

## Tree Strategy Consultation Results

Consultation Comments	Officer Response
<b>Question 1 Do you think that removing trees because they are dead, dying, diseased or dangerous is the right thing to do?</b>	
I do think that the old trees with a massive circumference that force up paving stones should be felled. And one hears cases of branches falling down with fatal results. These old trees should be replaced as soon as possible with young saplings	The Strategy details that trees are maintained on a proactive management cycle which prevents incidences of branches falling on people. Large trees will only be felled if no safe alternative can be discovered
There is a very good reason to keep trees that are old AND DEAD AND DYING IN A FOREST ENVIRONMENT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE REGROWTH IN THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.	This is agreed however not possible in many cases especially in Highways situations. Where possible and appropriate, trees will be left to die and regenerate
Only as a last resort. And only if they are causing an actual hazard, and not just because they "might" be dangerous. There needs to be a rigorous process for determining what is "dangerous".	Dangerous can be considered subjective but refers to causing an immediate threat to people or property. It should be the Tree Officer who decide what is dangerous and what is not based on the condition of the tree
yes, it cause a mess making borough untidy if dead, dying diseased. it a health and safety hazard if dangerous	This is generally the approach but in certain situations such as woodlands, it is possible to leave trees that are dead dying or dangerous
So long as they are replaced by another tree	Replacing trees 1 for 1 is a key element of the strategy going forward
But there is too much wholesale slaughter of healthy trees in Southwark, and pruning strategy is of concern. Are professionals used?	Trees are only pruned if required. In the public realm, trees are pruned more than desired as contextually they are part of a wider urban environment putting pressure on the tree to be removed. Severe pruning is undertaken to retain the tree in its environment rather than removing it.
It's NOT the right thing to do, UNLESS they are replaced within a short, reasonable timeframe that needs to be specified in advance.	The timeframe for replacements is limited as trees can only be replaced during November - March. Increased communication about when trees will be replaced will be implemented by the Tree Section
Only if there are replacements, dead wood and stumps should be retained in open space	Replacements are a key element of the strategy. Dead wood and stumps will be retained only where appropriate based on the landscape character. It would not be appropriate to retain a stump in a formally planted area such as an avenue but would be in an area of random plantings.
Not a yes/no answer. Where there is no appreciable target dead trees should be left. If there is no one present how can a dead tree be dangerous	In certain situations such as woodlands, it is possible to leave trees that are dead dying or dangerous
Though they MUST always be replaced.	All trees are being replaced and is a key element of the strategy
trees in woodland areas, parks or areas where few people congregate should be made safe and left as standing deadwood for wildlife habitat where appropriate.	In certain situations such as woodlands, it is possible to leave trees that are dead dying or dangerous
Particularly if they affect the structural integrity of any nearby properties or roadways	Trees are pruned on a proactive maintenance regime which helps to mitigate the effects of subsidence. If a tree is causing damage to a property it will be dealt with through insurance procedures. If damaging a roadway, the tree will only be felled if no other solution can be found to repair the road
Any trees removed should be replaced as a matter of policy	All trees felled will be replaced
It is also worth noting that some of these terms are loose and vague and might be applied differently, depending on subjective opinion.	This is true however Tree Officers will always prioritise retaining the trees over its removal. A tree will only be removed if the risk of damage or injury is too great.

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Southwark's definition of dead, dying or diseased may not be the same as anyone else's from what I have seen in the years I've lived here.	This is true however Tree Officers will always prioritise retaining the trees over its removal. A tree will only be removed if the risk of damage or injury is too great.
You cannot group all of these characteristics into one question! Dangerous, yes, Diseased, only if it will harm other trees, Dead, only if it is in a dangerous position, and even then the visual impact of the tree should take priority before removal, Dying, definitely not. Let nature take its course and manage considerably	This is the approach from the Tree section. A dying tree will only be removed if it is dangerous or there is opportunity to improve the tree stock of the borough through removal and replacement.
It is not clear what defines 'dangerous'. Many plane trees planted in the pavement have long outgrown the space and dominate housing, disturbing paving and property boundaries	This would be considered dangerous but the tree will only be removed if there is no other safe alternative for pedestrians
yes, but only if there is a clear hazard to the public. I would prefer it if the council showed a lot more discretion before taking trees down.	This is the approach from the Tree section.
Essential as diseased can spread.	Agreed
This should be kept to the sensible minimum	Agreed. The Tree Section will only remove if the tree is a threat to infrastructure of people.
