

# Trees Strategy Review 2022/23

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# Tree strategy review

- Launched Nov 2018.
- Five-year strategy.
- Guide to sustaining and increasing our tree stock.
- Improve the quality of the city's trees.
- Promote the important role trees can play in maintaining a high-quality city environment.



# Annual Review

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- The Strategy outlines how we manage the city's trees to ensure that we sustain and enhance Leicester's urban forest for future generations.
- The annual review monitors the delivery of the aims of the Tree Strategy via the five key strategic objectives:
  - Promoting amenity
  - Promoting habitat and wildlife
  - Responding to global obligations
  - Managing the pressure on trees in others ownership
  - Delivering the strategy
- This is undertaken via a series of 22 actions as specified in the Tree Strategy, which are reported on in the review document.

# The council manages 178,000 trees across its varied land portfolio



- 99,000 – Parks
- 21,000 – Highways
- 23,000 – Housing estates
- 20,000 – Schools
- 15,000 – Misc.
- Including:
- 112 Hectares of woodland

# The T&W Resources

- Budget £:
- 1,264,100 – Employees
- 163,400 – Running costs
- 770,000 – Income target
  
- Staff:
- 28 – Operational
- 6.6 – Technical



# Outcomes



- 100% by-product recycled
  - Over 900 tonnes diverted from landfill saving £95k landfill costs plus transport
- Retained deadwood, biodiversity
- Awarded - Queens Green Canopy Champion City status
- 534 TPO in place & 25 Conservation Areas
- 159 TPO tree applications processed
- 215 Tree planning applications processed
- 4 Parks tree trails now live

# Outcomes (cont)



- 285 Tree Surveys completed (1,290 sites)
- No formal complaints received
- 96% establishment rate of large trees planted
- 60% establishment rate of small trees (whips) planted
- 295 Emergency tree call outs, 25 out of hours
- 140 refresher & technical training courses completed
- Successful completion of Western Park phase 2 works, 40 diseased trees felled, and 80 new trees planted



# New tree planting

10,580 small trees & 412 heavy stock planted. 714 trees felled in 2022/23 as part of stock management, ash dieback & storms. That's 15 trees planted for every tree felled.

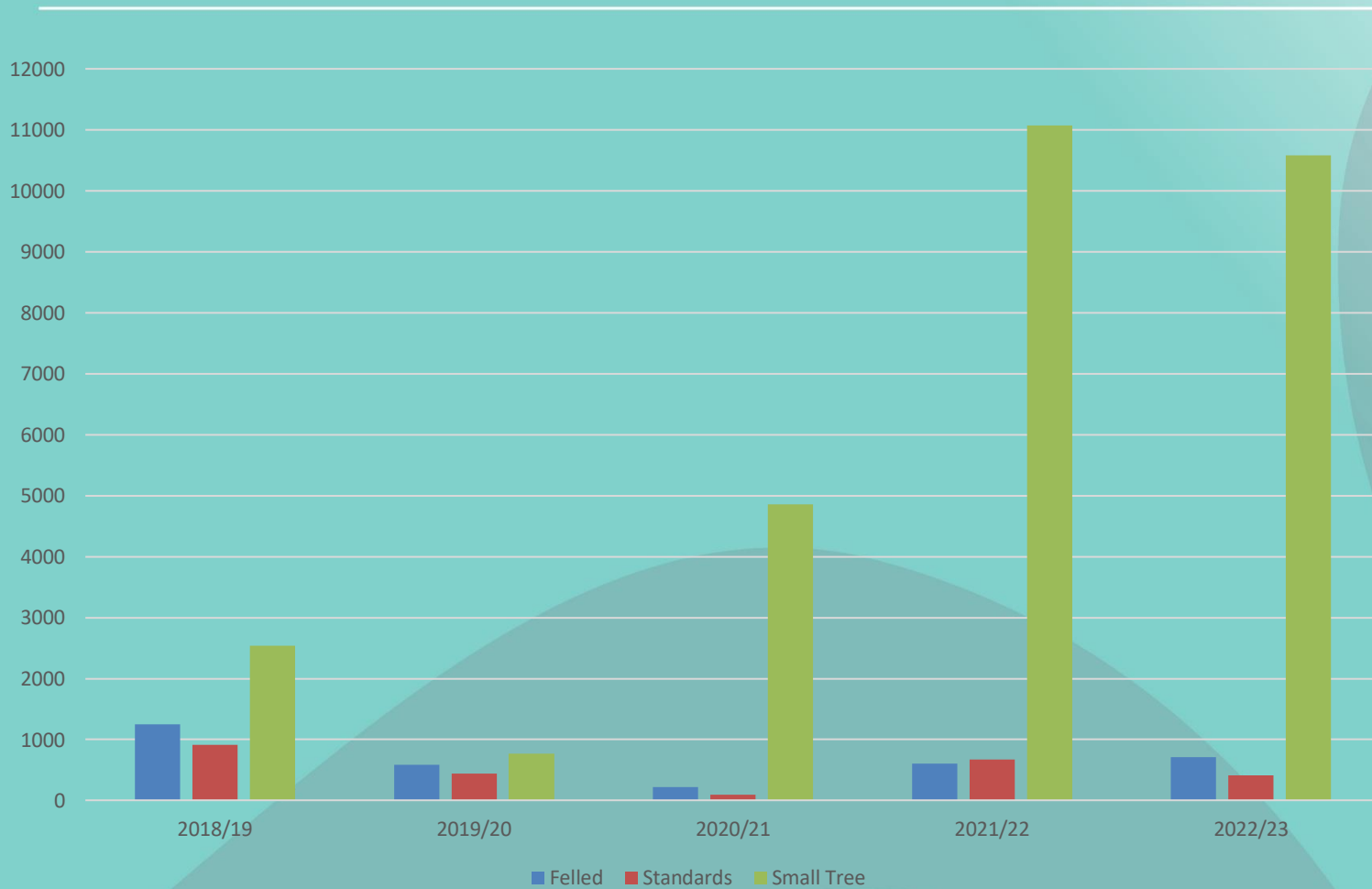
## Successful external funding bids:

- Tiny Forest, in partnership with Earthwatch, 600 trees planted in a space the size of a tennis court. 7200 small trees planted at 12 schools.
- Saving Saffron Brook Project, in partnership with the Woodland Trust, to improve the condition of woodland Local Wildlife sites. 3380 trees planted





# Trees felled/planted



# Examples of why we remove trees

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- Competing demands
- H&S hazard/risk
- Dead or structurally unsound
- Obstruction to legal access
- Structural damage
- Damage to utilities
- Disease

# Current & future pressures

- Diseased trees Western Park
  - Successful completion of phase 2 Western Park project
  - 40 diseased trees felled
  - 80 heavy stock trees planted
  - Good comms
- Ash Dieback
  - Ash Dieback Action Plan in place
  - Online information page now live
  - Tree Action List to manage infected trees
  - Internal stakeholders information briefings being undertaken



Ash dieback

# Queens Green Canopy Champion City



- Leicester City Council were awarded Queens Green Canopy Champion City status
- The Lord-Lieutenant of Leicester, Mike Kapur OBE presented the Lord Mayor with a Silver Birch tree from the Queens Tree of Trees sculpture
- The Silver Birch was planted at Abbey Park in December 2022

# Community engagement



# Leicester City Tree Warden Group



- Partnership with The Tree Council
- 28 Trained Wardens
- Assess and report issues, e.g. early id Ash Die Back, hazardous trees
- Support tree planting
- Improve education
- Work with T&W team on Tree Trails

# Questions

