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<p>I am pasting below the For Trees comments. Just last Monday 16th December, Chris Packham stated on the BBC Today Programme, when talking about HS2, that it was ridiculous to allege that planting 3 saplings for each old tree felled would compensate for the loss of sequestration of carbon. It takes 100 years for a sapling to grow to a mature tree the size of those trees being felled by Mancoed in Royden Park etc. I have been involved in planting thousands of trees both in Spain and in the Middle East to stabilise soil erosion, attract cooler weather and improve the amenity. Fig. 1 of your plan? Who are your totally independent arboriculturists - name them. Can we see the paper trail leading to the felling of the trees in Ashton Park November 2018? Box 1: who is the independent professional surveyor? Box 2: TPOs should be put on all mature trees, NOT just on those trees which are important to local surroundings. And then enforce them. What is the contract with Mancoed and how much profit do they make from chipping the timber or selling it to Drax. Quote: Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Councils have an obligation to protect trees. By felling and removing parts of trees, Councils are already operating in breach of the law. The Wildlife and Countryside act 1991 makes it an offence to carry out works on trees wilfully during the nesting season. Probable bat roosts are being felled with no bat surveys being carried out. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act of 2006 states that Councils and local authorities have a statutory duty to protect biodiversity, as is the law according to the European and Habitats Directive; making environmental protection a legal obligation. The Council has a duty to make provision for the preservation of trees and woodlands. According to the Aarhus Convention to which Britain is a signatory, there is an obligation to educate the public about the natural environment. This education should be a TRUTHFUL reflection of the risks of tree loss, and the realistic effects on climate change from removing our mature trees. There is a lack of education as to the VALUE of trees and this extends to private loggers and felling companies touting for business at schools, care homes, etc. A blanket TPO approach is necessary with full and effective</p>	<p>Comment: The strategy has undergone considerable change since it's public consultation form to provide more ambitious and clear goals. By committing to plant 210,000 trees over the course of the strategy, we will replace many times over the number of trees unavoidably lost due to essential maintenance. The number of replacement trees planted will be determined in relation to the size of the original tree felled in order that the climate benefits will be the same within a reasonable time frame. Decision makers on tree work are either internal tree officers or external tree surveyors, both of whom have extensive expertise with regards to tree maintenance and management and our tree officers always check contractors' recommendations. A comprehensive review of TPOs and their enforcement will ensure those who unlawfully remove trees will be prosecuted and that any new TPOs deemed necessary are introduced. Trees are never felled for economic gain, and one of the outcomes of the strategy is to ensure the protection of existing trees, woodlands and hedgerows, as well as the planting of new ones. The strategy also states that any planned work on trees or woodland on council land will take account of biodiversity issues for example bird nests and bat roosts are screened for. In terms of educating the general public, the strategy commits to sharing information more widely with interested groups, individuals and the general public and encouraging residents to get involved with local tree planting efforts to raise awareness of the importance of trees. All appropriate guidance including the Tree Council's toolkit will be followed when responding to diseases such as ash dieback, as detailed in Appendix 5 of the Tree Strategy, and the Woodland Trust have been involved with the strategy as an external partner. The first outcome of the strategy is to support a survey of all Wirral's trees to form a single data base using i-tree eco and i-tree canopy surveys, and CAVAT valuations are being considered.</p>

prosecutions for tree removal. These prosecutions need to be extended to planning development sites to prevent land being bought and mass vegetation felling and clearance routinely carried out PRIOR to submitting planning applications. Tree planting is essential to the survival of our planet; spending public monies on the felling and removal of trees is a destructive and out-dated concept that has allowed profiteering of timber companies at the expense of the health of the public (40,000 people in our country die of polluted air- tree-felling removes our filtering systems) and our ecology. In accordance with recommendations by the Woodland Trust; NO diseased timber should be chipped or transported from site. Studies show that plant disease is best tackled by natural regeneration (Nature Ecology & Evolution). Further to this, no logging companies should be employed by the Council to fell trees/ remove limbs and profit from harvesting public trees. Nor should members of the public be allowed to harvest felled timbers from sites. Tree-care should remain 'in-house' with Council workers CARING for mature trees; fencing them or supporting them where appropriate, but essentially allowing them to grow to their NATURAL shapes and states to include all the associated ecology. Leaves should be swept and mulched NOT blown with loud polluting petrol-guzzling apparatus. The HSE (Health and Safety Executive) now recognise that any 'risk' below 1 in 1 million is classed as insignificant or negligible risk: HSE have death or serious injury from trees as 1 in 150 million. Mature trees provide an invaluable asset in the fight against climate change, flood prevention, O2 production, carbon sequestration, pollution filtration etc. and bring overwhelming benefits to local communities in terms of both clean air for public health and quality of life for residents. Their contribution to bio-diversity is tremendously significant. The felling of mature trees for accident prevention purposes is entirely misguided, serving as much purpose as would knocking down all buildings in order to prevent the potential for falling roof tiles and masonry in a storm. Researchers discovered that older trees (around 120years+) didn't grow old, weaken, bow and become fragile then slow down - the opposite happened: older trees grow more quickly are full of energy and are highly productive and more effective carbon sequesters than young trees. (Wohlleben, 2016) Wirral Council

<p>needs to survey all its trees with a view to their PRESERVATION; such as using i-tree and measuring CAVAT values (Capital Asset Value of Amenity Trees). We have to learn from good practice (for example Madrid's Tree Strategy and management where streets and parks are lined with many hollow veteran trees fitted with 'bat caging' (to admit bats but protect from predators or humans) and tall trees on roundabouts are anchored with cables, etc). Looking after our mature trees allows the ecology to look after itself (48).</p>	
<p>At present communication with the general public and with tree felling operatives is very poor nor do any sanctions seem to be being applied when TPOs are blatantly flouted (49).</p>	<p>Comment: The strategy will have an open and clear communication strategy that enables public information, advice and support to be provided, in a consistent manner. A comprehensive review of TPOs and their enforcement will ensure those who unlawfully remove trees will be prosecuted.</p> <p>Action: Outcome 9 of the strategy is to improve communication channels between WBC and residents to ensure advanced notice and reasoning for essential works are given across multiple platforms from temporary signs on site to information online.</p>
<p>I think you should give residents an opportunity to have their opinions listened to . . . more awareness is needed - I didn't know about this survey till it popped up on the Intranet (51).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Don't depend on internet contact. MANY older people don't use it at all (52).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Please communicate better. Notify residents well in advance if a tree is to be felled and it isn't an emergency. The shock factor is very disturbing and could be alleviated with notice and a gentle explanation. Whenever possible, share information such as tree surveys. Lack of transparency leads to suspicion of wrongdoing unnecessarily (59).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>I think you need to have a proper consultation with groups and organisations of areas that you were proposing to take trees down from and do it as a community rather than taking away trees full of heritage for no reason (61).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>It'd be great to be kept informed about the implementation of this strategy (63).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>All people must be involved but especially the older person and schools (67).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

No (68).	Noted.
<p>Communication on the Tree Strategy has been appalling. Parks Friends Groups and the Parks Friends Forum are key stakeholders in the Tree Strategy (it says so and rightly). But Wirral Planners, the Head of Parks and the Friends Forum did not inform Friends Groups until the Friends of Ashton Park asked where the Tree Strategy had got to. It seems it had been rushed out before the General Election was announced without telling anybody. There seems to be evidence that the strategy was not finalised for consultation but was sent out unfinished. Is this so? Where is the publicity in the papers from the PR Section. Is there a plan for dissemination of the consultation draft. If not why not? The questionnaire is also poor as it asks the questions that the drafter feels should be asked and does not give the freedom for respondents to make constructive comments and criticism - for instance there is no "Any other comments" box (70).</p>	<p>Comment: The public consultation was made available online for any member of the general public to comment on for 6 weeks and was devised in close collaboration with key groups and stakeholders. The strategy has undergone considerable revision in collaboration with our key stakeholders</p> <p>Since the consultation version, taking this public consultation feedback into account as well. The survey included a series of open and closed questions to determine levels of agreement with the proposed tree maintenance and planting proposals, as well as provide opportunity for comment on how to ensure a biodiverse and resilient tree stock, where to plant new trees, and how to improve communications.</p> <p>Action: Ensure continued effective communication with all stakeholders throughout the process of producing, consulting on, and finalising the strategy. Ensure there is a free comments box for any additional comments respondents wish to make at the end of the survey.</p>
Keep talking about how important this is (71).	Noted.
No communication at all. Totally disgusted! (75).	Noted.
The public are rarely notified when trees are due to be felled. Notices would give people chance to have their say (76).	Noted.
There doesn't seem to be ANY communication to the public - the first thing most people know is that a tree has been cut down and when people try and contact the Council there is no answer. Apart from on line, the best way to contact the public is through local newspapers, public buildings like libraries or interested groups in parks and gardens (78).	Noted.
Land use is a key part of tackling the climate emergency. I am interested in sustainable transport so I see big opportunities for repurposing land that is currently given over for storage and movement of private cars. Could we go as far as removing certain roads to allow for biodiversity to flourish? Roads but through our green space. If a road could be removed or reduced to a walking/cycling track then nature can be given much more space to do its thing. I have ideas on roads that would fit this approach :-) Likewise, if car ownership drops, then car parks will be available for	Noted.