The wording is wrong here. Your 4D's sound good but different approaches are needed in each case. Dead trees should be left standing where possible as they provide a different useful habitat for wildlife. Dying or diseased trees should be helped where possible. Dangerous trees should be controlled by cutting. Other healthy trees however may need to be cut down for thinning reasons.	This is agreed however not possible in many cases especially in Highways situations.
However it would be useful to know what you are doing because all we see is trees being cut down, no explanation of why.	Further explanation on felling notices will be implemented to provide further information to people regarding the reasons for felling
What kind of question is this?	I am unable to respond to this comment
They can be a danger due to falling branches and so on, so in general it is a good thing	
Yes when they are street trees, maybe they can be left in parks for insects etc	The Tree section do apply this approach where appropriate.
providing that this is the case to many trees have been taken down to appease developers	The Tree section manage trees in line with the strategy and is separate from the planning process. Planners consider trees in all planning applications.
Although trees are extremely important to the urban landscape, if they are dead or dangerous they need to be managed properly.	The Tree section manage trees proactively and only fell trees if the tree presents a danger.
But removing can include leaving e.g. trunks lying around (in suitable areas) for colonisation by wild life	Agreed
It makes room for replanting	Agreed. It is important that Southwark is able to replenish its ageing tree stock
These removed trees should be replaced with young healthy trees.	Agreed. This is a key element of the strategy
Dead and dying trees are a very valuable habitat. Becoming hollow can extend tree life. Trees should only be partially or completely removed if they are genuinely dangerous.	This is applicable only in certain situations such as woodlands and some parks
Only if they are dangerous or disease is likely to spread from them. Dying and dead is OK.	Agreed, however the tree will be felled if posing a threat to infrastructure or people

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<p>Question is a bit misleading and will encourage people to answer "yes" without really thinking about it. Not all diseased trees need to be "removed"... some can be managed and kept. How diseased is "diseased"? e.g. all the chestnut trees with their canker... do these all deserve to be removed? I don't think so. Dead trees are actually very valuable ecologically when left standing (for various birds). And what constitutes dangerous? What one person thinks of as dangerous is not the same as the next. This question needs much more explanation and clarification.</p>	<p>Agreed. Not all trees will be removed if diseased. The strategy will detail a section on pests and diseases which follows Forrestry Commission advice. The Chestnut is a good example of not removing a tree as the disease is not dangerous to other trees, infrastructure or people/</p>
<p><b>Question 2 The majority of our trees are managed on a planned inspection and maintenance programme (which can include pruning, thinning, crown reduction and/or removal). Do you think that a planned approach, rather than a reactive approach to tree maintenance is the right thing to do?</b></p>	
<p>There is a tree next to our building which is constantly left out of your planned approach as it is on a grass verge rather than on the street. Despite several attempts the council has done nothing despite the fact that it is now hitting against our building regularly.</p>	<p>There is no location provided so we are not able to investigate this issue</p>
<p>About 3 years ago, I complained that the ornamental cherry trees in my street were so overgrown they were a hazard. They were pruned, and are</p>	<p>There is no location provided so we are not able to investigate this issue</p>
<p>I think you overcut the trees, several down my road have been reduced twice in three years, its ridiculous. Sometimes wonder if its to save on sweeping up the leaves.</p>	<p>The Tree section do not prune trees to save on sweeping of leaves. This comments seems to refer to the pollarding of trees which is severe but necessary if the trees were pollarded in the past. In response to the consultation, trees will now only be pollarded in winter.</p>
<p>There are so many trees that unless someone reports that they need to be maintained they will go unnoticed.</p>	<p>The Tree section have implemented a proactive approach to surveying and all trees on streets and housing land will be assessed every 3 years. This will avoid any trees being left unnoticed in future.</p>
<p>Trees grow at different times and require maintenance at varied dates. My neighbours are complaining about my trees equally as my self, however I was told by the council they only come out at specific times of the year.</p>	<p>The council respond and investigate all queries with 10 days of receipt. The Tree section are unaware of this issue and are unable to investigate as no location was provided</p>
