

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Tree Management Plan

Stakeholder Consultation Statement

Persons consulted as part of the Consultation

The draft Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Tree Management Plan was subject to a five weeks' stakeholder consultation between the 7 November 2022 and the 12 December 2022. The table below provides a list of all stakeholders who were directly consulted.

Stakeholder list
Tree Advisory Board
Friends of Epsom & Ewell Parks
Friends of Horton Country Park
Epsom Common Association
Lower Mole Partnership
Epsom & Ewell Residents Associations
Main Political Parties
Sustainable Epsom & Ewell
Butterfly Conservation
Jockey Club
London Borough of Sutton
Surrey County Council
Epsom & Ewell Biodiversity Action Group

The Council notified all stakeholders via email of the consultation and included a copy of the draft Tree Management Plan. Stakeholders were asked for their view on the plan, with four questions (set out below) helping to guide responses.

- Are the guiding principles clear and appropriate?
- Do you have any comments on the proposed tree planting sites?
- Can you offer any support towards undertaking the tree planting and establishment?
- Any further comments on the plan?

Summary of the main points arising from consultation responses

We received 10 responses relating to the Epsom and Ewell Borough Council Tree Management Plan, of which 2 responses were on behalf of more than one organisation.

‘An inspirational document which describes clearly EEBC’s plans for managing trees’ –

Friends of Auriol Park

‘Very welcome and well-presented initiative’ –

Epsom Town RA

‘Yes to guiding principles being clear and appropriate. The Plan gives a thorough overview of the issues, particularly with regards to the guiding principle of ‘right tree, in the right place, for the right reason’ –

Surrey Countryside Partnership

‘Generally seems clear and appropriate. Very pleasing that the Council intend to increase the number of trees in the borough in a properly considered fashion’ -

Epsom Common Association

- Positive feedback was received on the introduction of a Tree Management Plan and on the document in general.
- 5 responses included the offer of support for undertaking tree planting/establishment or support for seeking funding. A record of those offering support will be kept for consideration when the detailed planting plans are made.
- There was general support for tree planting locations, but also questions raised about planting numbers at some sites, size of trees to be planted and clarification on planting location at sites. The Plan does set out that this is an initial indication on what could be possible and that for agreed sites it is the intention that a more detailed planting plan will follow with further detail. These comments will be taken into consideration as part of the more detailed planning.
- There were comments received relating to trees & new development. The Plan sets out that a new Local Plan is in development and these comments have been fed on to the planning policy team to consider.

- Comments were received regarding existing planning processes including on Tree Preservation Orders and Tree Replacement Notices. These comments have been shared with the planning development team. The Plan sets out that the Council follows Government guidance in favouring voluntary compliance and cooperation, along with an element of self-regulation before considering the need for utilising enforcement powers.
- Comments received on memorial planting were noted and, where appropriate, will be considered as part of the site identification for memorial planting. Options for memorial planting were put to the Residents Group on 5 September 2022 and the preferred approach, as set out in the Plan, agreed.
- Where minor amendments and additions were proposed, these have been incorporated into the Plan where appropriate.

Next Steps

Following consideration of the comments received it is proposed that the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Tree Management Plan be presented to the Environment and Safer Communities Committee for adoption.