<p>use - this may be ideal for either tree planting or housing depending on the location (81).</p>	
<p>More should be done to engage the public (83).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Needs better publication I only found out by chance (86).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>It's not reaching enough people! (88).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>I think the need for this strategy should be publicised more widely, with visual presentations in local papers and public buildings. Not enough people realise how vitally important trees are (89).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>There is inadequate and biased information being given out to 'Friends of' groups implying that surveys are overdue and that trees are dangerous. The Council has to take responsibility to educate and tell the truth about the REALITY of risk and the reality of dangers of losing our vital tree network. Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Councils have an obligation to protect trees. By felling and removing parts of trees, Councils are already operating in breach of the law. The Wildlife and Countryside act 1991 makes it an offense to carry out works on trees wilfully during the nesting season. Probable bat roosts are being felled with no bat surveys being carried out. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act of 2006 states that Councils and local authorities have a statutory duty to protect biodiversity, as is the law according to the European and Habitats Directive; making environmental protection a legal obligation. The Council has a duty to make provision for the preservation of trees and woodlands. According to the Aarhus Convention to which Britain is a signatory, there is an obligation to educate the public about the natural environment. This education should be a TRUTHFUL reflection of the risks of tree loss, and the realistic effects on climate change from removing our mature trees. There is a lack of education as to the VALUE of trees and this extends to private loggers and felling companies touting for business at schools, care homes, etc. A blanket TPO approach is necessary with full and effective prosecutions for tree removal. These prosecutions need to be extended to planning development sites to prevent land being bought and mass vegetation felling and clearance routinely carried out PRIOR to submitting planning applications. Tree planting is essential to the survival of our planet; spending public monies on the felling and removal of trees is a destructive and out-dated concept that has</p>	<p>Comment: Protecting, preserving, and expanding Wirral's tree stock is a key priority of the Tree Strategy. Trees are only felled where necessary for essential maintenance if there is a genuine risk of them collapsing. The safety of our residents is paramount thus we must be proactive, but the risk is being managed proportionally. WBC follows the guidance of the National Tree Safety Group (supported by the Health and Safety Executive). Felling is never carried out for financial gain. The strategy acknowledges that WBC is bound by the "biodiversity duty" which states that in exercising its functions it must have regard for conserving biodiversity (Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006). The strategy also states that any planned work on trees or woodland on council land will take account of biodiversity issues for example bird nests and bat roosts are screened for. In terms of educating the general public, the strategy commits to sharing information more widely with interested groups, individuals and the general public and encouraging residents to get involved with local tree planting efforts.</p> <p>WBC will only fell trees when they are dangerous and there is a risk of people being injured, or disease would have adverse impact on the remaining stock. A tree is considered dangerous if it is in very poor condition, for example because of a significant or notifiable disease or if it is structurally unsound.</p> <p>WBC is committed to protecting and increasing biodiversity and will therefore plant a wider range of genera and species and encourage natural regeneration where possible. The strategy also states that any planned work on trees or woodland on council land will take account of biodiversity issues for example bird nests and bat roosts are screened for. All staff dealing with trees whether in a planning, landscape, design, highway, safety or operational context will hold the relevant</p>

allowed profiteering of timber companies at the expense of the health of the public (40,000 people in our country die of polluted air- tree-felling removes our filtering systems) and our ecology. In accordance with recommendations by the Woodland Trust; NO diseased timber should be chipped or transported from site. Studies show that plant disease is best tackled by natural regeneration (Nature Ecology & Evolution). Further to this, no logging companies should be employed by the Council to fell trees/ remove limbs and profit from harvesting public trees. Nor should members of the public be allowed to harvest felled timbers from sites. Tree-care should remain 'in-house' with Council workers CARING for mature trees; fencing them or supporting them where appropriate, but essentially allowing them to grow to their NATURAL shapes and states to include all the associated ecology. Leaves should be swept and mulched NOT blown with loud polluting petrol-guzzling apparatus. The HSE (Health and Safety Executive) now recognise that any 'risk' below 1 in 1 million is classed as insignificant or negligible risk: HSE have death or serious injury from trees as 1 in 150 million. Mature trees provide an invaluable asset in the fight against climate change, flood prevention, O2 production, carbon sequestration, pollution filtration etc. and bring overwhelming benefits to local communities in terms of both clean air for public health and quality of life for residents. Their contribution to bio-diversity is tremendously significant. The felling of mature trees for accident prevention purposes is entirely misguided, serving as much purpose as would knocking down all buildings in order to prevent the potential for falling roof tiles and masonry in a storm. Researchers discovered that older trees (around 120years+) didn't grow old, weaken, bow and become fragile then slow down - the opposite happened: older trees grow more quickly are full of energy and are highly productive and more effective carbon sequesters than young trees. (Wohlleben, 2016)Wirral Council needs to survey all its trees with a view to their PRESERVATION; such as using i-tree and measuring CAVAT values (Capital Asset Value of Amenity Trees). We have to learn from good practice (for example Madrid's Tree Strategy and management where streets and parks are lined with many hollow veteran trees fitted with 'bat caging' (to admit bats but protect from predators or humans) and tall trees on

skills, experience and qualifications to undertake their particular roles and that our skilled ranger will train others in woodland management skills. A comprehensive review of TPOs and their enforcement will ensure those who unlawfully remove trees are prosecuted and that any new TPOs deemed necessary are introduced. Deadwood is left in situ where it is safe and possible to do so, particularly if it is judged to be ecologically valuable for invertebrates and will only be removed if there are safety concerns. The first outcome of the strategy is to support a survey of all Wirral's trees to form a single data base using i-tree eco and i-tree canopy surveys, and CAVAT valuations are being considered. Street planting on marginal land such as grassy verges is a key part of the strategy. In terms of educating the general public, the strategy commits to sharing information more widely with interested groups, individuals and the general public and encouraging residents to get involved with local tree planting efforts to raise awareness of the importance of trees. By committing to plant 210,000 trees over the course of the strategy, we will replace many times over the number of trees unavoidably lost due to essential maintenance. All appropriate guidance including the Tree Council's toolkit will be followed when responding to diseases such as ash dieback, as detailed in Appendix 5 of the Tree Strategy, and the Woodland Trust have been involved with the strategy as an external partner. Trees are never felled for economic gain, and one of the outcomes of the strategy is to ensure the protection of existing trees, woodlands and hedgerows, as well as the planting of new ones.

<p>roundabouts are anchored with cables, etc). Looking after our mature trees allows the ecology to look after itself (92).</p>	
<p>It is non-existent at present and there is no opportunity for residents to have their opinions heard (94).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>I consider the council to have proceeded with tree felling without any consultation outrageous. By the time the public are aware of what is being done , it is too late for people to take action. I have asked and will ask again why the council is wasting money on this work when they could be following positive procedures. I have never had the courtesy of a reply to any of my concerns (95).</p>	<p>Comment: Trees are only felled where necessary for essential maintenance if there is a genuine risk of them collapsing. The safety of our residents is paramount thus we must be proactive, but the risk is being managed proportionally. Outcome 9 of the strategy is to improve communication channels between WBC and residents to ensure advanced notice and reasoning for essential works are given across multiple platforms from temporary signs on site to information online.</p> <p>Action: WBC will develop effective communication channels using both online and paper-based platforms as well as face-to-face local meetings to support the strategy and effectively communicate about the occurrence of and reasoning for planned works. WBC will share this information more widely with interested groups, individuals and the general public.</p>
<p>WBC wants to raise awareness re tree management but had already failed to widely publicise this tree strategy. There weren't any paper copies in libraries until residents chased that up. People without internet can't comment. Did WBC use the Wirral Globe? Why weren't paper posters distributed to all friends groups / Community organisations for their notice boards? (97).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Residents should be involved with decisions about our trees. Those in the public domain are our collective assets. The strategy could adopt ideas put forward by Michael Gove when he was Environment Minister, e.g. public consultation on the future of street trees. We could involve schools and places of education, community groups and care homes for example, in understanding how trees contribute to our environment and well being, and enable them to get involved in planting hedging, trees and orchards on and in their localities (101).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Maybe individuals or companies could be invited to sponsor an additional tree in remembrance of someone in other places than just cemeteries. I would also like to see high hedges (if possible) on a road/motorway/railway bridge, somewhere in the borough that has repeated attempted or successful suicides, as an experiment to see if</p>	<p>Noted</p>

