



To: The Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities

20th December 2019

Subject: Trees and Development Guidelines Supplementary Planning Document

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities of the comments that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) made on the draft Trees and Development Guidelines Supplementary Planning Document.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities is recommended to consider the following comments when considering consultation feedback on the Trees and Development Guidelines Supplementary Planning Document:
- 1) The need to establish a comprehensive set of requirements to offer protection to existing trees as astringently as there should be.
 - 2) The need to introduce a robust form of assessment and protection of existing trees that don't have TPOs, for use when considering planning proposals/developments
 - 3) The need to tighten the enforcement process for tree protection.
 - 4) The need to be prescriptive to developers on the number of new trees and planting required in new developments.
 - 5) Reference needs to be made to the Urban Forestry Strategy.

3 Background and Information

- 3.1 At their meeting on the 18th December 2019, the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) considered the draft Trees and Development Guidelines Supplementary Planning Document as part of the consultation process.
- 3.2 At the meeting, Members of the Board questioned officers on the following areas:
- The robustness of the consultation - publicised through the Council's Website, mail shots and email shots, and which groups had responded.
 - The need to ensure that developers include tree planting in planning proposals.
 - Conditions on planning approvals relating to tree planting, to be enforced.

- Encourage maximising tree planting to meet the Council's aspiration of one tree for every Coventry citizen.
- The use of the SPD as a material consideration.
- Aspire to plant 2 trees for every tree removed during improvement works/planning developments in the City.
- The need to establish a comprehensive set of requirements to offer protection to existing forestry as astringently as there should be.
- In addition to trees protected by TPOs, explore options to offer a form of protection to further trees.
- The need to introduce a robust form of assessment of existing trees, for use when considering planning proposals/ developments.
- The need to tighten the enforcement process for tree protection.

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