TCAF – Woodland Futures

# Project Evaluation

**Background**

The Lake District Foundation, working in partnership with Cumbria Woodlands were awarded funding from the Trees Call to Action fund.

The project runs from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2025. The project aims to increase the amount and the standard of woodland creation and woodland management in Cumbria for the benefit of local communities, economies and the environment. It will deliver this mission through the following activities.

“Engage and Translate Delivery” – Connect and engage with landowners, managers, and stakeholders across Cumbria to increase awareness and signpost, including to other project outputs. The project will attend auction marts, agricultural shows and network meetings.

“Demonstrate and Inspire” – Increase the knowledge base by holding or facilitating online and in person training and days out. The project will hold a forest festival in September 2023.

“Financial Fit” – To help landowners navigate the changing landscape of financial support the project will look at and suggest options on a whole holding basis.

“Regulation and Incentive” – Engage with the public sector and wider sectors to smooth application of grants and regulations. The project holds a quarterly meeting of stakeholders to address key issues and comments on policy and process where a need for improvement is identified.

“Making it Happen” - The project will give first touch advice on woodland creation and woodland management. It aims to give the right level of advice for the recipient, at most this will be a site visit and written advice, but sometimes this can be an email or phone call.

“Green Economy” - Encourage green innovation using case studies and advice sessions.

**About Us**

The [Lake District Foundation](https://www.lakedistrictfoundation.org/) (LDF) is a registered charity. Based in Kendal, we work across the National Park, some 2000 km of landscape, and across wider Cumbria.    We work to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment, and the cultural heritage, of the Lake District.    This is a unique environment which is a vital space for both nature and people.  LDF are the accountable body for the funding, and support project management activity.

[Cumbria Woodlands](https://www.cumbriawoodlands.co.uk/) is a not-for-profit organisation. Our vision is for woodland in Cumbria to thrive ecologically and economically for the benefit of everyone. Cumbria Woodlands addresses gaps in delivery within the sector across woodland creation, woodland management, training and development, and policy and advocacy and invests its surplus for the good of the people and woodlands of Cumbria.

**Scope of Evaluation**

An independent evaluation which starts during the project and feeds back periodically to allow continuous improvement. The evaluation will draw on project management information, project outputs and interviews with key project stakeholders. The aims of the evaluation will be to:

* Summarise the key outputs and outcomes against original project bid
* Assess the effectiveness of the project in delivering these
* Assess the impact of the project – are the outputs achieving the project goals?
* Identify elements of best practise
* Identify and highlight areas of challenge in delivery
* Identify key learning to inform the development of future programmes.

**Indicative Timeframe**

* 30th June 2023 – Deadline for expressions of interest
* 31st July 2023 – Notification of contract award
* 1st September 2023 – Contract start
* 31st March 2024 – Interim Report
* 31st March 2025 – Project End Date
* 30th June 2025 – Submission of final evaluation

**Budget**

£20,000

**How to Apply**

Please send the following to info@lakedistrictfoundation.org marked: **CONFIDENTIAL Woodland Futures Evaluation**

* Outline of proposed methodology
* Two examples of similar work including details of the client and contract value
* Total days required to carry out the contract
* Cost per day
* Indicative timeline for delivery