<p>this reduces this type of incidents on our roads/rail services a that point (105).</p>	
<p>Yes, say nothing (106).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Council needs to involve communities more actively. We need as many trees as possible so can there be community level involvement and support for local initiatives? I have been delighted to see groups of people take over small areas and plant on them but some of us don't have the skills - help us! Please can we have access to Rake Lane Cemetery. This was my tree place until I was locked out by the double gates. We must make areas available to everyone! (108).</p>	<p>Comment: The strategy commits to sharing information more widely with interested groups, individuals and the general public and encouraging residents to get involved with local tree planting efforts to raise awareness of the importance of trees.</p>
<p>What the public see are reports, strategies and lots of words, but very little 'face-to-public' communication. In other words - real communication. There needs to be more of that as 'the Public' are tired of meaningless words (110).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Have seen very little about it (111).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Most people are unaware of the extent of the felling that Wirral Council has recently, and continues, to perform. They will only be aware in their own area that they immediately see. Any challenge to the council is met with a re-confirmation that the council is protecting the public from risk etc under their 'duty of care'. As stated earlier, it is not a matter of communicating the rationale that trees need to be felled to protect the council from litigation etc,... the strategy needs to be dramatically re-assessed to one of protection and tree care. This is the 'councils duty of care in this climate emergency and natural habitat loss for so many reasons. Surveys should initially be to identify trees with potential issues and then a further review of each tree identified to put in place protection measures instead of felling. There should be a clear route where the public can see what is being surveyed, what recommendations are being made and one that takes into account the public desire to protect and maintain existing mature trees (113).</p>	<p>Comment: Outcome 9 of the strategy is to improve communication channels between WBC and residents to ensure advanced notice and reasoning for essential works are given across multiple platforms from temporary signs on site to information online.</p> <p>Action: WBC will develop effective communication channels using both online and paper-based platforms as well as face-to-face local meetings to support the strategy and effectively communicate about the occurrence of and reasoning for planned works. WBC will share this information more widely with interested groups, individuals and the general public.</p>
<p>Publication in local press would be good (116).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Only heard about it via email which went to my junk folder (117).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Schools and colleges need to be advised and targeted as the students are the future (118).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>People should be informed about work to be undertaken - I am aware of "tree huggers" locally who have interrupted and stopped council</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

workers dealing with trees in my neighbourhood and if people were informed about the reasons why work was being done then maybe this would stop these disruptors (119).	
No (120).	Noted.
Employ more eco officers to visit schools and educate children not just in primary, but also secondary schools where interest in the environment is low (121).	Noted.
Only that in areas where vandalism is a problem, give the residence a stake in it by letting them pick the tree they want (out of a suitable list suitable for the area) They then might protect it (122).	Noted.
Work with local groups and keep residents informed about what you are doing and why. You need to do this via different media and local associations to ensure your message gets out to as many as possible (129).	Noted.
What on earth does this mean??? (130).	Comment: The question asked whether respondents had any thoughts on how communications around tree work could be improved.
Communication needs to be wide ranging and continuous - people forget unless the issue is revisited regularly (134).	Noted.
The general public need to be made aware of all potential tree planting programs and the long term maintenance care costs. Some varieties of tree may look beautiful as young saplings but can grow at an alarming rate and cause more problems than they solve (135).	Noted.
Using podcasts could be a useful additional means of communication with the public. Put links to these on other sites e.g. conservation groups, local history groups etc Written information and information that is only available on the council website is probably insufficient to reach many members of the community who have an interest in caring for trees and green spaces (136).	Noted.
I was expecting a free text box to comment on specific matters but there is not one hence I post my general comments here. 1. I see the 10% increase as lacking ambition - it should be higher and there should also be a stretch target. 2. The 10% target would be more understandable if declared in terms of the hectares / acres it represents. 3. The '2-trees-planted-per-one-felled' is also lacking ambition - if local manufacturers can manage 3 per tree felled then we should at least match that. 4. It should be really easy for residents to get involved in planting in order to save money on council tax,	Noted.

<p>especially planting whips and feathers. The strategy talks vaguely about community groups but I would not know who that means for me. How would anybody get involved? There should be a very clear and simple method of residents getting involved in planting. 5. Landowners who contacted the council to try to sell their green belt land for housebuilding should be given the opportunity to give their land for free planting if they can't be bothered to farm it (137).</p>	
<p>If the council are interested in our new tree nursery business in Wirral and maybe purchasing young trees from us, we can be contacted on. Cliff. 07866368355 (138).</p>	Noted.
<p>To save the waste of public Christmas trees, plant permanent trees to be decorated seasonally. Permanent signs could be placed by newly planted trees to explain their value and presence (139).</p>	Noted.
<p>Half the people don't care, they are always chopping trees down in their gardens or because it improves their view. The Wirral way shows that. But concentrate on people who do care and kids etc. Make the trees their heritage. People die and move away so the long term plan has to be something built in and passed on through the council (140).</p>	Noted.
<p>Emphasis on schools for informing the young (141).</p>	Noted.
<p>Put posters up everywhere and go into the schools to get children and the community involved in caring for the trees (and don't leave the poor trees to be strangled by using tree-ties which you fail to remove in time!) (143).</p>	Noted.
<p>Yes, we've been horrified to see the trees in Port Sunlight removed so when you came to remove the trees in Pollitt Square, the information sheet we received showing us the trees and more importantly the reasons why they were being removed was reassuring. This is a critical step in preparing people and we were so pleased that we understood the reasons taken (144).</p>	Noted.
<p>Need to improve communications within the Council. Some staff who should be aware of strategy weren't/aren't (147).</p>	Noted.
<p>,,,j, (149)</p>	Noted.
<p>Communication within the document is poor. The council still insists on using the invalid point of managing trees 'on behalf of Wirral's residents and visitors'. The idea that trees pose a danger to the public is a myth. I don't see how local councils think they have the right to</p>	Noted.

<p>fell mature trees, using the excuse that they are protecting the general public. This has to stop. This is promoting the idea that trees are dangerous, which is the opposite to what the public need to be made aware of. People must be educated about the importance of trees, and the seriousness of today's global situation (150).</p>	
<p>Perhaps the public should have more education on trees and why they matter to air pollution and how much they cost the council and not to vandalise them (151).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Yes... much more info is needed and not solely on line.... Use library windows to display attractively presented info to passers-by as well as those who go into libraries. Inform via schools, churches Print media (156).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>The document is very specific about trees only being felled as a last resort and when there is a health and safety risk. However they may well be other reasons to fell otherwise healthy and safe trees e.g. for tree legacy to increase the diversity (age/species) of a monoculture woodland or stand of trees. Also, in managing the tree stock of a heritage landscape such as Birkenhead Park there may be trees which need to be removed because in the past they've been planted in the wrong place and are contrary to the original design intentions. The document should consider that there are exceptions (157).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>very poor (158).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>It will only get to the tiny minority who are already interested (159).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>As far as I can see there is no public awareness. I found this out as I am a member of Cheshire Wildlife Trust - it's the first I've heard of it (161).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>There isn't any. Done by stealth so no one can object (162).</p>	<p>Comment: The public consultation was made available online for any member of the general public to comment on for 6 weeks. Outcome 9 of the strategy is to improve communication channels between WBC and residents to ensure advanced notice and reasoning for essential works are given across multiple platforms from temporary signs on site to information online.</p>
<p>This is our environment, our future health and welfare rests, often on small things, that overall have import side effects on all our future lives. Have you truly looked into the environmental issues of cutting down ancient trees? I'm not sure what the communications approach is, to raise public awareness of tree management, if it just about</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

