

Tree Management Policy

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 Orwell is responsible for managing trees upon land in its ownership and has a legal obligation to maintain them in ensuring public safety it is important to note that.
- Trees that are within conservation areas, protected by tree preservation orders will be managed within legislative requirements and local authority guidance
 - Orwell is responsible for managing trees upon its communal amenity green space and has a legal obligation to maintain them in ensuring public safety.
 - Orwell will monitor and if necessary intervene with the management of trees in gardens of tenants and neighbours, and will also offer support and guidance if it is required
- 1.2 In delivering an arboriculture service Orwell will only employ contractors who are specialists and adopt best practice guidelines.
- 1.3 The advice of the appointed contractor or Head of Estate Services will be sought before any works are undertaken by an employee of Orwell
- 1.4 Orwell recognises that trees identified on land in its ownership enhances the natural environment and will therefore maintain and develop the tree stock whenever possible.

2.0 Legal obligations

- 2.1 Orwell will adhere to all legal obligations affected by;
- Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)
 - Trees in Conservation Areas
 - Obligations contained within the planning system
 - The of felling Licences
 - Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
 - The existence of any Restrictive Covenants on land

3.0 Policy Statement

- 3.1 Orwell will remove trees where there are justifiable arboriculture reasons.

- 3.2 All reasonable steps will be taken to ensure trees do not cause to damage to any property.
- 3.3 Work undertaken on trees will be as a result of an assessed risk or in consideration of a request made by a resident where a tree affects the amenity of their property.
- 3.4 Any felled tree will be replaced by another suitable tree unless there are compelling reasons why this should not be the case.
- 3.5 All health and safety guidelines, risk assessments and training ie Basic Level Tree Inspection (LANTRA Level 1) will be in place before any tree works are undertaken by an employee of Orwell.
- 3.6 Any works undertaken by an employee of Orwell will only cover trees that are defined a 'small trees' whose effective diameter is between 200mm and 380mm and for which appropriate certification has been obtained.

4.0 Monitoring

- 4.1 Orwell will produce a tree management plan which will be reviewed on an annual basis.
- 4.2 A system of periodic checks will be put in place the frequency of which will depend upon the risk identified in the tree management plan