**Summary - Grants for trees with ash dieback**

**The grant, available through the Forestry Commission, will help pay towards some of the costs associated with the removal of dangerous ash with ash dieback that are growing along roadsides and public footpaths. It can also contribute towards replanting and the maintenance of replacement trees.**

1. **Conditions**

* Applications will only be accepted from groups of two or more landowners. Group members should be situated on the same stretch of road or in nearby area.
* Landowners can include town and parish councils, as well as private owners and managers.
* One of the group members may act as the facilitator for the group, and there is funding available for the facilitator’s time.
* Shropshire Council will act as the facilitator for a group of landowners if preferred (even if not one of the nearby landowners itself).
* While there is no specific end date for this grant, the Forestry Commission has advised that expressions of interest should be submitted as soon as possible.

1. **Funding available**

Groups led by a facilitator can access funding that will help pays towards:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of grant** | **Payment rate for trees *in* woodlands** | **Payment rate for trees *outside* of woodlands** |
| **Road closure and traffic management** | 60% of the actual costs of partial or full road closure and traffic management | 60% of the actual costs of partial or full road closure and traffic management |
| **Facilitation time (leading the application)** | £24 per hour (up to a maximum of £4,200 per month) | £24 per hour (up to a maximum of £4,200 per month) |
| **European protected species surveys** | 80% of actual costs | 80% of actual costs |
| **Restocking and capital items** | Up to £6,000 per ha for ancient woodland sites. Up to £4,720 per ha for other sites | £270.44 per large tree, £3.79 for feathers, £2.29 for whips |
| **Maintenance (per year for 3 years)** | £350 per ha | Up to £189 per large tree or £0.14 per feather or whip |

**More information**

* More information about the grant, including what is funded and how to apply, can be found on the UK government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tree-health-pilot-scheme-2023/grants-for-ash-with-ash-dieback>
* If you have any questions about the grant, or would like to discuss the potential for working with Shropshire Council under a group project (either individually or with other nearby landowners), please don’t hesitate to get in contact with me.

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