<p>having this consultation on your web site that isn't enough. I would imagine that most of the population, unless they are proactive and do some digging and research on your policies, wouldn't be aware of how important trees are to our environment. How public? is having a consultation on a web site, tucked away within a computer system. Thanks Moya You have asked a question below, about what areas need new trees being planted, you should know this, through your research on effects on pollution in certain areas of the Wirral (165).</p>	
<p>I only came upon this by accident as I was researching help for trees in danger locally, but I don't feel this important topic is publicised widely enough (168).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>The Council needs to demonstrate that it is committed to extending the present tree cover by being seen to manage the existing woodland. AT PRESENT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THE COUNCIL IS DOING THIS (173).</p>	<p>Comment: The headline commitment in the final version of the tree strategy is to plant at least 210,000 trees over the course of the strategy, thereby doubling canopy cover by the time the trees are fully grown.</p>
<p>emphasise the importance of dead and dying trees- they can still support so much wildlife, if they are not posing a risk then encourage people to leave them alone, or at least leave the wood in situ (174).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Keep us informed please (179).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Communication is key. Looking on social media lots of people do not realise that Wirral's plans is to plant more trees - this message needs to get out. Use social media and Wirral newspapers (180).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Communicating with the public is an important part of being a local authority and I think, keeping the public updated and informed about a very important asset of the borough is necessary. These communications could be made through social media channels, the climate emergency and environment newsletters or via our Wirral View site. A mapping system could also potentially be used. This system could plot the trees across the borough and monitor them - this could also be a way for residents to log any trees that they spot with any diseases. This map would also be a way to show the number and spread of trees across Wirral. The map which notes all the TPO's could be amended to include this information too (181).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>What communication has taken place? (184).</p>	<p>Comment: The public consultation on the tree strategy was made available online for any member of the general public to comment on for 6 weeks. Outcome 9 of the strategy is to improve communication channels between WBC and residents to ensure advanced notice and</p>

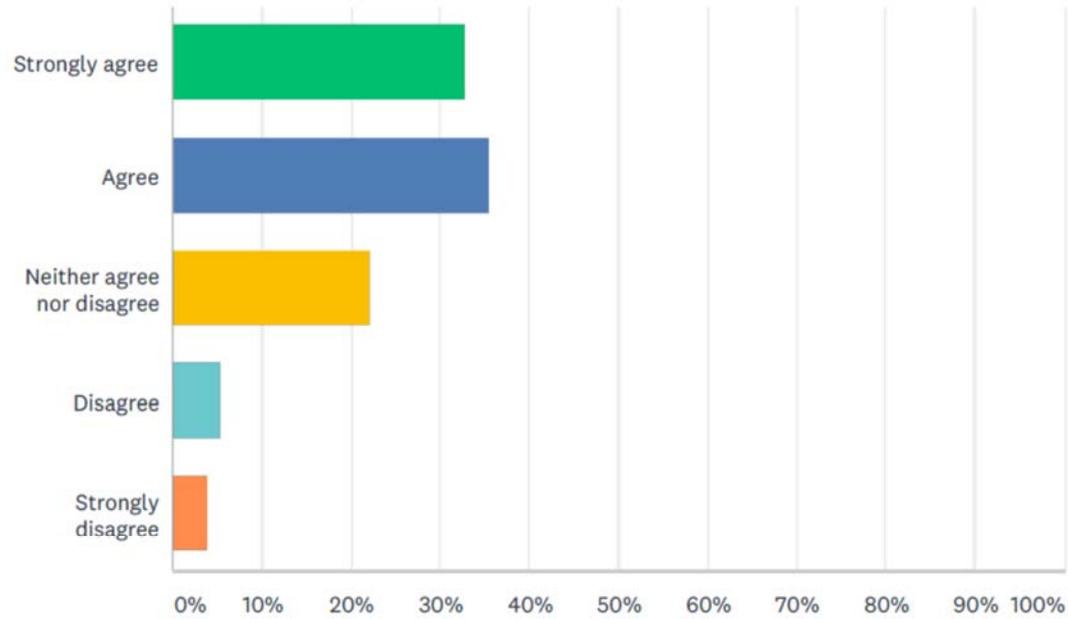
	reasoning for essential works are given across multiple platforms from temporary signs on site to information online.
Get young people involved more on this strategy (186).	Noted.
Greater distribution of communication to the public, I only happened upon this purely by chance. I would imagine the vast majority of the borough have no ideal about this strategy/consultation therefore are not in a position to contribute or comment! (193).	Noted.
I strongly feel that as the trees are "public property" (as per your report), when trees are to be felled, the public are given the opportunity to make use of the wood resource in one of the ways you highlight in your report - either as lumber for construction purposes or fuel but - chippings for paths in gardens and allotments are also a good and bio diverse use. I do also believe that Council employed local arborists or at least local contractors should be used for any felling work and a list of places where upcoming work is to be undertaken made publicly available on the Council website & otherwise communicated to those not online; it would likely also need some mechanism created whereby Wirral residents can avail themselves of the resource (maybe at a sensibly low cost) & only in the case where it is not required locally, should it be sold outside the Borough (197).	Noted.
There is non if a tree is to be cut down there is no communication, also if the trees are on private land people are just allowed to chop down as many trees as they like (198).	Noted.
No (199).	Noted.
I would not have known about it - I stumbled upon it! (204).	Noted.
In areas where many trees are anticipated to be felled, the public should be informed by way of a notice near the site and should reassure the public that the replanting is to take place (206).	Noted.
Excellent idea, as long as contact details are readily available and responses are encouraging. Council still has to be seen to deliver on issues with trees that are its own responsibility, though, even if they delegate the work to licenced/qualified/insured volunteer groups. You could have a 'Flowering Cherry in trouble' survey next April/May (207).	Noted.
The Friends of Warwick Park do there best in this respect (208).	Noted.

<p>We need greater communication. Tree planting is the best thing we can all be involved in as a community right now and it is a very good way of highlighting the emergency we are in. We need to invest in more council employees to oversee the work and look after the trees. We cannot rely on volunteers for an essential service (209).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>The council should in all cases be sure that you let the local population informed of the works (212).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>non native trees and shrubs should be removed (214).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>There is not enough communication. Having a website does not reach the majority of the population. I only saw this consultation by chance (217).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>No (218).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Needs to be improved This survey for example, I only found out through my allotment society, no one else knew about it This is a project the council can easily take forward and develop at relatively little cost, but gain a good profile for if done well (219).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Needs a lot of work. I only found this by accident (221).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>It's pretty non existent (222).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>experience suggests the council will do what it wants (224).</p>	<p>Comment: WBC values the input of key stakeholders and the residents to which it is ultimately accountable, hence this public consultation exercise.</p>
<p>If I didn't see this one post on Facebook I wouldn't have known about this so I don't think you are going far enough to raise public awareness of tree management (225).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Parks are a huge opportunity to provide education. How about QR codes on trees to identify them so that people can look up what the tree is, some of its history (if known) and also see whether any issues have been logged? Whilst boards could be provided to undertake the same function, but would require a greater cost and be more prone to vandalism, as well as interfering with the general look of an area (228).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Needs to be more information for the public on How to apply to have trees protected by a TPO The TPO map How to report trees being cut down. Huge awareness raising of what the Council will do to prosecute and the fines involved. Too many developers are ignoring rules or vaguely citing "safety" There is not enough room on this form for suggestions of areas that should be looked at as a priority. The</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

<p>strategy will not work unless the tree wardens are actively available to take calls, an emergency text facility for alerting them to problems would be a help. Wirral must take legal action against blatant disregard for TPOs. More publicity needed on a sensible approach to safety concerns around trees. Trees sometimes lose branches, they rarely cause damage compared to other risks we encounter every day. Dying trees provide habitats for wildlife (230).</p>	
<p>Good to involve schools in this approach. Perhaps they can plant more trees around school sites and adopt a tree or trees (233).</p>	Noted.
<p>Yes The public should be made more aware of the reason for the Councils proposals and approach in order for them to be brought onside with the strategy. Publications on the Councils website are ineffective as it would only be the committed that would take note (235).</p>	Noted.
<p>See above, Globe etc. (236).</p>	Noted.
<p>I feel that our council do not advertise the protection of trees enough, there should be continuing press campaigns. I also feel that any person found felling a tree(healthy), should receive very heavy fines. This will deter people from future destruction. The felling of trees should be covered by the planning process (239).</p>	Noted.
<p>It isn't fit for purpose! (240).</p>	Noted.
<p>Get local schools to go out with their pupils to plant some trees to raise awareness (244).</p>	Noted.