<p>But trees should be left alone after inspection if there is no reason to manage them. I have noticed that there has been far more crown reduction and thinning activity recently. This affects the visual attractiveness of the tree, as well as its capacity to absorb carbon and filter out pollutants. This should be taken into account, and thinning/crown reduction should only take place if absolutely necessary.</p>	<p>This is correct and is the approach from the Tree section. Unfortunately due to the confluit of trees in the urban environment, trees do need to be managed more frequently. This approach is only taken to retain the tree in its environment for longer rather than felling it.</p>
<p>Southwark are not looking after the trees once planted. the areas are full with leaflets on street in autumn and drunk leaves cans and urine in the pot. they need to be inspected regularly and clean</p>	<p>We have implemented a 3 year young tree maintenance programme which includes watering, weeding and litter removal around the new trees.</p>
<p>But obviously you must react if something about <u>damaged/dying trees is reported to you.</u></p>	<p>The Tree section will respond within 10 days of any query, <u>report or complaint</u></p>
<p>Regular, seasonal maintenance, based on sound horticultural principals.</p>	<p>Agreed and currently in line with BS 3998/2010</p>
<p>There needs to be an annual report on the condition and number of trees</p>	<p>It is not possible within current resources to assess all trees every year and provide a report. It is only possible to provide this every 3 years for Housign and Highways trees and 3 years</p>
<p>Only in some cases and if the Southwark tree officers say so. Contractors should follow strict guidance from the tree officers. Southwark contractors are NOT qualified to make decisions that deviate from plan that affect local people.</p>	<p>All decisions are made by Council employed Tree Officers</p>

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Yes- but the management can be extreme in some cases to minimise repeat visits by the contractors which often leaves the trees branchless completely.	All decisions are made by Council employed Tree Officers
but if they get reports about trees then that must be looked into too	The Tree section will respond within 10 days of any query, report or complaint
Although a combination of the two is ideal. But certainly reactive actions within a planned approach is the right thing.	The strategy details this type of flexibility to deal with issues such as this
Although a reactive approach will be necessary too because nature can be very unpredictable and even the best of planned approaches may need adapting in real time.	The strategy details this type of flexibility to deal with issues such as this
Many of the trees in the local area are over-pruned	Trees are only pruned as required in line with best practice. Trees are pruned to retain the tree in its environment rather than having to fell the tree at a later date.
A planned approach means that trees are managed (pruned, felled etc) regardless of need or actual circumstances demand.	The planned approach will only be based on need or demand
Not the way it is done at the moment. The council say "crown lifting" "crown reduction" etc but what we get is severe pollarding and during the nesting season which is supposed to be illegal. I asked how many trees were left having been scheduled to be pollarded, (sorry, "crown reduced") once the workers found nests in them seeing as this work is done in the nesting season and was told no one knew. I did notice when some beautiful Plane Trees were massacred on my street during the nesting season the cleaners were along extra fast to destroy the evidence.	A thorough inspection for nesting birds is undertaken prior to the commencement of all tree works. Due to the number of trees, it is impossible to only undertake works outside of the nesting season.
A planned approach should be positive, but only if you take notice of my responses to question one.	The response from question one is noted
But this should include regular planned removal and replacement of trees which are simply too big for city streets.	The Tree section will undertake a proactive approach to retain the tree in its environment. The proactive approach will prevent in future trees becoming too large for their space
absolutely against a planned approach. it's an incentive to contractors to make work for themselves. Unless it's a proven hazard leave it alone.	The proactive approach allows trees to be retained in the urban environment. In places such as parks, trees are left alone as they have room to thrive and are pruned only when hazardous or becoming issue in its space.
More attention should be given to the location of the tree; in some locations more regular pruning may be required.	This individual approach as adopted by the Tree Section
Not sure about this, perhaps the planned approach can be a bit over zealous in that if you only plan to assess a tree every 2 years then there may be pressure to over prune, knowing that you are not going to do anything for another 2 years.	Maintenance of trees on Highways may be considered overzealous however this treatment is to ensure trees are able to be retained in their environment
This question leaves no room for any grey areas as a combination of both planned and reactive seems to be the best way.	This is the approach from the Tree Section as not all trees are suitable for a planned approach
Probably, as long as there is flexibility ie if nothing needs doing, do nothing.	This is the approach from the Tree Section
Although I think some have been forgotten, as they have grown so large that they are blocking light from homes.	Pruning for light is not part of the works the Tree Section will undertake.
