



# MANCHESTER TINY URBAN FOREST

Manchester's Tiny Urban Forest is part Hubbub's [In Our Nature](#) programme, helping to create greener, healthier and more connected communities across Manchester.

In November 2021, we will be growing Manchester's first Tiny Urban Forest – a mini urban jungle for anyone to connect with nature in the heart of the city, in partnership with Earthwatch.

Tiny Forests are tennis court sized dense fast-growing native woodlands, based on an established forest management method developed in the 1970s by Dr Akira Miyawaki.

They grow 10 times faster than typical forests, generate 100 times more biodiversity and store 40 times more carbon.

## AIMS

- Test the Tiny Urban Forest as a climate-proof, nature-friendly, engaging solution to bring nature closer to people living in cities
- Empower a local community to transform an unloved patch of land to grow, own, engage with and maintain a Tiny Urban Forest on their doorstep
- Closely track people's engagement with the forest, their connection to nature, and demonstrate that it encourages them to have greener lifestyles
- Provide links to the wider Manchester In Our Nature campaign with associated PR opportunities, first access to results from the campaign and opportunities for co-design.

## APPROACH

### PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Consult and empower the local community throughout the project, from choosing a location and inputting in the design of the forest, to engaging in tree-planting, maintenance and monitoring activities
- Potential to develop a series of employer engagement activities, with an opportunity for funders to encourage their employees, customers and local networks to take part in volunteering activities around the forest, for example by taking part of the Keeper's team
- Develop community skills, confidence and interest for nature and biodiversity, with the aim to trigger life-long care for the natural world



## MONITORING OF CONNECTION WITH NATURE

- Use existing academic research, including University of Derby's [Nature Connectedness](#) resources to co-design a range of volunteering opportunities for the community to engage with their forest
- Measure and evaluate the impact of those activities on connection to nature, wellbeing and greener lifestyles

## POTENTIAL LOCATIONS

We are currently in conversation with the Manchester City Council's Neighbourhood teams, local housing associations, landowners and various other local stakeholders to identify an ideal site to plant our Tiny Forest, that will meet Earthwatch's criteria, as well as be highly visible and accessible to a large public.

## TIMELINE

Location selection	Feb – May 2021
In Our Nature Programme launch, including potential announcement of Tiny Forest partnership	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
Community & public engagement	April-October 2021
Project launch - Planting day & PR activity	November 2021
Monitoring & Maintenance	November onwards