



For immediate release: **CHERRY TREE PLANTING UNDERWAY AS MP
LAUNCHES COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN**

Local community groups throughout South Gloucestershire have started to receive a number of Cherry Trees, with planting now underway, following the launch of the local Cherry Tree project.

As part of the Sakura Cherry Tree initiative, a number of UK grown Cherry Trees were generously donated by the people of Japan, which Luke worked with local community groups and organisations in our area to fund suitable locations for.

Among the groups set to receive these Cherry Trees include Lyde Green Open Spaces, the Friends of Kingsgate Park, Thornbury in Bloom, Manorbrook Primary school and Iron Acton Parish Council.

The trees have now started to arrive to their destinations, and Luke visited Iron Acton Parish Council as one of the first groups to receive their trees, to see them after being planted in the local community.

Luke met with local Parish Councillors Paul Chapman and John Wright, who helped to plant the trees in the community at various locations which include in an area of Iron Acton's Village Green, at Latteridge Village Green, and the cemetery in Iron Acton village.

Luke said, "Paul and John have done a brilliant job planting these beautiful Cherry Trees which I am sure will look wonderful in our local villages."

"These trees will help to boost our local biodiversity and help to support our local tree planting initiative. I am grateful for the community's and South Gloucestershire Council's support with this great initiative."

11/01/2022

The Sakura Cherry Tree project is the latest action in Luke's Hall local commitment to protecting our local environment and encouraging a greener and more sustainable future.

Since 2010, over 65,000 hectares of woodland area in England have been planted with new trees and restocked, whilst the Government has stated that it is committed to increasing tree planting in the UK to 30,000 hectares per year by the end of this Parliament.

ENDS

(Photo attached: Luke Hall MP, joined by Iron Acton Parish Councillors John Paul Chapman and John Wright, with Leader of South Gloucestershire Council Toby Savage.

Notes for editors: For more details about the Government's commitment on Tree Planting in the UK, please see <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-09-09/45874>