supplementary planting may be required, before or at Year 10;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Open space permitted, referencing criteria for equivalent ‘planted’ approach based on scheme size;</li> <li>✓ Management prescription required for open space;</li> <li>✓ Minimum 20m width;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Viable seed source for ≥ 2 tree species required within 75m;</li> <li>✓ Appropriate ground preparation required to facilitate germination;</li> <li>✓ Grazing pressure must be removed by effectively excluding deer/livestock;</li> <li>✓ Assisting natural colonisation via local seed collection and broadcasting is acceptable;</li> </ul>	Hectares	Gross area of woodland to be reported, including open space.

<sup>1</sup> Aligns to EWCO guidance: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/992107/EWCO\\_Grant\\_Manual\\_-\\_Appendix\\_5\\_-\\_Natural\\_colonisation\\_guide\\_v1.0\\_June2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/992107/EWCO_Grant_Manual_-_Appendix_5_-_Natural_colonisation_guide_v1.0_June2021.pdf)

Type of planting	Design criteria			Measurement unit	Reporting standard
	Stocking density & species	Open space & layout	Typical planting stock & protection		
<b>Very small-scale tree planting (0.1 – 0.49ha)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimum of 1100 trees per hectare;</li> <li>✓ Up to 20% woody shrubs;</li> <li>✓ Fruit trees accepted as a component of woody shrubs;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Up to 20% open space used to provide perimeter buffer habitat;</li> <li>✓ Management prescription required for open space;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Forest transplants/whips/cell grown;</li> <li>✓ Protection as appropriate;</li> </ul>	Hectares	Gross area of tree planting to be reported, including 20% buffer area of open space habitat beyond net area of actual tree planting. Default open space buffer to be 20%.
<b>Low density tree planting (incl. agroforestry)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimum of 25 trees per hectare;</li> <li>✓ Widely spaced trees planted (singles, rows or groups) to achieve minimum final canopy cover of 20% across gross area planted;</li> <li>✓ Species appropriate for objectives and location;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No open space allowance;</li> <li>✓ Encompasses street tree planting, urban greenspace planting, wood pasture/parkland creation, and agroforestry (silvoarable &amp; silvopastoral) planting schemes;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Forest transplants/whips/cell grown/feathered/standards;</li> <li>✓ Individual tree protection, as appropriate;</li> </ul>	Hectares, based on assumed minimum 20% final canopy coverage <sup>2</sup> (i.e. the area over which the 20% canopy cover will be achieved).	Gross area over which a minimum of 20% canopy cover will be achieved. Assumed typical mature canopy diameter of 10m.
<b>Hedgerows</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimum of 5 plants per linear metre;</li> <li>✓ Double-staggered row planting pattern, or similar;</li> <li>✓ At least 70% native and/or locally characteristic species;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No open space, but requires minimum 1m herbaceous buffer each side along length of hedgerow;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Seedlings/forest transplants/whips;</li> <li>✓ Protection as appropriate;</li> </ul>	Length, converted to area in hectares	Length of hedgerow planted to be assumed to be 5m in width to convert to area in hectares.
<b>Hedgerows with trees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimum of 5 plants per linear metre;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No open space, but requires minimum 0.5m herbaceous buffer each</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Seedlings/forest transplants/whips/feathered</li> <li>✓ Protection as appropriate;</li> </ul>	Length, converted to area in hectares	Length of hedgerow with trees planted to be assumed to be 10m in

<sup>2</sup> Based on FC NFI definition of woodland: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/ae33371a-e4da-4178-a1df-350ccfcc6cee/national-forest-inventory-woodland-england-2015#:~:text=Summary%20The%20NFI%20definition%20of,than%2020%25%20of%20the%20ground.&text=The%20definition%20of%20an%20open,is%20completely%20surrounded%20by%20woodland>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Double-staggered row planting pattern, or similar;</li> <li>✓ Trees planted within hedge at average spacing of every 15 metres;</li> <li>✓ At least 70% native and/or locally characteristic species</li> </ul>	side along length of hedgerow			width to convert to area in hectares.