**To what extent do you agree with the legacy and species selection elements of the draft strategy in context to the native vs non-native species debate, and providing species fitness for their spatial confines?**

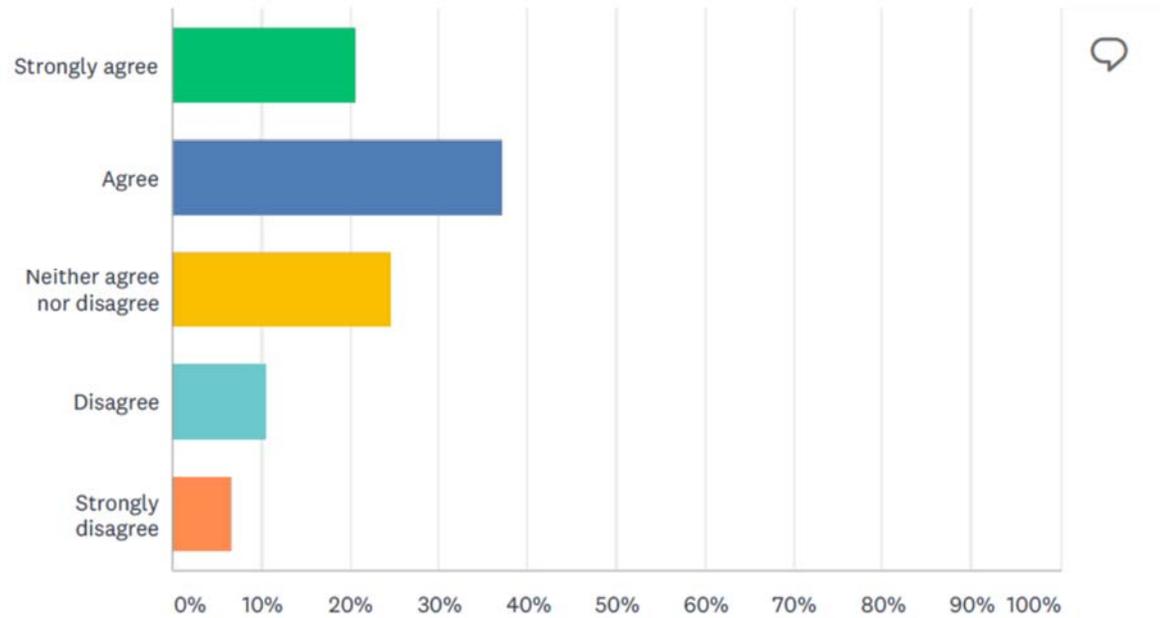
Answered: 149. Skipped: 95.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	32.89%	49
Agree	35.57%	53
Neither agree nor disagree	22.15%	33
Disagree	5.37%	8
Strongly disagree	4.03%	6
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>149</b>

## To what extent do you feel the draft strategy will support the delivery a safe, sustainable, resilient and diverse tree stock for Wirral?

Answered: 150. Skipped: 94.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	20.67%	31
Agree	37.33%	56
Neither agree nor disagree	24.67%	37
Disagree	10.67%	16
Strongly disagree	6.67%	10
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>150</b>

**Are there any locations in Wirral that you would like to recommend as an area to be considered for new tree planting. Where possible give the nearest postcode or street name.**

Answered: 113. Skipped: 131.

<b>Comments (Respondent Number)</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>All road verges wide enough to leave a strip of grass, e.g. such as just south of Heron Lane farm, Meols.</p> <p>All along the banks of the Birket.</p> <p>Round the edges of Upton Meadow wood, which could be extended.</p> <p>Round the many horse-fields between Meols and Leasowe (7).</p>	Noted.
<p>Wirral schools.</p> <p>Wirral Parks where many trees have been removed over the last decade.</p> <p>Grass verges and return to avenuing Wirral roads planting trees on both sides.</p> <p>Green fields and all Wirral's green-belt (9).</p>	Noted.
<p>All urban roadside verges (10).</p>	Noted.
<p>Stanton Road, Bebington, CH63 (sites where trees have been felled recently and not replaced)</p> <p>The Village/Civic Way, Bebington, CH63 (sites where trees have been felled recently and not replaced) (12).</p>	Noted.
<p>Any area of woodland or copse that it currently under threat from the Local Plan due to proposed housing development (14).</p>	Noted.
<p>Everywhere (15).</p>	Noted.
<p>Shorefields area, New Ferry.</p> <p>Pollitt Square, New Ferry.</p> <p>Grove Square, New Ferry.</p>	Noted.

Shorefields/Samaria Avenue (17).	
Grange Hill. West Kirby .keep what is left and plant more native.  Grange Park Keep what is left and plant more native.  Frankby Cemetery Keep what is left and plant more native.  ROYSEN PARK KEEP WHAT IS LEFT AND PLANT MORE NATIVE (18).	Noted.
Shorefields New Ferry.  Bebington Road Precinct, New Ferry.  New Ferry Park.  Dibbins hey area Spital (19).	Noted.
Tower Grounds.  motorway embankments.  alongside rail tracks (22).	Noted.
Corner of Arrowe Brook Road & Arrowe Park Road - Wirral Business Park.  Copses (mini woods) could be planted in corners of many playing fields.  Small woods could be planted in Arrowe Park, Royden Park etc.  If there are any brownfield sites NOT suitable for housing - then re-wild them (23).	Noted.
Grange hill.  More on (24).	Noted.
Black Horse and Hilbre schools.  Grange Park (25).	Noted.

<p>Grange Park.</p> <p>Aston Park.</p> <p>Royden Park.</p> <p>Arrow Park (26).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>The road between Moreton and Meols. Hoylake Road/Birkenhead Road. Where it is bordered by farmland, there's lots of space for a native tree corridor. There's wide grass there already and a few trees spaced out.</p> <p>On the coast (53.4052393, -3.1593908) at the bottom of Dovepoint/ Forest Road Meols CH 47.</p> <p>Land behind George Road, Hoylake.</p> <p>Land behind West Kirby tip (27).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Initially replacement of felled trees in my road CH62 6BZ (30).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Every single green space needs more trees, vegetation and wildlife.</p> <p>Plant in groups; one tree doesn't make a forest. Single trees get 'sick.'</p> <p>East Wirral, old farm land, redundant school playing fields.</p> <p>Also need wetlands and meadows (31).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Any empty plots of land; Plant in containers or in the ground.</p> <p>Streets; Re-forest Wirral's urban streets.</p> <p>Homes for the elderly; To help fight lung diseases and add amenity value.</p> <p>All schools; Hedgerows and trees in containers or the ground. Paved gardens; lift the paving and PLANT (32).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>New Brighton Dips (saline resistant) besides.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Railway embankments (33).	
CH64	Noted.
CH65 (40).	
Beechway CH63 3AY (46).	Noted.
New Brighton Seafront towards Leasowe.	Noted.
New Brighton Dips (47).	
Grange Hill.	Noted.
Moreton (48).	
A general recommendation that the boundaries of school sites are planted [ look for instance at the barren wasteland that is St Mary's College in Wallasey Village) (49).	Noted.
All greenfield sites this council has disgustingly picked out for residential development.  should have building plans scrapped and replaced with full tree coverage (50).	Noted.
Seabank Road.	Noted.
Magazine Conservation Area (51).	
CH48 the disputed area near St Bridgets church owned by the diocese of Chester (52).	Noted.
Everywhere (54).	Noted.
Heswall field, Heswall shore (56).	Noted.
Around Birkenhead North station area.  Along open sections of Carr Lane near Meols.  Reeds Lane and roads off.  Church Road Birkenhead (58).	Noted.
Sand Lea park west Kirby.	Noted.
Outside shops banks road west Kirby (61).	
Ch61 oklea road.	Noted.

Pensby Park.	
Barnston dales.	
Pensby boys school field (62).	
Mayer Park (63).	Noted.
reinstatement of avenues in Greasby CH49 or create new ones ! (67).	Noted.
Land adjacent to scout hut, Thingwall, sparks lane.	Noted.
Land formerly used as Pensby boys school field ch61 Irby road.	
Arrowe Park golf course.	
Grow green corridor from Royden park to Thurstaston common (68).	
Parts of area proposed for Hoylake Golf Resort for wet species like willow.	Noted.
Some coastal areas of dunes with pine trees to develop habitat and coastal defences (70).	
All available areas across the borough (71).	Noted.
Lawned area at Warren Golf Course on Grove Road CH 45 (2 Mature Cherry Trees Just Felled) (72).	Noted.
New Ferry shore, all parks around Merseybank Road.	Noted.
New Ferry road.	
Rock Park (76).	
Tower Grounds New Brighton.	Noted.
The Dips (Kings Parade) New Brighton.	
Ashton Park West Kirby.	
Bidston (78).	
Park on Stanton Road (between Wirral Gardens and Brackenwood Golf Course).	Noted.