Need to recognise that different locations (and different species) need different management regimes.	Agreed, this is the approach from the Tree Section
Should be a mixture of both.	Agreed, this is the approach from the Tree Section

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Trees are not predictable so some reactive approach will be needed e.g. if a branch breaks or if the tree starts to lean towards a building or endangers life. These events may not have formed part of the plan but still need addressing. Of course it is much better to survey and plan for the trees in the borough.. knowing your stock and planning for it's maintenance. But there will still need to be an element of reactive maintenance as well.	Agreed, this is the approach from the Tree Section
<b>Question 3 Part of our tree maintenance programme is to replace the trees that we remove, using the most appropriate tree species and in the most appropriate location. Do you think this approach to tree planting is correct?</b>	
A better variety of trees would be desirable so that they are not just chestnut and sycamore. More cherries which blossom early and perhaps others would be good	The Tree Section ensure that there is a variety of trees when planting based on the character of an area, location etc using the principal of right place right tree
Yes! Because the ornamental cherry trees in my street had not not been pruned for years and were a hazard, until I complained, and they were dealt with. Pruning is necessary on a regular basis.	
What thought and what importance is placed on the selection of tree species? Obviously this is paramount. Less monkey puzzles please.	Tree species are selected on the principal of right tree right place which considers factors such as local character, location, site conditions etc. this is a very considered approach
But trees should be replaced with similar species, not the current approach which seems to favour planting only small trees which will not reach a large size. Trees are supposed to be large.	Using the principal of right tree right place, it is not always possible to plant large trees although we agree this is desirable
do not replace if fail to comply with looking after them.	A process is in place to look after all trees existing and newly planted
WHy not consider more fruit trees. Dmason plus, crab apples, etc - food for humans and birds.	Where appropriate this is considered however the Tree Section do receive a high number of complaints regarding fruit dropping on paths and cars
Plant larger and longer lived species where there is space	Agreed where possible
Replace the trees that we remove is this one for one? You should consider using canopy % loss of the tree when looking at a tree replacement programme	This is not possible as current resources do not allow for an increase in the number of trees in the borough
But a small new tree does not really replace a lost big one	Current resources do not allow for more trees to be planted <u>other than 1 for 1 replacement</u>
As long as there is plenty of variation in tree stock. Leaf colour in particular. I would not want to see the same <u>species predominantly being used over others.</u>	Agreed. Using the principal of right tree right place variety is created
It depends what is meant by appropriate. Planting a mulberry where an oak once stood is not sensical.	The principal of right tree right place detailed in the strategy guides appropriate species
but if there were problems with the previous trees then an alternative should be discussed with concerned residents	Consultation will be undertaken where the character of an area is changed due to the species selection
You replace mature trees which support whole eco systems of nature that are good for us too with tiny unprotected saplings that are routinely destroyed within the year. If you want to kill trees with the excuse you are "replacing" them then replace them with decent sized saplings with good metal fence protection around them or it's just a fraud.	All new trees planted in Southwark have a mesh guard protection the tree from vandalism
My answer would be yes if the comments in question one and two are actioned.	

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this should be done on a one for one basis. Until the council has replaced the last tree it has taken down it should not be allowed to uproot another one.	This is not possible as trees must be felled for genuine reasons. The Tree Section will improve communication regarding when the felled tree will be replaced
I don't think it should just be maintenance. There are some badly placed tree in the borough and these could be removed and trees planted in a more appropriate place. Trees can be a real nuisance if they are in the wrong place.	The principal of right tree right place detailed in the strategy guides appropriate trees for all future plantings
However, I informed the council of a dead tree and I was called to be told that the tree will be removed but no new tree will be planted in it's place as the council has no money for tree planting ! What on earth does that say about what the council are doing with leaseholders money which is collected without fail. Where has that money gone?	No location was provide and we are unable to respond to this. However, all trees felled will be replaced
It is wonderful to see so many trees, please continue to <u>replace them</u>	Replacing felled trees 1 for 1 will continue
Absolutely, some trees were planted in the past that were not appropriate for their location and the opportunity has to be taken to make sensible choices when replacing. Trees are vital for the wellbeing of humans and animals and the environment so must be replaced when necessary.	Agreed
on our estate we want more trees	New trees will only be planted if capital funding is secured with a <u>3 year maintenance programme attached</u>
Perhaps the council could consider replanting with trees <u>which are native but less common, such as the Wild</u>	The principal of right tree right place detailed in the strategy <u>guides all future plantings</u>
Although there are several vacant tree pits in Dayton Grove SE15 2NX which have been vacant for many years	The Tree Section have committed to replace over 200 trees this financial year. If trees have not been replaced, the pit is no longer suitable for a tree using the right tree right place <u>principal</u>
Hay-fever should be taken into account when considering species. Also, whether the the eventual size is appropriate for the location. Potential falling branches should also be considered.	Agreed
But need to consider whether leaving the fallen tree in place may be a better option in some locations. Boles produce shoots and seeds germinate without council intervention.	A fallen tree can be left in the right location
New trees must be protected better. They currently seem to get insufficient staking and grilling. As a result they can get damaged by wind, vandalism, dogs.	All new trees planted in Southwark have a mesh guard prtecton the tree from vandalism
This should be a priority, to avoid gaps in street trees or in parks	Agreed
Yes as long as reasons for the removal of the tree in the first place are taken into account when planting the next tree. Also it might be nice to give local residents the option of choosing the species form a list of suitable trees?	Residents will be consulted on all new trees where the charcter of an area is affected, A list of suitable trees will be provided during the consultation
<b>Question 4 Do you think the way we prioritise our tree works is correct?</b>	
Not when your low priority work is starting to damage private property and our request to have it dealt with is constantly ignored	Damage to priority is work we will undertake
Although overgrown trees can be dangerous in a narrow street.	Agreed
Not sure	

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There are trees that are high priority that you are not aware of. Is there going to be a campaign for the public to let you know if there properties have overhanging trees?	There is currently minimal resource to handle all issues and works are prioritised because of this.
