

**Supply of Trees in Blackpool (ERDF Funded)**

**Reference: (DN553397)**

**SPECIFICATION**

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This tree planting project forms part of Blackpool Council’s ‘Grange Park Estate Project’ (GPEP) which adopts a whole place based approach to increasing community resilience to climate change.   Blackpool Council has received £658,619 of funding from the England European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020 to deliver GPEP project. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (and in London the intermediate body Greater London Authority) is the Managing Authority for European Regional Development Fund.  Established by the European Union, the Regional Development Fund helps local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations.  For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding>

The Northern Powerhouse is a key aspect of this Government’s approach to addressing the productivity gap in the North and ensuring a stronger, more sustainable economy for all parts of the UK.

Alongside over €1.5 billion of European Regional Development Fund support for businesses and communities across the North, the government has awarded £3.4 billion in three rounds of Growth Deals across the Northern Powerhouse.

Please use the specification below to assist pricing schedule and answering the supporting evaluation questionnaire

The specification provided is in line with Blackpool Council’s recently adopted Tree Strategy, which states:

*“Tree planting is fundamental to increasing Blackpool’s tree population from 4% to 10%. It is vital that the sourcing of trees is done responsibly and carried out correctly to give the specimens the best chance of survival, along with a thorough aftercare programme.*

*When sourcing and purchasing trees, all specimens will be locally sourced and conform to BS 3936-1:1992 Nursery stock. Specification for trees and shrubs.*

*By locally sourcing trees, we will be able to reduce the risk of pests and tree diseases and benefit local nurseries.*

*Tree sourcing for developers where possible will be locally sourced, tree stakes will be FSC approved and hessian will be used for tree ties, and when planting whips, developers will use cardboard tree guards. These practices will help to further reduce the risk from pests and disease, whilst contributing to creating sustainable and environmentally friendly practices.*

*In order to affectively provide guidance, a supplementary document (Tree Planting Specification) will be provided on planting specifications within soil and which conforms to BS 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape.*

*It is important to be aware of the boroughs soil types for species selection and according to Soilscape from the Cranfield Soil & Agrifood Institute: Blackpool has a Soilscape 21 at Cleveleys, 4, 15, 23 and 27 to the south, Soilscape 8 and 20 to the west/Marton Mere and a large central section at Soilscape 18.”*

**Goods Requested**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item**  | **Year 1 Minimum quantity**  | **Year 2 Minimum quantity**  | **Total Quantity**  | **Species mix and notes**  |
| Whips  | 750  | *350*  | *1,100*  | *Silver birch, Alder, English oak and Wild cherry*  |
| Light Standard trees  | 300  | *175*  | *475*  | *Downy birch, Hawthorn, Alder, Wild Cherry, Rowan and Weeping Willow, edible apple species*  |
| Standard trees  | 475  | *200*  | *675*   | *English Oak, Downy Oak and Wild Cherry, edible apple species*  |
| Ezee tree guards or equivalent cardboard guards\*  | 375  | *175*  | *550*  | *\*only half of the whips required will be planted with guards & canes due to ASB concerns*   |
| Holdfast Natural Tree Tie 50mm wide or equivalent hessian ties   | Approx. 93 rolls\*  | Approx. 44 rolls\*  | *137\**  | \*If using Holdast Natural tree tie then we anticipate the adjacent lengths. Adapt quantity if using an alternative product  |
| Bamboo Canes\*   | 375  | *175*  | *550*  | *\*only half of the whips required will be planted with guards & canes due to ASB concerns*  |
| Machine Round Tree posts 1800x75mm   | 1250  | *575*  | *1875*  | *1 post per light standard , 2 posts per standard*  |

**Supporting information**

**Growth / Tree Supports:**

Blackpool Council requirements:

* tree stakes will be FSC approved
* hessian to be used for tree ties
* cardboard to be used for tree guards.
* bamboo to be used for canes

**Planting conditions**

* Trees will be planting according to Blackpool Council’s Planting Specification, attached.
* The planting area at Grange Park is identified as Soilscape 18, Slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils.
* Planting will be done by Groundwork, the Council and volunteers. This is a supply and delivery contract only.

**Quality & Returns**

Trees should be grown to British Standard BS 3936-1, Nursery Stock Specification for Trees and Shrubs.

The supplier should be able to provide evidence the trees have been grown in the UK as above, with preference given to trees grown within a coastal or similar environmental conditions to Blackpool.

The supplier should provide assurance the trees provided are disease and pest free.

Blackpool Council reserve the right to return on delivery if quality is deemed unsuitable or not to specification without additional charge.

There is an expectation of a natural 10% “Fail rate,” if any tree species or stock fails this rate then Blackpool Council reserves the right to have a substitute product or not to place future orders for the problematic stock.

**Substitute Products**

No substitutions will be accepted unless agreed prior to delivery.

**Delivery framework**

The order will be split into two main growing seasons October 2021 – March 2022 and September 2022-March 2023.

Payment schedule to be agreed prior to delivery split and in line with ERDF claim process.

For the purposes of pricing Blackpool Council anticipate a maximum of 5 deliveries throughout each season spaced about every 4-6weeks. Details to be provided on awarding the contract.

Goods & Transit insurance is required and trees will be packed carefully to minimise damage. The supplier should be expected to unload although assistance will be provided.

Deliveries will be made to Blackpool Council’s secure depot at Stanley Park, which is open 8-3pm. The delivery driver will need to arrange a time slot to ensure staff are present to receive the order and goods are left in a safe location within the depot.

Blackpool Council will ensure deliveries are grouped efficiently and will provide a lead time of 3 week prior to each for each delivery slots

In the event of some parts of an order being out of stock then deliveries should be split to allow in stock items to arrive in time. All such orders to be agreed prior to delivery and at no extra cost to Blackpool Council