<p>Wirral Grammar School for Boys far playing fields.</p> <p>Area of park between The Oval, Bebington High Sports College and Bebington Library (the small one off Teehey Lane) (82).</p>	
<p>Greenbank Rd playing field perimeter west Kirby.</p> <p>Roadsides wherever there is space.</p> <p>New Brighton dips.</p> <p>Along coastal path (83).</p>	Noted.
<p>Thurstaston park area by cliffs / beach.</p> <p>New Brighton open spaces.</p> <p>Wirral way north of Heswall (86).</p>	Noted.
<p>Harrock woods.</p> <p>Pensby Park.</p> <p>Pensby school.</p> <p>Wirral way (88).</p>	Noted.
<p>Rec Stanton Rd.</p> <p>Riverside park New Ferry.</p> <p>Around playing fields in Bromborough.</p> <p>Playing fields in Bebington (89).</p>	Noted.
<p>All grass verges and all Wirral's' streets in paving or in containers.</p> <p>School perimeters especially between school grounds and roads.</p> <p>Block hedging filters pollutants.</p>	Noted.

<p>All our public parks and greenspaces. Any 'brown-field' sites...until they build we need to breathe.</p> <p>Golf courses, surround hedging and woodlands where possible (92).</p>	
<p>Land to the north of Greenbank Road, West Kirby - on the old tip and around periphery of playing fields.</p> <p>On all golf courses around Wirral.</p> <p>At all schools in Wirral.</p> <p>Should be made a compulsory planning condition to include trees on any new development in Wirral (94).</p>	Noted.
<p>Verges on Mill Lane. Greasby. I have paid To have a tree planted.</p> <p>Mill Hill Road Irby (95)</p>	Noted.
<p>Borough road, Birkenhead (grassed area adjacent to CH41 2UZ).</p> <p>Central reservation on Conway Street Birkenhead (A552) (replace removed trees) by Queensway Tunnel roundabout.</p> <p>Increase tree cover in Birkenhead Park by visitor centre (96)</p>	Noted.
<p>Schools : Hilbre high school, black horse Hill junior, Calday Grange grammar school.</p> <p>Grange cemetery and woodland border to black horse Hill (97).</p>	Noted.
<p>Hundreds of sites identified but no space here are a few suggestions: Corner Whetstone Lane and Borough Road, space for 2 Rowan or Whitebeam.</p> <p>Replace the 11 trees felled within the last 5 years along Borough Road, going towards the library.</p> <p>Prenton Dell Road, multiple bare grass verges could sustain smaller trees. Hedging on land behind Hoylake and Gilroy Road.</p>	Noted.

Incorporate multiple trees in Birkenhead redevelopment. Town Meadow Lane Moreton, willow, alder, sallow willow and white poplar (101).	
Clatterbridge motorway overpasses.	Noted.
Raby motorway overpasses (105).	
Question 12 is not a tick box question. The draft contains too many loopholes to be an effective working document.	Noted.
Anywhere where there is just grass (not wildflowers, heathland etc) (106).	
CH45 5BB (108).	Noted.
CH42 Pearson street, Tranmere (109).	Noted.
Mereworth, CH48. There is a green which has some trees but could take more.	Noted.
Ashton Park, West Kirby where so many mature trees were needlessly felled.	
Grange Hill where so many trees and deadwood were recently needless removed.	
Wirral Way, more hedgerows etc. (113).	
Corner of Bedford Road and Old Chester Road, CH42 (114).	Noted.
Ch43 fender walkway/playing fields. (Lots Japanese knotweed there and hedgehogs).	Noted.
Along motorway (117).	
Brown field sites (118).	Noted.
Areas susceptible to flooding may benefit from trees as they help soak up the water (119).	Noted.
Pensby playing field at the end near bungalows - often waterlogged (120).	Noted.
In the vicinity of Prenton Hall Road.	Noted.
In the Prenton Dell area.	

<p>In open fields - create more copses and woods.</p> <p>Embed more trees in the new developments in Birkenhead and Wirral Waters (121).</p>	
<p>Earlston Gardens CH45.</p> <p>The Delph, Rake Lane CH45 (127).</p>	Noted.
<p>In the centre of every roundabout as possible.</p> <p>Cleveland Street - grassed over area.</p> <p>Cleveland st instead of the dump by brasses street.</p> <p>Water front (129).</p>	Noted.
<p>Along the roadside between Heswall and Barnston village ( Barnston Road).</p> <p>On the land on the corner of Boundary Lane and Telegraph are opposite the Catholic Church in Heswall.</p> <p>Along the roadside of Telegraph Rd from Mere Lane Heswall to the Cottage Loaf roundabout.</p> <p>Replace the mature tree felled this year opposite Castle Buildings, Telegraph Rd, Heswall (134).</p>	Noted.
<p>Birkenhead.</p> <p>West Kirby.</p> <p>Hoylake.</p> <p>Wallasey (138).</p>	Noted.
<p>Along footpaths by the Leasowe coastal trail. Many of the old willows are alone and new trees could enhance the look but also help take up flooding (140).</p>	Noted.
<p>Townfield area.</p>	Noted.

<p>Bidston area round proximity to M53 and connect roads.</p> <p>Along the M53, and Moreton Spur.</p> <p>Many roads in Pensby area (141).</p>	
<p>W Kirby area beyond Kale Close.</p> <p>Thurstaston Country park.</p> <p>Around playing fields on Greenbank Rd W Kirby.</p> <p>Ashton Park - replace more aged past their prime trees with new vigorous ones! (143).</p>	Noted.
<p>Pollit Square - everywhere around the green space - it stops quad bikes.</p> <p>New Ferry centre is desperate for trees especially near the explosion site. A community orchard would be wonderful but just green trees and a place to sit under would be wonderful.</p> <p>The Croft Retail Park - it is devoid of life and there is so much space where trees would add so much.</p> <p>The back of our estate where the old hospital used to be would be perfect - there are some native shrubs but very little else. Plenty of space which provides help for wildlife. (Can I have more locations please - I've barely started!?) (144).</p>	Noted.
<p>Brighton street, King Street, Tobin Street, church street -green corridor from Seacombe ferry and prom to central park.</p> <p>St Albans Road, Liscard - circle the shopping centre with trees.</p> <p>Telegraph road, from Hillside to (and including Puddydale - replace/increase trees to reduce pollution.</p>	Noted.

Poulton road, from St Lukes to junction with Wheatland lane -green corridors between park & areas of mass housing, high transport (including from motorway) and poor air quality (147).	
SCHOOL FIELDS.  GOLF COURSES.  STREET TREES in verges or in planters.  ALL PARKS.	Noted.
North End of Birkenhead.  Seacombe. CH44 (151).	Noted.
In the centre of wild plant grass areas e.g. Hoyle Rd Hoylake.  Extra trees in all of the parks towards the edges - to ensure playing space for children (156).	Noted.
Birkenhead town centre.  Northwood rd. Prenton.  side of m53 between junction 1 and 2.  fields behind Sainsbury's Prenton (158).	Noted.
All hedgerows that are flailed too severely (159).	Noted.
Woodlands.  Fearnley road (162).	Noted.
Arrowe park road, Upton village.  Beechwood estate.  Meols promenade.  Woodchurch estate (168).	Noted.
Hoylake, Municipal Golf course, especially around the area of New Hall Lane.	Noted.

<p>along Trinity Road, Hoylake.</p> <p>around Birkenhead docks.</p> <p>more trees along the Chester road (169).</p>	
<p>Birkenhead Town Centre as part of any redevelopment proposals.</p> <p>Most parks and open spaces throughout the Borough (173).</p>	Noted.
<p>Bromborough Green (opposite the Methodist church) &amp; Bromborough common (opposite the library etc), both Allport lane CH62.</p> <p>Fields at the front of croft retail park, CH62 3QP.</p> <p>Broad grass verges along the B5136 in Rock Ferry, CH42 1LB.</p> <p>Mayer Park, CH63 7RB (174).</p>	Noted.
<p>Ch62 1bz.</p> <p>Ch62 (179).</p>	Noted.
<p>Plymyard Playing Fields.</p> <p>The Chase (Tolerant to wet conditions).</p> <p>Marfords Park (180).</p>	Noted.
<p>Tarporley close.</p> <p>Overtton way (183).</p>	Noted.
<p>Take any road or new build across the Wirral - trees only cut down no replacement programme (184).</p>	Noted.
<p>Derby Road Tranmere.</p> <p>Birkenhead all areas.</p> <p>Rock ferry.</p> <p>Mersey tunnel sea front area (186).</p>	Noted.

