

# Trees – Protected

**T****Service summary;**

**North Somerset Council is responsible for the making of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs ) and the assessment of tree work notices for trees in conservation areas and tree works applications for trees subject to a TPO.**

**We also provide guidance relating to trees on proposed development sites and provide related supplementary planning documents.**

**This work is to ensure the ongoing contribution of trees in private ownership to the public visual amenity and green infrastructure of North Somerset.**

**We will**

- assess trees that are considered to be under threat of removal for TPOs
- deal with conservation area notices within six weeks of receipt of detailed tree works proposals
- deal with TPO applications within eight weeks of receipt of detailed tree works proposals
- offer advice on replanting proposals and will require replacement tree planting of trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order that have to be removed; or explain why this is not necessary
- act as consultee to planning officers for planning applications where trees may be affected
- respond to telephone or written queries relating to trees on private property
- respond to queries by telephone or in writing as to whether trees are currently subject to statutory protection either by a TPO or due to location in a conservation area
- provide pre-planning application advice

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### You can help by:

- letting us know when trees of public visual amenity are perceived to be under threat of removal or inappropriate tree works
- submitting comments when consulted about tree works proposals or tree preservation orders that are made in your area
- talking to the owner of trees when they are causing problems to you in the first instance
- consulting a suitably qualified arborist (tree surgeon) when you are concerned about the condition of your tree/s or the problems that it is/they are causing and seek their advice prior to making an application or providing us with six weeks notice
- contacting us for guidance on information required prior to submitting a planning application to avoid delays in processing your application.

Please contact the Tree Officers through Streets and Open Spaces:

**01934 888 802**

**[www.n-somerset.gov.uk](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk)**

Streets and Open Spaces, North Somerset Council, Weston Court,  
Oldmixon Crescent, Weston-super-Mare, BS24 9AU

Frequently asked questions and answers on

### Protected Trees

1. I have a protected tree. Can I arrange work on it?

You may be able to but this will depend on the work proposed. You will need to apply to us for work if the tree is protected by a TPO or provide us with six weeks notice if you live in a conservation area. There are exemptions so check with us first.

2. What happens once I have made an application/ provided you with six weeks notice?

We will check that we have all the information which we need to register your application/notice and will contact you if we need more. Your application /notice will be registered and you will receive a formal acknowledgement. We will notify your neighbours and Town or Parish Council and place the details on our website. We will visit and notify you of our decision. Your

application may be decided by Committee, in which case you will be notified and provided with an opportunity to attend and present your application.

3. Where can I find out more information regarding protected trees?

You can contact us and we can send you a leaflet entitled 'Protected trees: a guide to tree preservation procedures' or you can visit [www.communities.gov.uk/treesandhedges](http://www.communities.gov.uk/treesandhedges).