

72.2 Motion 413 submitted by Gary Cowan

This Council will evaluate its existing policies on trees to ensure its policies are fully open and transparent. The new policy recognises that many trees may be subject to some tree work and it is not practical to consult on all works undertaken. For example pruning works carried out is unlikely to cause significant public concern, however the felling of any trees can be contentious. Felling trees without prior consultation due to health and safety issues is understood but where the felling involves any loss of TPO or protected tree/s for any other reason whatsoever the public must be **formally** consulted on the proposed works and the reasons why it is necessary.

The Council **must maintain proper records of all TPO trees felled**. For trees which are to be felled which are protected by TPOs, green routes or those situated in Conservation Areas, or in association with development proposals and planning permissions this **Council will put in place a statutory consultation processes and current council policies will be reviewed to reflect these changes as soon as it practicable.**

Minutes:

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion, submitted by Gary Cowan and seconded by Lindsay Ferris.

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Several Members highlighted the importance of protecting trees within the Borough.

Following debate, upon being put to the meeting, the Motion was declared by the Mayor to be carried.

RESOLVED: That this Council will evaluate its existing policies on trees to ensure its policies are fully open and transparent. The new policy recognises that many trees may be subject to some tree work and it is not practical to consult on all works undertaken. For example pruning works carried out is unlikely to cause significant public concern, however the felling of any trees can be contentious. Felling trees without prior consultation due to health and safety issues is understood but where the felling involves any loss of TPO or protected tree/s for any other reason whatsoever the public must be formally consulted on the proposed works and the reasons why it is necessary.

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