

CAPITAL BUSINESS CASE CHANGE REQUEST



Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest

Business Case Change CATEGORY (Tick one or more box as appropriate and insert the funding source)

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|------------------------------|
| Project Variations | Add Funding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Funding Source | DEFRA Trees for Climate Fund |
| | Remove Funding <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| | Virements <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Other please specify: | | | |

Project Detail

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------|
| Insert previous business case number and link to the business case | L45 21/22 DOCUMENT TITLE | | |
| Total value of capital project currently within the approved capital programme. | £8,589,257.68 (£8,651,000 + £79,150.90 S106 Approval - £140,893.22 vired to Plan for Trees project) | | |
| Value to be added/ - removed from Capital programme (if any) | £7,294,240 | additional | |
| Does this project need to go to CMT? | Yes/No | Date business case approved by CMT (if required) | |
| | | Directorate | Growth |
| Portfolio Holder | Cllr Tom Briars-Delve, Environment and Climate Change | Service Director | Glenn Caplin-Grey |
| Senior Responsible Officer (client) | Kat Deeney | Project Manager | Peter Hawking-Sach |

Purpose of Business Case Change Request: (Provide a brief outline of what has happened to date. Explain the details of the proposal and how the proposal will address the issue)

The purpose of this business case change request is to update Capital Programme Officer Group (CPOG) on the extension of Defra's Trees for Climate programme. 2025/26 is a transition year for Defra's capital programme's including the Trees for Climate programme. Plymouth City Council, as lead partner for Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest (PSDC), has delivered Defra's Trees for Climate programme since 2022. The programme has been extended through March 2026, enabling to deliver an additional £7,294,240 of tree planting and woodland creation across the region. The extension of the programme will precede a renewed woodland creation programme which is anticipated to run from 2026-2030. This current extension through 2026 enables delivery partners (including PSDCF) to continue delivering the UK Government's tree planting targets.

The change request includes a request for delegated authority for grant awards within the programme to be held by Head of Environmental Planning. Head of Environmental Planning is acting Director of PSDCF, and works closely with the Project Manager and team on the delivery of the

programme. Delegating authority for the programme to Head of Environmental Planning will enable swift and informed delivery and decision making of grant awards to private landowners and businesses across the region.

Revised Key Risks: *(Explain any changes to the risk register / risk log in the approved business case)*

None. This is a continuation of the operations and processes of the Trees for Climate programme, for an additional year.

Revised Outcome and Benefits: *(Explain any changes to the financial and non-financial outcomes and benefits as identified in the approved business case)*

Revised benefits of this request include the planting of thousands of more trees across South Devon, Dartmoor and Plymouth, contributing to the delivery of the Plymouth Climate Emergency Action Plan, and the sequestration of tonnes of Carbon from the atmosphere, continuing to increase carbon capture by over 80% from current levels/

Revised Milestones and Date:

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Has the start /completion date changed? <i>(If so, please update with new dates)</i> | | Yes |
| Contract Award Date | Start On Site Date | Completion Date |
| March 2022 | N/A | April 2041 |

Is further Consultation required: *(if so, please ensure you consult with legal and procurement prior to submission)*

| | |
|---|----|
| Will this change request require new procurement activity or the variation of an existing contract? If yes, have procurement been consulted? Provide name of Procurement Officer consulted: | No |
|---|----|

| | |
|---|----|
| Does the change in your project require Legal advice? if yes please explain why. | No |
|---|----|

| | | | |
|--|----|---|----|
| Does the change alter the Climate Impact Assessment. <i>(If yes, this would need to be updated)</i> | No | Does the change alter the Equalities Impact Assessment. <i>(If yes, this would need to be updated)</i> | No |
|--|----|---|----|

Revised Financial Implications: *(Capital and Revenue – capital profile and ongoing PCC revenue implications)*

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Capital Cost and Financing: | | | | | | | | |
| Breakdown of project | Prev. Years | 25/26 | 26/27 | 27/28 | 28/29 | 29/30 | Future Years | Total |

| costs including fees surveys and contingency | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
|--|--------------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Original business case capital cost | 7,279,889.51 | 1,309,368.17 | | | | | | 8,589,257.68 |
| Revised capital costs | 7,279,889.51 | 8,603,608.17 | | | | | | 15,883,497.68 |
| Difference | | 0 7,294,240.00 | | | | | | 7,294,240.00 |
| Detail on financing change (+£ or -£) to match the difference above | | | | | | | | |
| | Prev. Years | 25/26 £ | 26/27 £ | 27/28 £ | 28/29 £ | 29/30 £ | Future Years £ | Total £ |
| Grant Funding (Ringfenced/ Un-Ringfenced) | | 7,294,240.00 | | | | | | 7,294,240.00 |
| SI06 /CIL | | | | | | | | |
| Corporate / Service Borrowing | | | | | | | | |
| Internal Contribution (RCCO) | | | | | | | | |
| External Contribution | | | | | | | | |

| | |
|--|---|
| Are there any bidding constraints /restrictions/ conditions attached to the funding | Yes. As per original funding terms |
| Does the change have any Tax and VAT implications. (If yes, please contact Sarah Scott) | No |

| Revised Revenue Implications: | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|--|
| Revised Revenue Implications for Service Area: | | | | | | | |
| | 25/26 £ | 26/27 £ | 27/28 £ | 28/29 £ | 29/30 £ | Future Yrs. | |
| Original business case revenue cost (A) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Change to costs (B) increase / - reductions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Change in income (C) reduction / - increase | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Revised revenue costs D = (A+/- B & C) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|---|-------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| Difference (A – D) | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revised Service Area benefit & savings: | | | | | | | |
| Has the revised cost changes from this request been budgeted for or would it make a revenue pressure. | | | | | | | |
| Loan value | £ | Interest Rate | % | Term Years | | Annual Repayment | £ |

SECTION 5: RECOMMENDATION AND ENDORSEMENT

Recommended Decision

It is recommended that the Leader of the Council

- Approves the Business Case Change Request
- Allocates an additional £7,294,240 for the project into the Capital Programme funded by Defra Trees for Climate
- Delegates the award of contracts and programme processes to the Head of Environmental Planning where they would not already have authority to do so

Cllr Tom Briars-Delve, Environment and Climate Change

Glenn Caplin-Grey, Strategic Director. Growth

Either email dated: *date*

Either email dated: *date*

Or signed: 

Signed: 

Date: 01 October 2025

Date: 7 October 2025