

## **Summary of public comments:**



## Avonmouth tree planting project: January 2024

Funding has been provided by the Hinckley Point C development for the planting of 132 standard sized trees in the Avonmouth Village and the surrounding area.

As part of the project, proposed tree planting plans and information were mailed to affected residents and displayed in locations on each street. In addition, full details and maps were added to the One Tree per Child consultation page on the Bristol City Council website. This was undertaken from 16<sup>th</sup> November to 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

See below for a summary of comments received and our response:

Comment	Response
Suggestion to plant in local parks/ green spaces instead.	The option to plant trees has included parks and green spaces within the vicinity.
Is there a maintenance plan in place?	Trees will be watered and checked weekly over the spring/ summer in year one and fortnightly in year two. Once established, the trees will be managed within the Council's tree maintenance programme and <a href="Tree Management Policies">Tree Management Policies</a> .
Parking concerns	Tree planting in streets has been designed to minimise the loss of parking by maintaining a minimum of 6 metres gap between trees. Whilst the trees themselves take up 2 metres of space, it is hoped that the benefits of street trees outweigh this loss.
	Please note there is no legal right to parking outside a property unless the land is private. All proposed locations have been assessed for access requirements and locations have been avoided where residents require access off the carriageway.
Perceived risk to houses from tree roots	We follow the 'right tree, right place, right reason' principle in selecting a suitable size tree for the location. In urban areas, this means selecting the best tree to deliver the most benefit, and avoiding underground services, not blocking access, and choosing trees that don't outgrow the space available.
	When planting in streets, suitable tree species are chosen and planted with root deflectors, which minimise root spread, deflecting the roots to grow downwards rather than horizontally. Subsidence history is reviewed prior to selecting tree planting locations and suitable species.
Effect of shade, fallen leaves and bird droppings.	The council's tree planting programme aims to deliver a range of benefits including reducing the 'urban heat island effect', bringing wildlife into urban spaces and providing attractive neighbourhoods where people want to live. Shade, leaf fall and bird dropping are part of the natural order. Trees are carefully chosen to minimise such inconveniences and provide a benefit overall. Roads and footpaths receive extra maintenance during Autumn leaf fall.

Species comments/ Request for tree species change.	Tree species are selected according to the right tree, right place principle which assesses distance from buildings. Where there are pavements and verges outside a house, larger species can be selected due to the distance between the tree and the house itself. In one instance, it is suitable to change a species on requested.
Maintenance of BCC adopted highways land by Highways Agency	Some areas of the adopted highway, for example, some of the roundabouts surrounding Avonmouth Village are managed by the Highways Agency. Further discussions are underway to ascertain whether the planting of these locations is possible.

## **Tree plan revisions:**

- 13 x Adopted highway locations, managed by the Highways Agency are currently on hold pending further discussions.
- One species change: AV107 to *Acer rubrum* (Red maple)
- The following locations are will not be planted as part of this project but will be reviewed in future: Catherine Street (AV068 and AV067), Davis Street (AV046), Marsh Street (AV078) and Portview Road (AV084).

## What happens next:

Some planting will take place during the winter planting season January - March 2024. Where a location requires a tree pit, construction will be start after March 2024 and the tree will be planted November 2024 – March 2025.

Visit the Bristol City Council Webpage <u>for more information on this winter's One Tree Per Child community planting events.</u>

You can contact One Tree Per Child by:

- Post: OTPC, Bower Ashton Depot, Kennel Lodge Road, Bower Ashton, Bristol, BS3 2JT
- Email: onetreeperchild@bristol.gov.uk