

**EMAIL**

**Environment Committee 11 September - Item 8, Tree Policy & Action Plan**

**To:** [paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk)

**From:** Robin Bishop

9/5/2017 at 5:43 PM

Dear Paul

The Barnet Society is pleased that the Council wishes to adopt a Tree Policy & Action Plan, but has comments and questions in relation to the following paragraphs (or sections within which they sit):

- 1.4 (i) - We regret the absence of the Barnet Society and other local community groups from the list of stakeholders consulted.
- 1.4 (ii) - Is the Tree Team the same as Greenspaces & Street Scene, or does it include planners, arboricultural officers and/or others? Contact details would be important.
- 1.7 - The key aims and objectives deserve a heading. Oddly, the Vision - which we would have expected to be the starting point of the policy - is relegated nearly to the end (paras 3.1-4). We would recommend bringing it to the front.
- 1.22 - Something should be said about the importance of tree management plans and their ongoing funding.
- 1.31 - We urge the Council to commit to use of environmentally safe and healthy pesticides and herbicides, and to minimising the use of Glyphosate.
- 2.18 - Publication of the cyclical maintenance programme online would be welcome, but it must be easily locatable on the Council website, and residents and local groups should be notified of updates.
- 2.50 - Guidance should be provided for private and institutional property owners and their neighbours on desirable tree management, particularly where their trees form a background to the public domain (e.g. the fine but unlisted Plane trees in front of Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School).
- 3.1-4 - See 1.7 above.
- 3.6 - The Action Plan should be developed to include proposals for specific areas. In Chipping Barnet, for example, these should include the proposed High Street improvements, the A1000/Underhill/Fairfield Way junction widening, and Barnet Vale. Local groups should be consulted at an early stage and their initiatives and input welcomed.

We look forward to the Council's response.

Many thanks

Robin Bishop  
Chair, The Barnet Society