
Tree Strategy 2025 - 2030 & Comms Information. Tree data 2019 – 2024.

Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 3 April 2025

Lead director: Sean Atterbury

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Dave Jones
- Author contact details: 0116 454 4939
- Report version number: 1

1. Summary

1.1 Copies of the Tree Strategy 2025-2030, Tree Data 2019-2024 and Comms Information appended.

2. Recommended actions

2.1 Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission is recommended to note the launch in April of the revised Tree Strategy and comms launch information. Also, the tree data compiled between 2019/20 to 2023/24.

3. Scrutiny / stakeholder engagement

3.1 Documents are appended of the revised tree strategy to be launched in April and the associated comms information. Also, tree data from 2019/20 to 2023/24. The Trees & Woodlands Manager will present the information.

5. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

5.1 Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the adoption of the Strategy. The work will be managed within existing budgets, alongside grant funding as it becomes available. The cost of Ash die back is one that will need to be monitored and is likely to represent an on-going budget pressure.

Signed: Stuart McAvoy

Dated: 18.03.2025

5.2 Legal implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from the issuing of this Strategy.

Signed: Kamal Adatia

Dated: 12.03.2025

5.3 Equalities implications

There are no direct equality implications arising from this report. However, we need to ensure any information/literature/engagement is accessible, for example as part of the planning process, planning applications, protected tree regulation and community engagement.

Signed: Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer

Dated: 13 March 2025

5.4 Climate Emergency implications

The council's tree stock makes a very important contribution to addressing the climate emergency in several ways:

- Trees moderate the impacts of heatwaves – which are getting more frequent and extreme through climate change – by creating shade and cooling the air through evaporation of water from their leaves;
- They slow the rate of run-off of rainwater, helping to reduce the risk of flooding following heavy downpours – which are also becoming more frequent and intense due to climate change;
- They help maintain biodiversity and reduce the pressures on nature caused by climatic changes including periods of drought, heatwaves and changes in seasonality;
- Where increases in tree numbers and good management are combined, the carbon locked up in the tree stock can increase, removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and hence compensating for a small amount of the city's emissions.

As noted at the top of page 7, the new Tree Strategy draws on the [Climate Ready Leicester Plan](#), and the strategy's implementation is reflected in the plan through the inclusion of actions on Leicester's 'Climate Woodland' (action 5.05), Tiny Forests (3.11) and Tree Planting in School Grounds (3.13).

There is an opportunity to highlight the contribution the Tree Strategy is making to addressing the climate emergency as part of the communications launch by including the Climate Ready Leicester branding in comms materials.

Signed: Duncan Bell, Change Manager (Climate Emergency). Ext. 37 2249.

Dated: 13th March 2025.

5.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

6. Background information and other papers:

- Tree Strategy 2018 - 2023
[Leicester Tree Strategy](#)
- Tree Strategy Review 2018 - 2024
[Review of tree strategy 2018 - 2024](#)