If trees are removed as a high priority they should also be replaced as a high priority. There are too many examples in Southwark where a tree has been removed (even the stump left in some cases) without being replaced.	All trees will be replaced if felled. The strategy has now been altered to ensure tree replacement is treated the same as tree felling
I have complained about trees that are growing horizontally and been sent back artful photos from an angle where you think it is straight. Again it is about knowledge.	We are not aware of this particular issue
Replacement tree planting is not a low priority - this contradicts your strategy!	All trees will be replaced if felled. The strategy has now been altered to ensure tree replacement is treated the same as tree felling
This puts a low value on your tree resource if a tree is lost this should be valued as a high priority in ensuring its replacement is automatic so that your tree resource does	All trees will be replaced if felled. The strategy has now been altered to ensure tree replacement is treated the same as tree felling
Replacement tree planting should be the priority and can be managed alongside emergencies.	All trees will be replaced if felled. The strategy has now been altered to ensure tree replacement is treated the same as tree felling
All sounds like the correct approach. Being pedantic though, how does a tree 'overgrow' if its soul purpose in life is to grow? The term 'overgrown' is quite subjective and misleading.	Tree works are undertaken to retain the tree in its environment
overgrown trees can cause lots of rows over blocked sunlight	It is not within the strategy to prune for blocked light. Current resources do not allow for the Tree Section to prune for this work
There is no such thing as an 'overgrown tree'. Trees cannot 'overgrow', they just grow. Use of this word is inappropriate, unhelpful and misleading.	Overgrown can be based on the context of the tree. Trees are pruned to retain the tree in its location
I say no. But the choices are too black and white. Of course, unsafe trees must be dealt with, but this should not be used as an explanation for works not being done on matters of "lower priority".	Priority works will be removed from the strategy and will be replaced with works we will and will not do. This will remove any grey area in undertaking works
You prioritise felling over replacing.	All trees will be replaced if felled. The strategy has now been altered to ensure tree replacement is treated the same as tree felling
You prioritise killing trees without consultation. You do not protect trees at all. Name ONE tree in Southwark with a protection order on it. How many council street trees, or trees on land the council has sold in recent years, have been destroyed? Roughly, to the nearest 100?	There are a number of trees with Tree Protection Orders. The strategy is separate from the planning process and cannot comment on trees removed on land because of planning decisions
this sounds good but given the devastation undergone in the Camberwell Church Yard over the last year I am skeptical that it is implemented in this way.	The works in the churchyard were implemented within the strategy. The strategy now details that pollarding will be undertaken in winter to avoid pruning in the nesting season and maintain visual amenity of a tree whilst in leaf.
There should be equal priority otherwise healthy trees will be neglected and then they will become a problem. Pruning an overgrown tree that is causing a nuisance is just as important.	This is the approach from the Tree Section
Unless more routine maintenance could prevent the tree getting to a point of emergency. Maybe dealing with some routine pruning would be more beneficial running alongside a prioritisation model.	This is the approach from the Tree Section and does run alongside routine pruning

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You obviously think the way you do things is correct. Would you take any notice if anyone responded to the contrary? Answer me that one...	
