

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION



Decision taken by individual Cabinet Member

DECISION MAKER

Councillor Sue Carter, Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships Portfolio Holder

DECISION AND THE REASON(S) FOR IT

Farnborough Airport Community Environmental Fund grant of

- **£26,180 awarded to the Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust** for urban tree planting

The Community Environmental Fund commenced in 2001. It is levied by Farnborough Airport on business aviation movements at a rate of £2 per aircraft movement and £5 per aircraft movement where the aircraft is a Boeing Business Jet or an Airbus Corporate Jet.

The fund is available to groups and organisations under the following criteria:

- Located within 5 kilometres (3 miles) from the centre of Farnborough Airport (taken to be halfway down the main runway) and is demonstrably and regularly affected by aircrafts travelling to and from Farnborough Airport
- Has public access to be available to be enjoyed by the community as a whole and result in the improvement of an outdoor facility or area
- Includes an environmental improvement
- Projects may include: -
 - Green or open spaces
 - Natural habitats
 - Environmental improvements
 - Outdoor play
 - Community projects with an emphasis on improving the local environment

Following this award, the Community Environmental Fund now has £39,710 available for allocation.

DATE DECISION TAKEN

8 June 2023

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

(Those examined by officers and generated by consultation, etc)

None.

ANY CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

(conflict of interests of any executive member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision. A note of dispensation should be attached).

N/A

Signed _____ Sue Carter _____

Designation _____ Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships Portfolio Holder _____

Farnborough Airport Community Environmental Fund applicant bid

Applicant name and address of project site:	Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust (BVCT) Various Rushmoor wards: Aldershot Park, Manor Park, North Town, Rowhill and West Heath		
Purpose of grant:	Urban tree planting for a resilient natural environment		
Grant amount requested:	£26,180	Total cost of project:	£130,988
Previous grants from this fund in the last five years:	None		
Criteria met?	Y/N	Comment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located within distance? • Regularly affected by air movements? • Public access enjoyed by whole community? • Result in improvement of outdoor facility/area? • Include an environmental improvement? 	Y Y Y Y Y	<p>All the residents of the five wards this project will take place will benefit in the long term, as the trees mature through improved quality of place. Urban trees are known to provide multiple advantages to the urban environment, through improved landscape, particulate pollution and noise abatement.</p> <p>This project will directly deliver carbon reduction through tree planting as set out in Rushmoor Borough Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy.</p>	
Other sources of funding for this project:	£104,718	DEFRA and Forestry Commission Urban Tree Challenge Fund (application to be made following decision on this application)	
Accounts:	Income: £3,881	Expenditure: £4,923	Balances: £18,314
Additional information:	<p>BVCT will work in partnership with Rushmoor Borough Council to plant 484 trees within Rushmoor's five most urban wards with lowest existing canopy cover - Aldershot Park, Manor Park, North Town, Rowhill and West Heath.</p> <p>BVCT will provide practical project support and recruit volunteers from the local community who will directly benefit from the tree planting. The involvement of local volunteers will directly contribute to a more active, mentally resilient population. The value of the tree planting will be more firmly embedded within the ethos of the local community who will become the custodians of the trees as they grow to maturity.</p> <p>Increasing tree presence in urban areas has numerous benefits including health and well-being, climate change mitigation and a more connected natural environment. This grant application will provide the 20% matched funding required to enable Rushmoor Borough Council to apply to a DEFRA / Forestry Commission sponsored Urban Tree Challenge Fund to a total value of £130,900.</p>		
Aim of organisation/group:	<p>The mission of the BVCT is to make the Blackwater Valley a special place, full of life, where the countryside is valued and the people and wildlife thrive together. This is achieved by engaging local people and businesses in nature and conservation activities and show them the purpose and benefits of the trust's work.</p>		
Application recommendation:	£26,180		