

SUBJECT:	WORK TO TREES IN CITY COUNCIL OWNERSHIP
DIRECTORATE	COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT
REPORT AUTHOR	STEVE BIRD – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (COMMUNITIES & STREET SCENE)

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise Members of the reasons for proposed works to trees in City Council ownership, and to seek consent to progress the works identified.
- 1.2 This list does not represent all the work undertaken to Council trees. It is all the instances where a tree is either identified for removal, or where a tree enjoys some element of protection under planning legislation, and thus formal consent is required.

2. Background

- 2.1 In accordance with policy, Committee's views are sought in respect of proposed works to trees in City Council ownership, see Appendix A.
- 2.2 The responsibility for the management of any given tree is determined by the ownership responsibilities of the land on which it stands. Trees within this schedule are therefore on land owned by the Council, with management responsibilities distributed according to the purpose of the land. However, it may also include trees that stand on land for which the council has management responsibilities under a formal agreement but is not the owner.

3. Tree Assessment

- 3.1 All cases are brought to this committee only after careful consideration and assessment by the Council's Arboricultural Officer (together with independent advice where considered appropriate).
- 3.2 All relevant Ward Councillors are notified of the proposed works for their respective wards prior to the submission of this report.
- 3.3 Although the Council strives to replace any tree that has to be removed, in some instances it is not possible or desirable to replant a tree in either the exact location or of the same species. In these cases, a replacement of an appropriate species is scheduled to be planted in an alternative appropriate location. This is usually in the general locality where this is practical, but where this is not practical, an alternative location elsewhere in the city may be selected. Tree planting is normally scheduled for the winter months following the removal.

4. Consultation and Communication

- 4.1 All ward Councillors are informed of proposed works on this schedule, which are within their respective ward boundaries.
- 4.2 The relevant portfolio holders are advised in advance in all instances where, in the judgement of officers, the matters arising within the report are likely to be sensitive or contentious.

5. Strategic Priorities

5.1 Let's enhance our remarkable place

The Council acknowledges the importance of trees and tree planting to the environment. Replacement trees are routinely scheduled wherever a tree has to be removed, in-line with City Council policy.

6. Organisational Impacts

6.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

i) Finance

The costs of any tree works arising from this report will be borne by the existing budgets. There are no other financial implications, capital or revenue, unless stated otherwise in the works schedule.

ii) Staffing N/A

iii) Property/Land/ Accommodation Implications N/A

iv) Procurement

All works arising from this report are undertaken by the City Council's grounds maintenance contractor. The Street Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance contract ends August 2026. The staff are all suitably trained, qualified, and experienced

6.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

All works arising from this report are undertaken by the Council's grounds maintenance contractor. The contractor was appointed after an extensive competitive tendering exercise. The contract for this work was let in April 2006. The Council is compliant with all TPO and Conservation area legislative requirements.

6.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

There are no negative implications.

7. Risk Implications

- 7.1 The work identified on the attached schedule represents the Arboricultural Officer's advice to the Council relevant to the specific situation identified. This is a balance of assessment pertaining to the health of the tree, its environment, and any legal or health and safety concerns. In all instances the protection of the public is taken as paramount. Deviation from the recommendations for any particular situation may carry ramifications. These can be outlined by the Arboricultural Officer pertinent to any specific case.
- 7.2 Where appropriate, the recommended actions within the schedule have been subject to a formal risk assessment. Failure to act on the recommendations of the Arboricultural Officer could leave the City Council open to allegations that it has not acted responsibly in the discharge of its responsibilities.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 That the works set out in the attached schedules be approved.

Is this a key decision?	No
Do the exempt information categories apply?	No
Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply?	No
How many appendices does the report contain?	1
List of Background Papers:	None
Lead Officer:	Mr S. Bird, Assistant Director (Communities & Street Scene) Telephone 873421

**NOTIFICATION OF INTENDED WORK TO TREES AND HEDGES
RELEVANT TO THEIR CITY COUNCIL OWNERSHIP STATUS.
SCHEDULE No 4 / SCHEDULE DATE: 30/06/2021**

Item No	Status e.g. CAC	Specific Location	Tree Species and description / reasons for work / Ward.	Recommendation
1	N/A	Tower Crescent Play area	<u>Abbey ward</u> 1x Sorbus <u>Fell</u> This tree is in poor condition, with extensive damage to main stem.	Approve works, replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.
2	N/A	51 Cannon Street	<u>Abbey Ward</u> 1 x Pine <u>Fell</u> The tree is currently In contact with a brick wall and also causing pavement level issues.	Approve works, replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.
3	N/A	24 Sorrel Court	<u>Birchwood Ward</u> 1 x Pear <u>Fell</u> This tree is located in a brick built raised bed – the expanding root system is destabilising the external walls and causing them to collapse.	Approve works, replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.
4	N/A	26 Gaunt Street	<u>Boultham Ward</u> 2 x Sycamore 1 x Elderberry <u>Fell</u> These trees are causing direct damage to the adjacent brick wall and fence line.	Approve works, plant 3 native tree species at suitable locations within the ward.

5	N/A	West Common	<p><u>Carholme Ward</u> 1x Maple <u>Fell</u> This tree is located within a wooden tree shelter – approximately 90% of the canopy is retained as dead wood; the trunk having a significant degree of associated decay.</p>	Approve works and replant with a replacement Maple.
6	N/A	6 Riseholme Road	<p><u>Castle Ward</u> 3 x Beech <u>Fell</u> These trees are in direct contact with the adjoining property boundary, resulting in physical damage to the structure.</p>	Approve works, replace with 3 native tree species; to be positioned in appropriate locations within the ward.
7	N/A	132 Outer Circle drive- Housing site	<p><u>Glebe Ward</u> 1x Sycamore <u>Retrospective notice</u> The tree had caused damage to the property boundary which led to security issues; the trees removal was required to facilitate repairs.</p>	Replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.
8	N/A	24 Dryden Avenue	<p><u>Glebe Ward</u> 1 x Blue Spruce <u>Fell</u> The root plate of this tree shows signs of instability; the surface roots are also causing direct damage to adjacent hard surfacing.</p>	Approve works and replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.
9	TPO	1 Staffordshire Crescent	<p><u>Hartsholme Ward</u> 1 x Birch <u>Fell</u> This tree is currently causing direct damage to the property boundary at this address.</p>	Replace with a Birch tree; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.

10	CAC	Waddingworth Grove - garage site	<p><u>Minster Ward</u> 1 x Sycamore <u>Fell</u> This work is required to prevent damage occurring to hard surfacing whilst also allowing unrestricted lighting of the immediate area.</p>	Approve works, replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.
11	N/A	22 Leighton Crescent	<p><u>Moorland Ward</u> 1x Rowan <u>Retrospective notice</u> This tree was felled due to the presence of considerable decay within the branch unions, combined with significant hollowing of the trunk.</p>	Replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.
12		2 Fleming House	<p><u>Park Ward</u> 1 x Leylandii <u>Fell</u> The incremental growth of this tree is causing substantial changes in foot path levels and is also likely to lead to significant damage occurring to brick-built outhouses.</p>	Approve works, replace with a suitable native species; to be positioned in an appropriate location within the ward.