

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Response to England Tree Strategy Consultation (June 2020)

Links to the strategy documents:

- [England Tree Strategy Consultation Document](#), and
- [England Tree Strategy Consultation – Technical Annex](#).

Expanding and connecting our woodlands (Page 6-12 & Questions pages 13-16)	
6	<p>c) Widening the eligibility criteria for applicants to our woodland creation grants so more applicants can apply</p> <p>d) Widening the eligibility criteria for the type of woodlands and tree planting that can be funded</p> <p>f) A quicker approval process for grant agreements</p> <p>i) Introducing mechanisms to realise a secure long-term cash flow for ecosystem services</p> <p>j) Introducing measures to stimulate more private investment (e.g. green finance) in woodland creation</p> <p>k) Developing new approaches to partnerships between land owners and woodland investors or managers which enable the landowner to derive an ongoing annual income from the land</p>
7	<p>d) Widening the eligibility criteria for the type of woodlands and tree planting that can be funded</p> <p>j) Introducing measures to stimulate more private investment (e.g. green finance) in woodland creation</p> <p>k) Developing new approaches to partnerships between land owners and woodland investors or managers which enable the landowner to derive an ongoing annual income from the land</p>
8	n/a
9	<p>b) Providing access to better information on the income streams well managed woodland can provide</p> <p>c) Providing land managers with better access to expert advice on woodland creation and forestry knowledge and skills</p> <p>d) Providing the investment community with access to expert advice on woodland creation and forestry knowledge and skills</p> <p>e) Outreach to present the benefits of trees and forestry to land managers</p> <p>f) Outreach to present the benefits of trees and forestry to the investment community</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) Outreach to present the benefits of trees and forestry to local communities h) Changing policy so it does not treat afforestation as a permanent land use change i) Increasing availability and access to contractors to plant and maintain the trees j) Increasing availability of desired bio secure planting material l) Developing new approaches to partnerships between land owners and woodland investors or managers which enable the landowner to retain ownership of the land m) Developing a supply of diverse and locally-appropriate seed and planting material by supporting community tree nurseries and other small nurseries that provide UK sourced and grown trees. n) Providing best practice guidance on how best to achieve tree cover through natural establishment (e.g. most suitable locations, ground preparation, fencing requirements and decisions on management over time).
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Providing access to better information on the income streams well managed woodland can provide c) Providing land managers with better access to expert advice on woodland creation and forestry knowledge and skills f) Outreach to present the benefits of trees and forestry to the investment community
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Local partners agreeing and setting priorities for woodland creation and other habitat restoration across landscapes d) Implementing a joint approach to land management across central government and its agencies including those responsible for protected landscapes e) Providing a clear explanation and guarantees of how trees planted between now and 2024 will be considered under Environmental Land Management Scheme
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Local partners agreeing and setting priorities for woodland creation and other habitat restoration across landscapes d) Implementing a joint approach to land management across central government and its agencies including those responsible for protected landscapes e) Providing a clear explanation and guarantees of how trees planted between now and 2024 will be considered under Environmental Land Management Scheme
13	n/a
14	n/a
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Widening the eligibility criteria for woodland creation grants so more applicants can apply and more forms of woodland are eligible b) Widening the eligibility criteria for woodland creation grants so more sizes of woodland are eligible g) Providing better access to advice and guidance on woodland creation, forestry expertise and training

Protecting and improving our woodlands**(Pages 17-21 & Questions pages 22-26)**

17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Introducing measures to support compliance with the UK Forestry Standard b) More effective information sharing between government departments and their delivery bodies to inform decisions impacting on woodland, including to prevent woodland loss h) Other – Cease the ability to fell in forestry quarters; Land ownership must be registered with Land Registry.
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing support to fully complete revision of the Ancient Woodland Inventory (to include ancient woodlands under two hectares in area) e) Encouraging more woodland to be brought into management where impacted by development h) Other – Update and enhance the Hedgerow Regulations to be more inclusive and clearer.
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Promoting the use of non-plastic tree guards
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Providing grant support for a wider range of management activities c) Providing grant support for the restoration of Plantations on Ancient Woodlands Sites (PAWS) d) Providing support for woodland infrastructure such as roading f) Support to increase the productivity/supply chains for woodland products g) Support for land owner collaboration in woodland management
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Providing grant support for a wider range of management activities d) Providing support for woodland infrastructure such as roading g) Support for landowner collaboration in woodland management
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing user friendly woodland management services aimed at ‘non forester’ woodland owners b) Ensuring public recognition of woodlands that are managed sustainably (for example, like Green Flag awards¹⁴)
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing user friendly woodland management services aimed at ‘non forester’ woodland owners

	b) Ensuring public recognition of woodlands that are managed sustainably (for example, like Green Flag awards ¹⁴)
24	c) Placing a legal obligation on all land owners to manage their woodland
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26	n/a
27	f) Managing the impact of invasive non-native plants which provide a pathway for disease through targeted action, ongoing management and monitoring, and wider education
28	<p>b) Planting UKFS-compliant productive forests to provide a strong carbon sink over the coming decades and then a source of sustainable timber to meet the needs of future generations</p> <p>d) Establishing 'energy forest' plantations (short rotation coppice and short rotation forestry) to satisfy future biomass demand for bioenergy with carbon capture and storage</p> <p>f) Strengthening the protection of all woodland to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation</p>
29	<p>a) Develop a national policy on sustainable deer management and control measures</p> <p>b) Facilitate landscape scale control by land managers</p>
30	<p>d) Reintroducing animals to help control squirrels, such as pine martens and goshawks</p> <p>f) Other – Greater abilities and resources to pursue illegal persecution of raptors</p>