Mersey Park. Victoria Park. Thurstaston. Birkenhead Park (190).	Noted.
Marine Promenade, New Brighton. The area from Marine Lake to Floral Pavilion is barren and hard since the removal of established, raised, evergreen planters for more parking bays (193).	Noted.
Field off Teehey lane (198).	Noted.
CH43 - along Woodchurch Road (201).	Noted.
Chester Street CH41 5DL. Mill Lane – Wallasey. Argyle Street - CH41 (204).	Noted.
Abbots Grange Estate (Friars Close, Monks Way & Abbots Drive), Bebington, CH63. Bebington Village to the front of Civic Centre, along The Village, CH63. Cross Lane, Bebington (Centre of length of road nr Kirket Lane pathway). Kings Road, Bebington (near Broadway Roundabout) (206).	Noted.
Upton Village. Warwick Park (208).	Noted.
ch62 1db shore bank (212).	Noted.
all local parks. all local woodlands. all coastal areas (where appropriate).	Noted.

all of Wirral not just the high income ones (214).	
Land off Barnston Road, at the edge of Barnston village. (South of Gill's Lane). This land floods regularly and trees would assist in preventing this (217).	Noted.
Elleray park.  Harrison park.  The promenade in new Brighton (218).	Noted.
Along the Upton by pass, the cricket club side.  Manage the copse at junction of Saughall Massie Rd and Upton by pass.  Along the saughall Massie by pass.  The area outside the co op and opposite on saughall Massie Ed (219).	Noted.
Field next to the new Fire Station in Saughall Massie to extend Jenny's Wood.  Site left by demolition of Foxfield school, Moreton.  Any waste ground owned by the Local Authority.  Any brown belt land owned by the Local Authority (221).	Noted.
Central park Wallasey.  The promenade from Seacombe to new Brighton.  Leasowe road next to links view garage.  Just get as many trees in the streets, roads, avenues and cul-de-sacs (222).	Noted.
New Ferry.  Central Birkenhead.	Noted.

North End of Birkenhead.	
All deprived areas of the Wirral (223).	
the whole of the M53 corridor on both sides but particularly on the east, downwind side to control PM 2.5 levels which are dangerous near the M53 and drift all across eastern Wirral.	Noted.
M53 junctions 2,4,5 need green buffers to protect homes and schools. Building on the green belt parcels in location 1 and 2 will expose new and current residents to serious health risks (224).	
Poulton Road Wallasey CH444DB.	Noted.
Gorse Lane Wallasey.	
Oxton Road Wallasey (225).	
Oxton Park, Wallasey - bounded by Poulton Road, Oxton Road, Broughton Road.	Noted.
Central Park - along Greenheys Road (228).	
Birkenhead centre.	Noted.
CH63.	
CH42 (230).	
Harrison Park Wallasey Village (232).	Noted.
CH61 2XQ (233).	Noted.
The docks and Wirral Waters.	Noted.
Rock Ferry.	
New Ferry.	
In areas where there are large housing developments (235).	
Wherever possible [hard call] busy traffic routes need the most trees.	Noted.
Built up areas need increased planting (236).	

Hoylake...around the municipal golf course.  North of Greasby, Pump lane.  Areas of archaeological importance, Greenhouse Farm Greasby, Arrowe Road.  Storeton Lane, Manor Farm, we need a Wirral Forest (239). Green Belt (240).	Noted.
The dips by New Brighton for shelter from the sun in years to come (244).	Noted.

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**Wirral Tree Wardens are a voluntary group dedicated to planting and care of trees across Wirral. Please tick below if you would like to join this group.**

Answered yes: 74. Skipped: 170.

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### **Additional responses submitted via email**

Number of respondents: 8

Comments	
<p>My particular concern is that as it stands the strategy deals with conservation areas under the general heading of TPOs and yet they really need a section for themselves, not least to emphasise the existing rules regarding any tree within a Conservation Area.</p> <p>The CA with which I have most to do - West Kirby Old Village CA - has extensive areas within the CA already covered by a TPO but the way in which trees and woodland contributes to the special character of this or any other CA needs highlighting.</p>	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Tree Protection Orders (TPO) are applied to protect selected trees and woodlands that bring significant amenity benefit to the local area such that their removal would have a significant negative impact on the local environment and its enjoyment by the public. This protection is particularly important where trees are under threat. All types of tree (but not bushes or shrubs) can be protected, and a TPO can protect anything from a single tree to all trees within a defined area or woodland. Under the Town &amp; Country Planning Act 1990 and Town and Country Planning (Tree</p>

Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012, local authorities have a duty to apply TPOs to any trees or woodlands in need of protection. Before authorities make or confirm an order, however, they need to ensure that they are able to demonstrate that protection would bring a reasonable degree of public benefit in the present or future, thereby evidencing that it is expedient to serve a TPO.

Conservation areas (CA) refer to areas with significant architectural or historic interest which is considered worthy of preservation and/or enhancement. CAs mandate a precautionary approach to the loss or alteration of buildings and/or trees, and provide provisional legal protection for all trees (with a stem diameter of more than 75 mm, when measured at 1.5 metres height above ground level) within the defined area. CAs achieve this by requiring anyone proposing to cut down or carry out work on a tree within the CA to issue a 'section 211 notice' at least six weeks' prior to commencing, except for the following activities: (i) removal of dead trees; (ii) the prevention or abatement of (legal) nuisance; and, (iii) the implementation of planning permission. This six-week notice period enables the relevant local authority to make an assessment and apply a TPO, if necessary. In effect, CAs provide provisional protection for all trees (with a stem diameter of more than 75 mm, when measured at 1.5 metres height above ground level) within the defined area which are not covered by a TPO and reserve the right for local authorities to apply TPO to any trees under threat within a CA. Importantly, if a tree or group of trees within a CA is already protected by a TPO, normal TPO procedures apply, *i.e.*, a 'section 211 notice' cannot be used to attain consent to perform work on TPO protected trees.

Whilst TPOs provide definitive protection for trees, then, CAs provide the same level of protection for all trees (with a stem diameter of more than 75 mm, when measured at 1.5 metres height above ground level) within the CA on a provisional basis, and necessitate a notice period sufficient to allow local authorities to apply TPO, if necessary. Unless trees within a CA are under immediate threat, then, blanket applications of TPOs are

	<p>unnecessary and – rather than highlighting the importance particular trees within a CA – would dilute the exceptional status that TPOs are designed to recognise. Indeed, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) explicitly advises against using TPOs to protect entire areas, except in the event of an emergency: area protection under a TPO ‘is intended for short term protection in an emergency and may not be capable of providing appropriate long-term protection. Authorities are advised to only use this category as a temporary measure until they can fully assess and reclassify the trees in the area’ (paragraph 029 (reference ID:36-029-20140306)). Moreover, before applying a TPO, local authorities need to be able to demonstrate that doing so that a TPO would bring a reasonable degree of public benefit in the present or future, thereby evidencing that it is expedient to serve a TPO. In cases where trees are already protected under CAs and are under no immediate threat, Wirral Council would be unable to demonstrate that working on CA-covered trees would pose a significant threat to the amenity of the area, and, as such, would be unable to demonstrate the expediency of a TPO. Applying TPOs under these circumstances could be viewed as overreach and expose Wirral Council to legal challenges through the courts.</p> <p>Nonetheless, Wirral Council is committed to vigorously enforcing all infringements of TPO’s and Conservation Area protections, and, as part of the Tree Strategy, will perform a comprehensive review of existing TPOs and CAs to reassess historical orders and potentially implement new TPOs deemed necessary to protect trees which are not already covered under CAs.</p> <p>Action: Minor changes have been made to the strategy to highlight the importance of conservation areas.</p>
<p>Wearing my Conservation Areas Wirral hat we have looked at the Council's Tree Policy on which individual Conservation Areas may have commented separately on the 'Have Your Say' page.</p>	<p>Comment: As above.</p>

