

England Tree Strategy

DEFRA Consultation

(Miriam Hill, Trees Officer)

The England Tree Strategy will:

- Support a step change in woodland creation to deliver commitments in this parliament and beyond.
- Increase the area of woodland management.
- Help protect trees, treescapes and woodland from unsustainable management, climate change and pests and diseases.
- Engage people with trees, woodlands and nature.
- Recognise the wide range of ecosystem services trees and woodlands provide.
- Support increased use of timber and energy crops, improving forestry productivity and supply chains.
- Diversify land management business.

The consultation has four pillars

| Expanding and connecting trees and woodlands | Protecting and improving our trees and woodland | Engaging people with trees and woodland | Supporting the economy |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Establishing more trees and woodlands and ensuring they are resilient to our future climate, pests and diseases.▪ Addressing barriers to woodland creation.▪ Supporting nature recovery. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Protecting our trees and woodlands.▪ Managing woods to recover biodiversity and increase resilience.▪ Developing our domestic nursery capacity. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Increasing access to trees in and around towns and cities.▪ Increasing engagement with woodland and their role in education and health care.▪ Enabling investment in and the protection of green infrastructure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Diversifying rural economies.▪ Enabling agro and energy forestry.▪ Supporting or timber industry.▪ Increasing forestry skills. |

Who is taking part in our consultation response?

South Cambs & City Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Authority

- Tree Officers
- Ecologists
- Landscape Architects
- Building Control
- Sustainability Officer

Cambridgeshire

- City of Peterborough
- East Cambridgeshire
- County Council
- Forestry Commission

Common themes which will be prioritised where ever possible

The different needs of rural, peri-urban and urban landscapes and treescapes

That ELMS (Environmental Land Management Scheme) has to be fit for the purpose of the Tree Strategy's goals

Hedgerow retention, management and protection

The careful location of proposed woodland blocks to avoid impacting on other important habitats

The role and responsibility of statutory undertakers

Importance of bio-diversity net gain on development sites and doubling nature

Commitment to retaining existing woodland or woodland like blocks

Recent and proposed changes in the planning system and the possible impacts on space for and provision of trees

Stronger enforcement for trees, hedgerows, woodland and forestry

Funding for first 20 years of a trees/woodlands life

Every council should have a tree officer

Changing visual appearance of future landscapes and treescapes and attitudes towards them

The role of pests and diseases within the tree population

Greater education or awareness of the importance of trees

Less reliance on plastics in tree establishment

That paying for new initiatives should not burden only tax payers

For the Climate & Environment Advisory Committee:

Seeking advice on what the committee would like to pay particular attention to or additional issues or considerations that are of particular relevance to South Cambs.