you need to talk first to the local tenants and residents association before you decide what trees to take down and give the reasons	Residents will be informed if the proposed felling impacts on the character of an area
But its also important to reduce the size of trees which are blocking light into homes.	Pruning for light is detailed as works we will not do
Should be a mixture. Without routine maintenance you will have more emergencies to deal with because of deteriorating stock.	Agreed
..so long as the replacement is planned in due course - otherwise this is a potential cop out of replacing and hoping no-one will notice...	All trees felled will be replaced
Well sort of but this goes against your question in #3. You can't put tree removal as high priority and then its replacement as low priority when you claim that all trees removed will be replaced. Otherwise there will be a situation where trees are being cut down as high priority and then there's a long delay and the possibility that no tree will eventually be planted to replace it because this is seen as a low priority	Replacement of trees is now considered as important as the felling of trees
<b>Question 5 What do you consider the main issues to be in terms of the way trees are managed within the Borough of Southwark?</b>	
A better balance between planned work and reactive work	The Tree Section implement planned maintenance only where <u>appropriate</u>
The amount that is reoved in maintainance , and the rolling programme which should be stopped..it must be costing afortune and upsets residents wherever it goes. keeping established trees should be a priority, especially in urban renewal like the Aylesbury estate. Rodney Way and the	The rolling programme helps to retain trees in their environment. Many trees would need to be felled if not maintained on a regular basis
Pollarding is usually enough. Trees with low branches need to be cut where the public are walking. I have to walk at an <u>angle in Kirkwood nature reserve.</u>	Agreed. Will will investigate the issue at Kirkwood Nature Reserve
Southwark is very lucky in that there seems to have been a lot of tree planting around 20-30 years ago. These trees are now maturing, and in many cases have large spreading canopies, and are a fantastic asset for Southwark. Trees should be managed in such as way as to maintain and improve these trees and their character.	Agreed however there are conflicts with larger trees that do need to be managed or the tree may need to be felled. Trees are managed in a way as to not have to fell the tree in the future.
cut them more	Trees will only be pruned as necessary either on a planned <u>cycle if appropriate or only when necessary</u>
Southwark relies on public to report any tree defects .If no one reports it the tree pretty much has it plus it is impossible to get through to a person on the phone to report it anyway	We are currently looking into our reporting procedures to ensure the public can easily reach the Tree Section
My concern is that horticulturalists are not being used. it is not enough to chop or trim a tree it needs to be done professionally so that the tree survives and stays healthy and also looks good. Underplanting could also be better.	All work is recommended and performed by qualified arboriculturalists
Loss of large trees most important to amenity and climate change both publically and privately owned, poor young tree management, vandalism by dogs.	The Tree Section aim to retain all trees. The Tree section have implemented a young tree mainteaince programme for all planted trees to ensure the best chance of survival.
The value you put on your tree resource	CAVAT is used to value the tree resource is Southwark



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Maintaining a reasonable level of safety. Making a crowded and busy city habitable	Agreed
It seems a blanket approach is being used rather than a tree by tree approach.	Trees are considered on an individual basis. The Tree Section now commit to replacing all trees that have been felled in the next planting season
making sure that the tree is right for the location . Dealing with the autumn leaf drop	The principal of right tree right place is used for tree planting. There is currently not enough resource to deal with leaf drop and any intervention on leaf drop may impact on the health of the tree.
Ensuring tree protection, maintaining and increasing tree canopy cover in the borough, ensuring that all trees are regularly inspected, with works undertaken only when necessary for sound arboricultural reasons.	Increasing canopy is difficult at this stage as we can only afford to maintain the trees we have. All new trees must be funded from external funding.
Too extreme cutting back of healthy trees	All tree works is undertaken to BS 3998:2010.
In some cases I have seen trees being butchered rather than pruned.	All tree works is undertaken to BS 3998:2010. Tree works are only undertaken to retain the tree in its place
The continuous loss of large mature trees within private development sites.	This is a planning issue in which cannot be commented on
Not replacing lik for like where the species is native.	The principal of right tree right place guides tree planting
they are not pruned enough. problems with roots are not dealt with quickly.	The proactive programme will help restrict root growth on trees that have the potential to cause damage. The adoption of the Tree Pit Design Manual will also assist in preventing issues in the future
Safety / Consideration of trees impact on properties / Environmental impact / Aesthetics and beauty! / Diversity of species	All this is considered during our work
Safety, environmental enhancement, the consideration of the community.	All this is considered during our work
Over pruning of perfectly healthy tress	Trees are pruned to retain the tree in its environment. All work is undertaken for the benefit of the tree stock in the borough. This also may refer to pollarding which will now be undertaken in the winter to not impact on the visual amenity of the tree
The poly is rigid and applied regardless of individual circumstances. Paradoxically, it also applied poorly and inconsistently.	
