

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 10(b)
8 DECEMBER 2021	PUBLIC REPORT

EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATION – TREE MANAGEMENT: LIMITED REVIEW OF THE TREES AND WOODLAND STRATEGY (INCLUDING REVISED TREE PLANTING TARGETS)

The Cabinet, at its meeting on 15 November 2021, received a report in relation to tree planting targets and the Trees and Woodland Strategy.

In addition to its recommendation to Council, Cabinet also resolved to:

1. Endorse the tree planting and other related recommendations of the Climate Member Group to Full Council, as set out in Appendix 1, subject to the following change:

“6. That Council investigates all reasonable options to secure additional external revenue funding, of around £70,000 per annum, in order to secure (a) additional staffing support (cost c£50,000 pa) to: undertake the work required to bid for funds; to maintain the evidence base to support locations to deliver new planting; undertake ground truthing of sites identified for potential planting; and overall manage the delivery of the ambitious tree planting programme, the scale of which will be similar to that achieved under the Development Corporation programme of the 1970s/80s; and (b) a small funding pot (c£20,000 pa) to be used to help directly deliver the tree planting targets in any particular year where 100% grant funding cannot be secured.”

2. Welcome the national ‘Queen’s Green Canopy’ scheme, and instruct officers to (a) take all reasonable opportunities to promote the scheme with the public, encouraging the public and businesses to ‘plant a tree for the Jubilee’; (b) determine whether any of the council’s land holdings due to have tree planting introduced over the next two winters be specifically designated (with appropriate signage) as a ‘Queen Green Canopy’ planting (such as a new copse, woodland or orchard), and (c) where appropriate, submit where appropriate tree planting done by the council over the next 2 winters to the national Queen’s Green Canopy database, so that the council’s contribution can be recognised.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council:

- 1) Agree that the Trees and Woodland Strategy, in addition to any amendments arising from Cabinet resolution 1, be further amended by way of (a) an updated Tree Risk Management Plan, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report; and (b) introduction of new operational guidelines in respect of daylight loss and vegetation encroachment, as set out in para 4.24 of the report.

The original Cabinet report and appendices are attached.

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