Engaging people with trees and woodland

(Pages 27-29 & Questions pages 30-32)

31	<p>b) Practical challenges in terms of street design, planting requirements and compatibility with other infrastructure provision</p> <p>f) Other – The limited perception of what designers and highway engineers think a landscape, streetscape and treescape should look like and what species should be included. The many design awards which promote and congratulate architects etc for poor quality design of the spaces between the buildings as these are not as important as the buildings. The limited adoption of trunking for services. The almost unlimited permissions which statutory undertakers have. The increasing frequency of relying on privately owner public open space. The weight development viability reports are given and their resulting impact on quality landscapes.</p>
32	n/a
33	<p>1 - b) Promotion through national guidance (such as green infrastructure, planning and design, and code/street guidance, e.g., Manual for Streets) - stronger inclusion of appropriate engineering solutions</p> <p>2 - a) Promotion through national policy (including England Tree Strategy and national planning policy) including recognition that trees and woodlands are key components of green infrastructure, with equal status to other green and built infrastructure</p> <p>3 - c) Development and implementation of Local Tree and Woodland Strategies and local planning policies - setting local targets for tree canopy cover and recognition that trees and woodlands are key components of green infrastructure, with equal status to other green and built infrastructure</p> <p>4 - f) Creating new community forests in areas of greatest need</p> <p>5 - e) Providing better support for community forests in areas of greatest need</p> <p>6 - d) Training for practitioners, including highways engineers and others</p>
34	<p>1 - b) Setting local targets for tree canopy cover</p> <p>2 - g) Strengthening technical expertise in tree and woodland management in local authorities</p> <p>3 - h) Recognising trees and woodlands as key components of green infrastructure, with equal status to green and built infrastructure</p> <p>4 - f) Adopting Local Tree and Woodland Strategies as supplementary planning documents</p> <p>5 - c) Using canopy cover as a measure to monitor the scale and development of the urban forest</p> <p>6 - d) Agreeing national data standards for urban trees</p> <p>7 - e) Standardising the approach to measuring the value of the urban forest resource</p> <p>8 - a) Preparing national guidance on developing Local Tree and Woodland Strategies</p>
35	<p>1 - a) Providing more training opportunities to support woodland management and creation</p>

	<p>2 - h) Supporting the growth of woodland social enterprise¹⁶ in and around towns and cities</p> <p>3 - b) Providing legal support to community groups for the acquisition or lease of woodland</p> <p>4 - c) Enabling community groups to influence decision making about the management of their local woodland</p> <p>5 - d) Enabling community groups to participate in the management of their local woodland</p> <p>6 - e) Facilitating networks to exchange ideas and share good practice 7 - f) Providing better support for community forests in areas of greatest need</p> <p>8 - g) Creating new community forests in areas of greatest need</p>
36	<p>1 - e) Improving the quality of access by investing in infrastructure (car parks, trails, path surfacing, signage, seating)</p> <p>2 - f) Regulating to maintain access rights when creating new woodland</p> <p>3 - g) Supporting people to become trained/accredited to better facilitate contact (learning and health) with nature</p> <p>4 - d) Supporting woodland access with bespoke incentives, simply to allow access</p> <p>5 - a) Supporting woodland access through existing incentives and rights of way</p> <p>6 - c) Creating new accessible woodlands in and around towns and cities</p> <p>7 - b) Offering more generous woodland management incentives for those woodlands with public access</p>
37	<p>g) As a feature within towns and cities</p> <p>i) Other - All of the options given plus those seen as important by residents relating to sensory and seasonal interest increased stress relief etc.</p>
38	<p>b) Using planning levers to require developers to plant trees relating to new development on streets and other public spaces</p> <p>c) Using planning levers to raise funds for on-going maintenance</p>

Supporting the economy**(Pages 33-37 & Questions pages 38-39)**

39	c) Encouraging planning requirements to incorporate sustainable materials f) Supporting new innovations in developing timber building materials such as cross laminated timber
40	a) Changing policy so it does not treat afforestation as a permanent land use change
41	b) Clarifying the taxation of energy forestry (as either agriculture or forestry) c) Clarifying the regulatory position for energy forestry (for example, can I change land use in the future)
42	e) Funding for the advice and the design of schemes for trees on farms and agroforestry f) Providing better advice and guidance on how woodland creation and management can contribute to farm business models
43	a) Providing industry led guidance, best practice and case studies of how tenants and landlords can work together to deliver benefits for both parties from diversification into tree planting and agroforestry on tenanted land c) Reviewing how tenancy agreements approach the responsibility for and rights to trees
44	j) Other – The woodland operatives who bridge the gap between arboriculture and forestry. Agroforesters. Climbers and groundsmen.
45	n/a