Indiscriminate pollarding against all good management practice and done during the nesting season which should be illegal. Selling off land with good street trees on to private developers with no protection so the are immediately destroyed. No replacement regime that actually works	Pollarding will now only be undertaken in the winter to address this issue. All trees will be replaced if felled
Trees, such as those on gains ford street are destroyed without good reason.	Trees will only be felled if they are dead, dying or dangerous. The reasons for felling will be made clearer to the public before works are undertaken
Replacements are frequently too young, or are poorly planted and do not survive.	This will be addressed with the 3 year young tree maintenance programme
I frequently encounter trees with low hanging branches which cause pedestrians to duck when walking along pavements. They should be pruned.	Agreed
I think we need a managed programme not just of pruning and pollard ing but actual removal. Some of the larger plane trees would not be out of place in a park but one wonders how long they can be allowed to continue to grow and spread root systems in small streets.	Agreed, the proactive management programme where appropriate will help to address this.

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stop chopping them down. the proactive approach has had a devastating effect on Camberwell Church Yard. A charming orchard has over the last year been reduced to an ugly bald wasteland.	Trees in this churchyard were only felled because they were dangerous
I think it is important that healthy trees are not neglected ie allowed to become overgrown. They just become a nuisance.	healthy trees are only pruned when necessary
None - it seems great	
In general I think it is currently good.	
amenity, public safety, appropriate species, avoiding contractor damage and compaction effects. consultation and publicity	This is considered in all work but there should always be improvement with regards to these
It can all feel a bit haphazard, people turn up and either prune a tree within an inch of it's life or fell a tree while some footpaths get overgrown due to a lack of routine pruning. There is a lack of communication with the public and people living with the trees.	We hope the consultation meetings helped the public to understand why we do work they way we do
I noticed that the pruning undertaken this year was done with a very heavy hand and I must say I felt very sorry for the state of the trees, they way they had been hacked at was disgusting, absolutely no love was shown for the trees by who ever you paid to deal with them. They certainly were not true gardeners whoever they were.	This most liekly refers to pollarding which must be undertaken if a tree was previously managed in this way. Pollarding will only be done in the winter to not affect the visual amenity of the tree
You have an excellent approach to tree maintenance	
Maintaining the green and pleasant nature of south Southwark and improving north Southwark as much as possible by introducing trees where you can	The north of the borough is the focus if funding for new trees is secured
The right trees are not planted in the right places. In parts of SE1 5PX for example, there are mature plane trees VERY Close to private houses. These pose risk to the fabric of the houses and therefore of legal recourse by insurers against the council.	Trees planted close to buildings is the reason why trees are managed in way that people would consider to be too harsh. The issue of narrow footways is now addressed in the strategy
there is no meetings on the estates that the trees are on its just the turn up and do the work and walk away which is wrong	We are improving in this area with the Housing department where they will soon be communicating all works to trees on estates
In Dulwich Park, promised tree works take too long to happen.	Works are scheduled in priority order and therefore Dulwich Park works were not undertaken as the tree stock there is healthy with no immediate safety issues
My main complaint is about the way young trees are managed. I have seen a number of trees e.g. end of Havil St in small green on left before S/hampton Way/ on d'Eynsford estate which had insufficient watering after planting and which in consequence died.	This is being address with the young tree maintenance programme
making sure that general road or services maintenance causes as little root disturbance as possible.	Trees are proactively managed to address this
Some trees in public areas, such as the alleyway between Astbury Road and Astbury Road and the trees around the hoodies benches at the North East corner of Montague Square are left to grow too big, preventing sunlight into homes & gardens & balconies.	Pruning for light is included in works we will not do as current resource does not allow works to be undertaken

Consultation Comments	Officer Response
Inappropriate species for their location. there seems to be no consideration of hay-fever when choosing new species. Much as I love them, we need less, or better managed, plane trees.	Plane trees are important for the character of an area and this is considered when planting trees. It is not necessarily the immediate tree that influences hayfever but rather the wider tree stock of London and Southwark. Winds carry the spores that affect people and it is impossible to determine exactly what tree the spores are from.
