

GROWTH & REGENERATION
Economy of Place



Decision Report for Highway Tree Removal Proposals

To: Director: Management of Place

Date: 26 February December 2025

Highway tree removal proposal:

Chester Park Road

Project summary:

The removal of this tree is required due to damage to a neighbouring property.

Removal of trees:

One tree to be removed.

Consultation:

Public engagement was launched on 22 December 2025 and closed on 23 January 2026.

Consultation Summary:

The consultation has now completed, and 21 comments were submitted following the publication of the notice.

The comments have been categorised into 5 themes and summarised in the table below:

Theme	Summary of Comments	% of responses
Opposed	Street trees place an essential role in the urban environment. Felling can have a negative impact on wildlife, biodiversity, climate and wellbeing. A new young tree will take years to establish and provide the same benefits as the mature tree.	52
Request for evidence of damage	Insufficient details about the damage, raising concerns around the validity of the damage being used by the tree.	52
Supportive	If causing damage to property, the tree should be removed	14
Request for replacement tree	Tree should be replaced to ensure canopy cover is replaced. Replacement should be mature.	14
Neutral	Request to explore alternative options before decision to fell.	5

Note: percentages may not add up to 100% as comments can be allocated to more than one theme.

Consultation Outcome

Having considered all comments received, officers remain of the opinion that the proposed tree felling is necessary and therefore it is recommended that the proposals should proceed.

Reasoning

Sufficient evidence has been provided through a rigorous process undertaken by Bristol City Council (BCC) Arboriculture department and demonstrates the tree is causing significant damage to the property.

Evidence includes arboriculture reports, site investigation reports and level monitoring readings. This process is undertaken on all trees implicated in property damage before any decisions are made.

Mitigation works, including pollarding, have already been undertaken though unfortunately have not had any effect on reducing property damage.

Engineering solutions to prevent root growth and water uptake, or to adapt and stabilise the property, are not feasible.

Bristol City Council is committed to increasing canopy cover across the city. Annually BCC plants many more trees than are removed and have planted over 100,000 trees since 2015 through the One Tree Per Child and Tree Bristol programmes with the aim to increase tree canopy cover to 20% by 2040.

Approval

Director: Management of Place

Signature:



Date: 26 February 2026