



## Adopt-a-Tree Scheme

***Please read the below information before completing the online form***

### INFORMATION

#### **Who can request a tree?**

The scheme is open to any individual, community group or business, who wishes to plant a tree in the verge outside their property.

#### **Can I choose the variety of tree?**

Yes, you can choose from 7 varieties of tree under the Council's Adopt-a-Tree scheme:

- 1. Alder (alder glutinosa);**
- 2. Cherry (prunus avium);**
- 3. Field Maple (acer campestre);**
- 4. Rowan (sorbus aucuparia);**
- 5. Common Beech (fagus sylvatica);**
- 6. Hornbeam (carpinus betulus);**
- or 7. Whitebeam (sorbus aria).**

#### **What does it cost to Adopt-a-Tree?**

Trees cost either **£153.00** inc. VAT, or **£167.50** inc. VAT, depending on preferred tree variety. This includes: Supply & plant 1 tree, installing stakes, ties, & watering system (if required) + VAT.

#### **Why can't I buy my own tree and plant it myself, or get the Council to plant it?**

Wirral Council will not allow the general public to excavate the highway or grass verges. Our trees are specific sizes and varieties sourced from a reputable supplier, and our arboriculture contractor is professionally qualified and insured to undertake this task has safety awareness training and is conscious of the inherent dangers due to incorrectly located underground equipment, and risks to passers-by that could be affected.

#### **My road has a flagged (or tarmac) footway, rather than a grass verge, can I still Adopt-a-Tree?**

No. Excavation of the solid footway would be required prior to planting, so would need to be undertaken separately by the Council's highway maintenance contractor, as would any 'making good' of the footway afterwards. The additional cost of this could amount to several hundred pounds, so may make the Adopt-a-Tree scheme unaffordable for many residents, therefore it has been decided not to offer the Adopt-a-Tree scheme for planting in solid footways.

#### **I want my Adopted Tree to be planted on the verge outside my property (or my neighbour's property) to discourage neighbours or visitors from parking there, can they object?**

The Council will not uphold objections from neighbours, provided the tree is not being planted outside your neighbour's property. Where planting is borderline (between properties), as the applicant, you are responsible for ensuring adjacent owners are in agreement, and you should provide documentary evidence to the Council of such when you submit your Adopt-a-Tree application.

#### **When will my Adopted Tree be planted?**

Tree planting is usually carried out from October – December, when trees are dormant, as this is more likely to give a young tree the best chance of survival, but (depending on weather conditions) planting can last through to March.

#### **What if my Adopted Tree dies is vandalised or otherwise requires attention?**

There are no guarantees that your tree will survive, however the stock supplied will be of high quality and will be planted correctly. Once planted, the Council cannot control what happens to the tree during its establishment, but provided it is watered regularly during dry weather, there is no horticultural reason why your tree should not establish successfully. However the tree could be destroyed by a vehicle impact, or vandalism, and in these situations the Council will not take responsibility for trees that are lost to these or other events leading to losses.

**Who will be responsible for maintaining my Adopted Tree once it is planted?**

Once planted in a highway location, the tree will form part of Wirral's tree asset, and will be maintained by the Council.

This includes: Supply & plant 1 tree, installing stakes, ties, & watering system (if required) + VAT.

**Why can't I buy my own tree and plant it myself, or get the Council to plant it?**

Wirral Council will not allow the general public to excavate the highway or grass verges. Our trees are specific sizes and varieties sourced from a reputable supplier, and our arboriculture contractor is professionally qualified and insured to undertake this task has safety awareness training and is conscious of the inherent dangers due to incorrectly located underground equipment, and risks to passers-by that could be affected.

**My road has a flagged (or tarmac) footway, rather than a grass verge, can I still Adopt-a-Tree?**

No. Excavation of the solid footway would be required prior to planting, so would need to be undertaken separately by the Council's highway maintenance contractor, as would any 'making good' of the footway afterwards. The additional cost of this could amount to several hundred pounds, so may make the Adopt-a-Tree scheme unaffordable for many residents, therefore it has been decided not to offer the Adopt-a-Tree scheme for planting in solid footways.

**I want my Adopted Tree to be planted on the verge outside my property (or my neighbour's property) to discourage neighbours or visitors from parking there, can they object?**

The Council will not uphold objections from neighbours, provided the tree is not being planted outside your neighbour's property. Where planting is borderline (between properties), as the applicant, you are responsible for ensuring adjacent owners are in agreement, and you should provide documentary evidence to the Council of such when you submit your Adopt-a-Tree application.

**When will my Adopted Tree be planted?**

Tree planting is usually carried out from October – December, when trees are dormant, as this is more likely to give a young tree the best chance of survival, but (depending on weather conditions) planting can last through to March.

**What if my Adopted Tree dies is vandalised or otherwise requires attention?**

There are no guarantees that your tree will survive, however the stock supplied will be of high quality and will be planted correctly. Once planted, the Council cannot control what happens to the tree during its establishment, but provided it is watered regularly during dry weather, there is no horticultural reason why your tree should not establish successfully. However the tree could be destroyed by a vehicle impact, or vandalism, and in these situations the Council will not take responsibility for trees that are lost to these or other events leading to losses.

**Who will be responsible for maintaining my Adopted Tree once it is planted?**

Once planted in a highway location, the tree will form part of Wirral's tree asset, and will be maintained by the Council.