<p>However we most concerned that there is no reference to Conservation Areas in the strategy. We would like to see a blanket or area TPO on those Conservation Areas where trees are particularly important. We have therefore suggested a phased application of an area or blanket TPO for the Conservation Areas of Mountwood, Oxton, Eastham and Lower Heswall.</p>	<p>Action: Several additional references to conservation areas have been added to the strategy to highlight the importance of conservation areas.</p>
<p>I think it is essential that the Tree Strategy deals with Conservation Areas, which seem to have been omitted from the Draft document.</p>	<p>Comment: Minor changes have been made to the strategy to highlight the importance of conservation areas.</p>
<p>We believe that the main focus of any tree strategy, wherever it is to be applied, must be the preservation and the protection of existing trees, rather than the current and historical focus, which is on the continued and relentless removal of tree cover and habitat (itself a primary cause of climate breakdown, flooding in particular). Continued intervention in the growth patterns of trees, by felling, de-limbing, canopy removal, understorey removal etc. is a recipe for disaster- since it takes decades for a tree to mature; since every loss is a loss of the tree's capacities and the enormous array of benefits it would have provided going forward and with every second of its entire life; since trees cannot accommodate to sudden losses of their parts, and cannot be restored or remediated, unlike buildings, land or water bodies.</p> <p>The deadly effects of tree loss are of air pollution, land slippage, disrupted and chaotic weather and climate patterns such as extreme heat, drought, flooding/inundation and hurricane storms, not to mention large-scale habitat and species loss.</p> <p>Tree felling and dismemberment, as you will know, is a market-driven activity ( turbo-charged by the risk economy) to which the law of diminishing returns must be applied, and with stark consequences. But it's worse than this. The economic, social and environmental deficits caused by removing one tree, let alone the hundreds that have been commissioned by our LA, are insupportable, for the reasons outlined above and in the attached, which I strongly urge you to give your full consideration.</p> <p>To recognise this is not to fail to endorse fully a large-scale planting programme across the Borough, with particular emphasis on urban Wirral and the built environment; however, a 1% increase year on year, as</p>	<p>Comment: Preservation, protection and expansion of Wirral's tree stocks is at the heart of the Tree Strategy. In recent times, it has been necessary to fell over 2000 trees across the Borough. More precisely, as of 01/05/2020, 2,225 trees have been felled. Approximately half of these have been in parks and countryside sites, and the other half near highways. In all these cases, felling was essential due to death, disease, or other forms of damaging which present a danger to the public. The need for such extensive action was the result of an insufficient inspection and management regime over the past several decades. Now that we have largely dealt with the all the trees across the Borough requiring attention, these number will dramatically decrease, and our attention and resources will be redirected into inspection and management for the purposes of preservation and protection.</p> <p>Felling trees brings no financial benefit to Wirral Council and we are making significant investments in our tree management provision to ensure that our future tree stocks will be properly managed and preserved.</p> <p>The 10% target specified in the draft strategy was unclear. Whilst most people interpreted this to mean a 10% increase on our current tree stocks, the intention was to increase woodland across the Borough <i>from 4.8% to 10%, i.e., a doubling of woodland across the Borough within 10 years.</i> Given the importance of urban trees, we have reviewed this target and replaced it the more general target to increase canopy cover from an 13% to 25%, <i>i.e., almost a doubling of tree over across the Borough.</i> Importantly, though, it will take decades for the 210,000 we will plant over the next 10 years to mature. In effect, then, the</p>

<p>suggested by Wirral Tree Initiative's Strategy , is a poorly considered and hastily constructed 'management' approach- suggesting merely a 10% increase in tree cover by the end of the ten year period. The suggested target rate would fall far too short of what is needed at the very minimum and belie the potential there is across the whole of the Wirral-no less within our urban estates and transport networks (and allowing for the maturation period, which can be over several decades) In any case, It would not represent any real terms increase at all, were the suggested felling schedules to be carried out in addition to the thousands that have been removed and damaged by private and public landowners on the Wirral (especially since those that have been felled/scheduled for removal are mature and mainly large specimens.). So a far higher percentage of added trees will be required. Fast growing native species such as willow, birch, lime will be preferred.</p>	<p>target it to plant enough trees across the Borough to double canopy cover once those trees have fully matured.</p>
<p>I'm not going to suggest specific amendments, but a few thoughts that I had were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could 'Our Vision' be the first thing that confronted the reader, and then subsequent text would explain how and why this would be delivered?</li> <li>• Should a university be included in the Groups – either Liverpool John Moores or Chester? They can provide another dimension to the work, but I might be a tad biased here of course.</li> <li>• You mention 'Right Tree in the Right Place', which is quite right. Sometimes I think 'For the Right Reasons' can be added, now that urban trees at last are no seen as a cosmetic, but as a metaphysic – a first principle.</li> <li>• You rightly speak of Green and Blue Infrastructure. The UN's FAO have now declared that they view green, blue and grey infrastructures as Critical Infrastructure, as all three have equal status and you now cannot deliver any one of them without considering the other two.</li> <li>• And lastly, you mention 'best practice', which is quite right of course, except that I wonder if we're looking forward, as strategies such of this are, maybe we should be considering 'next practice'? Best practice was not wrong, but it has been done. Should we be moving on, and if so, in which direction?</li> </ul>	<p>Comments: 'Our Vision' has been moved so that it is the first section after the executive summary.</p>
<p>My brief summary of comments below.</p>	<p>Comments: Following revisions, the Tree Strategy has been shortened, as has the Executive Summary. Many of the technical</p>

<p>1. Give serious consideration to making the final document length much shorter. A similar length to your Executive Summary might be better. That summary also needs to be shorter and punchier - less than one page perhaps. A strategy needs to make a difference. Improved clarity aids understanding, presents a clear road map, helps decision makers choose courses of action – and the impact becomes much greater. If there’s anything complex and challenging – signpost elsewhere or make it an appendix.</p> <p>2. You could achieve the shortening by having separate Policies or Action Plans for; Tree Management; Tree Risk Assessment and Management; Tree Protection; Ash Dieback. I don’t think they need to part of the Strategy. Just signpost readers to these separate documents if you need to refer to them.</p> <p>3. For each of the five outcomes the Executive Summary has a bullet list under the heading ‘What we need to make this happen’. These appear to be your actions. I would make an Action Plan, as an appendix to the Strategy, where you can add the extra detail to each action - methods, timescales, responsibility, success criteria, resources, etc.</p> <p>4. The following three objectives seem very similar. I would combine c with a, and include b in the Tree Management Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. for increasing tree cover by 10%</li> <li>b. resilience to climate change</li> <li>c. boosting ecosystem services</li> </ul> <p>5. The first objective - to manage the risk posed by Council trees - doesn’t appear needed in light Mac’s comment about tree risk at Wirral Council. It also seems redundant if you have a separate policy and procedure for Tree Risk Assessment and Management.</p> <p>6. Once your consultation is over, and outcomes are agreed, I would include a short paragraph outlining the stakeholders unity of purpose to deliver these - assuming there will be unity!</p>	<p>sections mentioned have been provided as appendices. Following the approval of the Tree Strategy, Wirral Council will then formulate a series of action plans which will implement the strategy over the next decade.</p>
<p>I’m just a bit concerned that the Wirral Tree Strategy consultation document is more of a risk management strategy and doesn’t take into account the statutory management required at SSSIs and the desire at other sites to manage other habitat types. I think that the extracts below taken from the consultation document should be reworded and put into the context of trees that are unsafe and part of risk management (not habitat management).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No one wants to see trees being felled</li> <li>• If we are forced to fell any of our trees</li> <li>• Taking the decision to remove or cutback a tree is always the absolute last resort and one we only take when there is no other option. It's something we will only ever do when forced to, in order to keep residents and visitors safe</li> <li>• Trees are only ever felled when they are dangerous and there is a risk of people being injured</li> </ul> <p>All those statements could be used against WBC and our statutory requirement regarding protected sites but also at sites like North Wirral Coastal Park where the rangers and friends group are restoring the dune habitat, or here at Thurstaston where the CX and visiting Green Flag judges have suggested removal of trees around the Visitor Centre so that it can be seen by visitors and which is an action for 2019/20 in the park's management plan and which we are currently undertaking.</p>	
<p>Just a few points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should we have departments of the Council listed as partners? They are the council, therefore in this section, I would have expected to only see the external partner's to the council listed here? If we are describing the departments that work together in implementing this strategy, there would be more than P&amp;C and Highways e.g. assets, health and safety, etc.</li> <li>• Do we have any links with local colleges? What about Muse Developments as a partner (Wirral Growth Company)? Later in the document we refer to LJMU?</li> <li>• 2nd paragraph on page 5 don't think we need the word 'via'?</li> <li>• Page 6 – should we remove 'for consistency the same arboriculturist has surveyed all sites' we cannot guarantee this over the 10 year strategy?</li> <li>• Page 6 – do we need to highlight in this document about the extended highways contract?</li> </ul>	<p>Comment: All references to internal Council departments have been removed from the section listing external partners.</p>

- Page 6 – how will we communicate proposed work to stakeholders going forward? Are we doing this now? Who would be the stakeholders we would consult for example? Just to ensure this is achievable and realistic before we set it out here, who would lead on this?

- Page 20 – final paragraph needs full stop removing in first sentence.