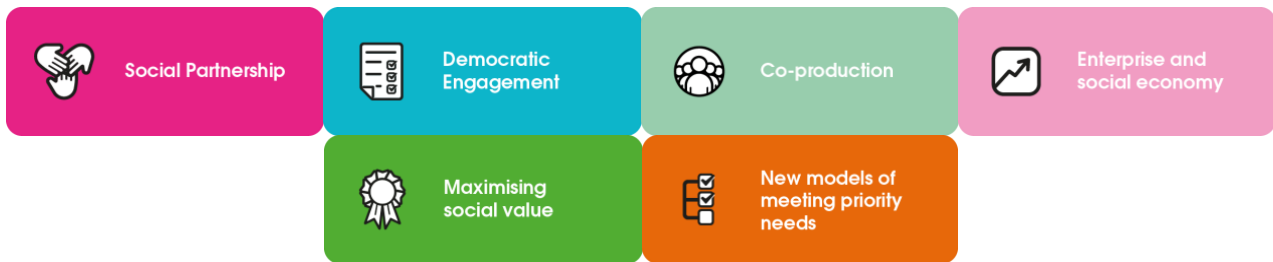


## CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT



### Newcastle City Council

## New Community Forest in the North East

A new Community Forest in the North East of England will see up to 500 hectares of trees planted by 2025. This 30 year, multi-million pound project will see tens of thousands of trees planted and all new woodland in the region, whether established on land owned by your local council or on a privately owned hillside, contributes to the North East Community Forest and benefits our local communities.

The initiative will bring together six local authorities – including Newcastle City Council, Durham, Gateshead, North and South Tyneside and Sunderland– alongside charities, businesses and landowners. up to 500 hectares of trees will be planted by 2025, with a long-term goal to increase canopy cover across the region 30% by 2050 – almost double the current national average.

Collectively, the work of the Forests has formed the largest environmental regeneration initiative in England, delivering urban, economic and social renewal, championing green infrastructure and creating high-quality environments for millions of people.

By planting trees and bringing woodlands back into use for both people and wildlife it provides new opportunities for leisure, recreation, and cultural activities, enhancing biodiversity, helping us become more resilient to climate change and improving education and healthy lives.

The impact of this work is colossal. Community Forests create healthy, liveable and economically rewarding places and through innovation and a long-term commitment to the areas where they work, empower communities to transform their local landscapes. Together they help to ensure that trees and woodlands are at the very heart of what it is an urban landscape today.

Operating across six local authority boundaries, its intent is to instil a sense of regional unity, sharing solutions and learning from each other's experiences while aligning objectives, funding, and resources to achieve ambitious tree planting targets.

This project exemplifies cooperative principles in local practice and will make a tangible difference across our communities.

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