Lack of flexibility of approach.	All departures from the strategy are discussed with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Environment & Recycling
Not to fell mature trees in redevelopment schemes like the Heygate and Aylesbury.	This will be a planning decision
Starting point should be to sustain the existing tree population and ensure timely replacement. Every tree lost is a reduction in air quality, as well as the visual impact	Agreed
Clear instructions to the public about what your planned works are, what the reasons are for doing it and who to contact if you disagree. Also clear information on the website about TPOs, disease and what constitutes a high to low priority for works.	All work schedules are on the website. The TPO register will be completed in 2013
Trees MUST be managed by people with knowledge of trees and not by people who sit in office managing peoples. We need people who know their stuff on the ground and can form policies based on their knowledge.	All Tree Officers and contractors are suitably qualified
ALL trees in southwark that are on council land should be managed carefully. Community-led projects such as Cleaner, Greener, Safer should not be allowed to make decisions about trees without some expert input from the tree dept (DKH Wood is a very good example of how not to go about a tree-based CGS project... the head of trees didn't even know about the plan to chop the entire wood down and re-plant with pampas grass until a concerned member of the public contacted them... this must not happen again).	Agreed. We are currently improving our internal communication procedures
Suitable trees should be trees that will survive future drought, fungus attack etc i.e. clever planting not emotional	Agreed in the principal of right tree right place
Also need to have contractors who are knowledgeable about the subject and who are responsible for maintaining any trees that have been planted (again DKH Wood and Stephen Charles a very good example of how not to do things.. lots of money wasted and contractor not held to account for bad planting and death of loads of tree saplings)	All contractors are suitably qualified. All contractors will be responsible for the planting of trees for 3 years
Lost street trees are not replaced. Many tree pits have been covered up in recent years and not reopened.	This will not occur going forward unless the tree pit is not suitable for a tree. Another location will be found in replacement
Are the road and pavement contractors paid for every hole they cover up ? If so, are they too eager to cover the tree pits or are they unable to recognize them ? If pits are covered up for health and safety reasons, why have some been covered with matching paving slabs ? This is an unnecessary expense or a deliberate permanent closure of a tree pit. There are examples of this in my neighbourhood.	No. The hole is covered to prevent a trip hazard. We are now implementing a process where the hole will not be covered unless the pit is not suitable for a new tree because of various factors
listening to residents when they try and talk to you about trees	
<b>Question 6 What improvements would you make to the way trees are managed in the future?</b>	

Consultation Comments	Officer Response
The policy should be to always replace destroyed trees. For example 2 trees have been knocked down and removed by building contractors in Chancel Street and one in Burrell Street.	This will be implemented going forward
by providing as services to clients as and when needed rather than set times of the year. I have lived in my property over 5 years and it has got to a point where it is overgrown, blocking out the sunlight and I am receiving complaints from both sides of my neighbours	Pruning for light is not included works
Urban trees planted in streets and pavements will face increasing threats in the future from climate change/drought, the increasing effect of urban heat islands due to urbanisation and increasing numbers of pests and diseases. Southwark should take care to mitigate against this by planting a much wider variety of genera and species than currently is the case. Planting can also be future-proofed, by identifying new species to plant which are currently well adapted to environments with similar stresses to those found in current (and predicted future) urban environment. See the work of Henrik Sjoman in Sweden:	Agreed
ensure cans and place sign with fine if people urine or leave mess in potted areas of plants, peckham needs to be looked at specifically you have already looked after dulwich	This will be looked at with the Community Safety Team
cut them every 2 years	Trees will continue to be pruned as required
Check regularly by areas maybe community wardens could do this or housing officers for that area	We will look into this
Better maintenance on a regular basis ends up costing less. More fruit trees. More attractive trees. Native trees.	The principle of right tree right place will guide future tree plantings
Publish an annual tally of condition, species, gains and losses.	This is not possible as trees are surveyed every 3-5 years as per recommended guidelines
To ensure your tree resource is valued utilising a system such as CAVAT and i- tree eco. To ensure you make links internally and externally and you are linking public health and well being to your tree resource	This is detailed in the strategy
<b>Question 7 What further communication/promotion could the Council implement on the way it manages the tree stock within the Borough?</b>	
Allow residents to look after their trees - Tree Warden Scheme run by the tree council	A Tree Warden scheme is now detailed in the strategy and will be implemented in 2013
supporting people with trees in gardens or centres with guidance and advice to look after them	The implementation of a Tree Warden scheme will help deliver this type of service
Involvement with local groups / tenants etc..	The implementation of a Tree Warden scheme will help deliver this type of service
I was very surprised that your report ignored the existence of Nunhead Cemetery (52 acres, almost all woodland) and the Friends of Nunhead Cemetery who have considerable experience in tree management.	Woodland management is now included as an action to develop specific plans for woodland areas

<b>Consultation Comments</b>	<b>Officer Response</b>
Tell good news stories when you plant new trees - let people know.	Agreed, the good news needs to be communicated further