



Coed Caerdydd Cardiff's Tree Canopy Expansion Initiative (APSE Presentation Nov 2025)



11/26/2025



One Planet
Cardiff



Coed
Caerdydd

Gweithio dros Gaerdydd, gweithio gyda'n gilydd
Working for Cardiff, working together



Background

Coed Caerdydd -
Cardiff Cities ambitious, holistic,
and innovative project with the
objective of increasing the tree canopy
cover from 18.9 % to 25% by 2030.

Commenced in November 2019
Initially funded by NRW /Welsh Gov
(ENRAW) Woodland Trust. Trees for Cities.

Project Team consisting of 2 full time staff
(Project Manager and Volunteer Coordinator)
Supported by Park Rangers and Volunteers
(members of the public, community groups, Social enterprises etc).



Contents

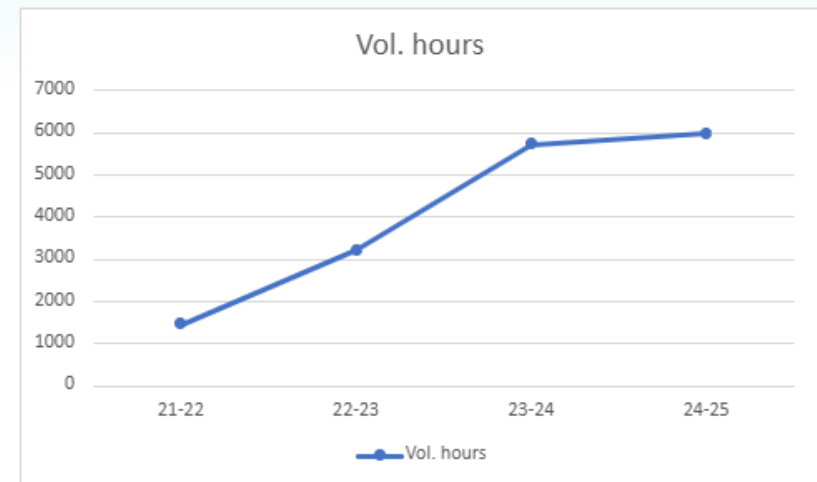
- Project achievements
- Tree planting (24/25)
- Lessons learnt and opportunities
- Site monitoring and maintenance
- Tree nursery
- Training and community events
- Tree donations
- Forward planning



Project achievements and outcomes (November 2021 – July 2025):

- Planted over **118,500 trees** in approximately **370 sites** – additional **28ha** new planting
 - * **180 parks** and open spaces
 - * **100 streets** and verges
 - * **60 schools** and educational settings
 - * **35 community**, Public Service Board and Community Council
 - * **12 privately** owned sites
- **3,767 “semi-mature” trees**
- Average **82% successful establishment**
- Approximately **17,000 volunteer hours** generated through tree planting, nursery, and aftercare events
- **Collaboration** with Council teams and external project partners

Ely Wells, before planting and three years on...



Tree planting (November 2024 – March 2025):

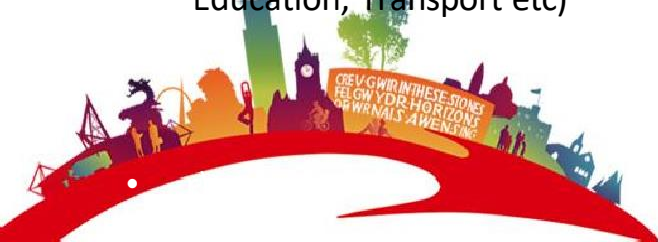
- **36,526 trees** were planted in over **200 public sites** the 2024-25 season
- Key outcomes:
 - * **100,000th** tree milestone
 - * Reintroduction of the **Gabalva apple**
 - * Completing the **next phases** of planting / maintenance
 - * **1,424 semi-mature** trees planted – including over 280 street trees
 - * Approximately **3km** of new hedgerows
 - * Further non-native trees for climate adaptation seasonal interest
- **114 community planting events**
- **2,166 volunteers** including residents, community groups, schools, and businesses





Lessons learnt and opportunities:

- **Early / annual engagement with Ward Members**
- **Use of contractors**
- **Maintenance and inspection implications on Arb team**
- **Stump grinding delays and difficulties of planting replacement and new street trees**
- **Training and upskilling teams**
- **Canopy target**
- **Very few complaints**
- **Expanding tree nursery**
- **Strengthened relationships with internal teams**
(Action plan developed with Highways Dept.
Close working with Regeneration, Housing,
Education, Transport etc)



Site monitoring and maintenance

- Average **82% successful establishment** and around **42% of sites** showing all newly planted trees status as “healthy” (summer 2024)
- Summer 2025 monitoring completed on over 130 sites, including:
 - * **Removal** of approximately **200 support stakes**
 - * **Pruning** around **400 trees**
 - * Held **7 Tree Guardian training events**, attended by 39 volunteers
 - * Overall trees are establishing well
 - * Some issues with vandalism and drought stress
- **Orchard and tree information boards** installed on 10 sites
- **Over three quarters** of newly planted sites (325 / 374) have registered **Tree Guardians**, including:
 - * **204 individuals**
 - * **63 schools**
 - * **57 community groups**
 - * **21 private** groups or individuals



Tree nursery

- **144 volunteer sessions** have been held to date with **volunteers** contributing **3,450 hours** to caring for and growing on trees
- Tree nursery activities focus on:
 - * **(spring) lining out stocks** for growing on spring – summer
 - * **(summer) weeding and watering**
 - * **(autumn) collecting tree seeds** for growing our own stocks and lifting trees in **preparation for the tree planting** season
 - * **(winter) taking in tree stocks** and preparing for planting events
- Base for training events and wellbeing sessions
- Wildflower and other habitats, no chemicals, recording wildlife
- Improved volunteer welfare facilities, tools and equipment, semi-permanent tree seed growing area
- Exploring **expansion of the tree nursery** to improve logistics and capacity for growing on trees



Tree training and community events

- **42 community training events** delivered, including:
 - * Tree identification (summer and winter)
 - * The Woodland Trust's Ancient Tree Inventory
 - * Tree Guardian
 - * Orchard pruning
 - * Nature celebration events (including bug hunts and Bioblitz)

- Participated in and facilitated **57 consultation and networking events** with project partners and community groups



Tree donations

- Around **5,000 trees** donated to **households**
- Over **4,000 trees** donated to **private landholders**
- Around **2,500 trees** donated to other **Council** teams
- **“Whole street” donations approach** piloted 2024/25 with Westmoreland Street, Canton
- Expanding “whole street” donations and species mix for households, including fruit trees



Forward planning

- 2024- Cardiff Council provided Core funding for Coed Caerdydd ensuring its continuation.
- Continue **monitoring and maintenance** previously planted sites
- Continue **scoping** sites and **stakeholder feedback** on suggestions
- **Schools and private land**
- **Street trees** different approaches – including replacement trees, container planting, household donations
- Social value donations...



Social value donations

- Sustainability of the project
- Limited sites to deliver memorial trees
- Flexible and inclusive
- Respond to demand (private and individuals)
- Tailor to specific projects (e.g. street trees)
- Setting up webpage **pilot**, working with finance, legal, admin and web team



POTENTIAL TREE PLANTING

We are proposing to plant trees on this site between autumn - spring

Do you have any thoughts or suggestions?

Would you like to get involved in tree planting?

Please get in touch to find out more:
coedcaerdyddproject@cardiff.gov.uk
www.outdoorcardiff.com/biodiversity/coed-caerdydd/
www.eventbrite.com/o/coed-caerdydd-46791623513

Cardiff Council's Coed Caerdydd is an ambitious 10-year programme of tree canopy expansion in Cardiff, linked to the city's One Planet climate change strategy.





Thank you for listening

Email: coedcaerdyddproject@cardiff.gov.uk

Eventbrite: www.eventbrite.com/o/coed-caerdydd-46791623513

Facebook: [@coedcaerdydd](https://www.facebook.com/coedcaerdydd)



A Programme of:



This document is available in Welsh / Mewn Iaith Gymraeg

